

Attachment 1

Adopted resolution by OSA Board.

Santa Clara County Open Space Authority

RESOLUTION 15-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARA COUNTY OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY ENDORISING NOMINATIONS OF PRIORITY CONSERVATION AREAS AND THEIR PROPOSED DESIGNATIONS WITHIN THE OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY'S JURISDICTION IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) has established Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) as an integral part of the Plan Bay Area multi-agency regional planning initiative; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, ABAG requested nominations from local governments and land conservation organizations for PCAs pursuant to the "Focusing our Vision" (FOCUS) program, a multi-agency regional planning initiative; and

WHEREAS, PCAs are intended to be areas which contain important agricultural, natural resource, watershed, historic, scenic, cultural, recreational, and/or ecological values and ecosystem functions deserving of conservation funding; and

WHEREAS, PCA designations provide enhanced grant opportunities for investment in open space areas; and

WHEREAS, in August 2007, the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority (Authority) nominated two PCAs as part of the FOCUS program in Santa Clara County; and

WHEREAS, the Authority's two PCAs were subsequently approved by ABAG in 2008; and formally adopted into Plan Bay Area July 2013; and

WHEREAS, in July 2014, ABAG adopted updates to the PCA program and a new application and outreach process that enabled counties, cities, and open space districts to nominate new PCAs, and solicited nominations for new PCAs; and

WHEREAS, in December 10th 2014, ABAG completed a formal 90-day outreach process for the existing PCAs that ABAG approved in 2008, and received no objections to the Authority's existing PCAs; and

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2015, the Authority issued notification letters to the County of Santa Clara, City of Campbell, City of Gilroy, City of Morgan Hill, City of Milpitas, City of San Jose, and City of Santa Clara regarding the proposed PCAs within their jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, on February 26, 2015, the Authority's Board of Directors received an informational presentation on the PCA program and an overview of the Authority's 27 proposed PCAs; and

WHEREAS, between January and May 2015, the Authority conducted extensive outreach to public agency staff, elected officials and partner organizations on the proposed PCAs; and

WHEREAS, the Authority received no formal objections to its PCA nominations at the conclusion of the 90-day notification period that ended on May 26th 2015; and

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WHEREAS, as part of this 2015 PCA application process, ABAG is seeking recommendations for assigning designations to the existing PCAs that the Authority nominated in 2007, and the Authority is recommending Regional Recreation, Natural Landscapes and Agricultural Lands designations for the Authority's existing PCAs "South County Agriculture" and "Rancho Canada", and the Nature Conservancy (TNC) concurs with the Authority's recommendation for Regional Recreation, Natural Landscapes and Agricultural Lands designations for TNC's existing PCA "Soap Lake Floodplain"; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that nominating these PCAs is not a project under CEQA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority:

(1) hereby endorses the Authority's nominations for 27 Priority Conservation Areas and their assigned designations, listed below and described in Exhibit A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference:

- Baylands
- Ulistac Natural Area
- Penitencia Creek County Park
- Sierra Vista
- Riparian Corridor
- Los Gatos Creek County Park
- Coyote Ridge North
- Martial Cottle
- Mt. Hamilton Range
- Metcalf
- Coyote Creek Parkway
- Santa Teresa Hills
- Field Sports
- Coyote Valley North
- Coyote Valley Mid
- Coyote Valley South
- Santa Cruz Mountains East
- NEQ
- San Martin North Agriculture
- Morgan Hill South
- San Martin South Agriculture
- Upper Pajaro Agriculture
- Gilroy 660
- Gilroy Foothills
- Gilroy South
- Upper Pacheco
- Pacheco Agriculture

(2) hereby endorses the assigned designations for the Authority's two existing Priority Conservation Areas, and TNC's one existing Priority Conservation Area as listed below and described in Exhibit A:

- Rancho Canada
- South County Agriculture
- Soap Lake Floodplain (TNC)

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board further directs that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the Authority and in its name, to execute any and all other documents necessary or appropriate to submit an application for these Priority Conservation Areas to the Association of Bay Area Governments.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of May, 2015, by the following vote:

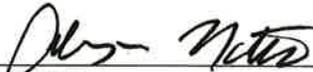
AYES: A. Kennett, M. Flaughner, S. Hall, M. Potter, D. Moore, V. Holtz, K. Gill
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTENTION: None



Mike Potter, Chairperson
Santa Clara County Open Space Authority



APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Alison Norton, Legal Counsel

ATTEST:



Kellie Guerra, Clerk of the Board

EXHIBIT A

Table 1. Priority Conservation Area Nominations and Designations

#	PCA Name	Proposed PCA Designation(s)				General Area Description
		Natural Landscape	Regional Recreation	Agricultural Lands	Urban Greening	
1	Baylands*†	x	x		x	Portions of the Baylands within San Jose's Sphere of Influence that are contiguous with an existing PCA, and are designated as either "Open Space, Parkland" or "Public/Quasi-Public" in San Jose's 2040 General Plan.
2	Ulistac Natural Area†	x	x		x	Encompassing the City of Santa Clara's Ulistac Natural Area.
3	Penitencia Creek County Park†	x	x			Encompassing Santa Clara County Park and Recreation Department's Penitencia Creek Park.
4	Sierra Vista*†	x	x	x		Portions of the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority's Sierra Vista Open Space Preserve and City of San Jose's Alum Rock Park that are contiguous with existing PCA areas.
5	Riparian Corridor*†	x	x		x	A conceptual PCA that encompasses the riparian corridor of anadromous fish passage streams in the county, including: Los Gatos Creek, Guadalupe River, Coyote Creek, Upper Penitencia Creek, Llagas Creek, Uvas Creek, and Pacheco Creek.
6	Los Gatos Creek Park	x	x		x	Encompassing Santa Clara County Park and Recreation Department's Los Gatos Creek Park.
7	Coyote Ridge (North)*		x		x	Undeveloped portion of Coyote Ridge, located southwest of silver creek, and east of Hellyer Avenue.
8	Martial Cottle		x	x	x	Encompassing Santa Clara County Park and Recreation Department's Martial Cottle Park.
9	Mt. Hamilton Range*†	x	x	x		Area of the Mt. Hamilton range within the County that is contiguous with existing PCAs, extending east to the second eastern ridgeline, approximately.

* PCA that is contiguous with existing PCAs † PCA that is contiguous with a proposed PCA



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#	PCA Name	Proposed PCA Designation(s)				General Area Description
		Natural Landscape	Regional Recreation	Agricultural Lands	Urban Greening	
10	Metcalfe*†		x	x		Encompassing Santa Clara County Park and Recreation Department's park facilities on Coyote Ridge
11	Coyote Creek Parkway*†	x	x		x	Portion of the Coyote Creek Parkway corridor, extending north from Anderson Reservoir to Yerba Buena Road.
12	Santa Teresa Hills*†	x	x	x		Encompassing the southern portion of the Santa Teresa Foothills, between the Upper Almaden Valley and the Santa Teresa Foothills neighborhood.
13	Coyote Valley (North)*†				x	Portion of northern Coyote Valley, east of Monterey Highway that will support and balance potential future campus light industrial development through green infrastructure projects.
14	Field Sports Park*†		x			Encompassing Santa Clara County Park and Recreation Department's Field Sports Park.
15	Coyote Valley (Mid)*†	x	x	x		Largely agricultural portion of Coyote Valley that is east of Monterey Highway and within the San Jose General Plan's urban reserve area.
16	Coyote Valley (South)* †		x	x		Southern section of Coyote Valley, located east of Monterey Highway, between Palm Avenue and Tilton Avenue (referred to as the "Greenbelt").
17	Santa Cruz Mntns East*†	x	x	x		Eastern portion of the Santa Cruz mountains, extending from Mt Madonna County Park, north to Calero Reservoir and the Guadalupe River.
18	NEQ†		x	x	x	Northeastern quadrant of Morgan Hill's sphere of influence, east of Hill Road, that is designated as either "Open Space" or "Rural County" in Morgan Hill's General Plan.
19	San Martin North Ag†			x		Agricultural area of the county that is located south of Maple Avenue, west of Foothill ave, and north of Middle Avenue, and east of Railroad avenue.

* PCA that is contiguous with existing PCAs † PCA that is contiguous with a proposed PCA



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Table 1. Priority Conservation Area Nominations and Designations

#	PCA Name	Proposed PCA Designation(s)				General Area Description
		Natural Landscape	Regional Recreation	Agricultural Lands	Urban Greening	
20	Morgan Hill South†	x	x			Encompassing Santa Clara County Park and Recreation Department's Silveira Property, located on Atherton Way.
21	San Martin South Agriculture†	x			x	Area of unincorporated San Martin, starting immediately north of Gilroy's sphere of influence, extending from the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, east to Columbet Avenue, and North to Harding Avenue.
22	Upper Pajaro Agriculture*†	x	x	x		Eastern portion of Gilroy and unincorporated County that are designated as either Agriculture or Hillside in Gilroy's 2040 draft General Plan or the County's General Plan.
23	Gilroy 660†	x		x	x	Agricultural area located west of Llagas creek, north of the West Branch of Llagas Creek, South of Leavesly Road, and East of the urban development zone presented in Gilroy 2040's Alternative 3 "Compact Development".
24	Gilroy Foothills*	x	x	x		Portion of the Gilroy foothills, primarily east of Pacheco Pass Highway, surrounded by the East Gilroy Foothills PCA and the South County Regional Trail Connection PCA.
25	Gilroy South*†	x	x		x	Area of Southern Gilroy that are outside of Existing PCAs, that are either within the Uvas Creek Park Preserve, or designated as "Agriculture and Open Space" Gilroy 2040's Alternative 2 "Orderly Growth" .
26	Upper Pacheco*†	x				Zones surrounding Pacheco creek that are east of Casa De Fruta and immediately adjacent to the South County Regional Trail PCA.
27	Pacheco Agriculture*†			x		Agricultural zone located between Highway 152 East and the southern boundary of the County.

* PCA that is contiguous with existing PCAs † PCA that is contiguous with a proposed PCA



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		Natural Landscape	Regional Recreation	Agricultural Lands	Urban Greening	
Existing PCA	Rancho Canada*†	x	x	x		Area surrounding and within the eastern portion of Rancho Canada del Oro Open Space Preserve.
Existing PCA	South County Agriculture*†	x	x	x		Valley floor and agricultural lands located between the City of Gilroy and the Southern Santa Clara County boundary.
Existing PCA	Soap Lake Flood Plain (TNC) *†	x	x	x		The lands within and immediately surrounding the Soap Lake Floodplain.

PCA Designation Type Descriptions:

1. *Natural Landscapes: areas critical to the functioning of wildlife and plant habitats, aquatic ecosystems and the region's water supply and quality.*
2. *Agricultural Lands: farmland, grazing land and timberland that support the region's agricultural economy and provide additional benefits such as habitat protection and carbon capture.*
3. *Urban greening: existing and potential green spaces in cities that increase habitat connectivity, improve community health, capture carbon emissions, and address stormwater*
4. *Regional Recreation: existing and potential regional parks, trails, and other publicly accessible recreation facilities.*

* PCA that is contiguous with existing PCAs † PCA that is contiguous with a proposed PCA

