

ATTACHMENT 1

**From:** E Walters <[ejwalt@hotmail.com](mailto:ejwalt@hotmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 02, 2020 1:00 PM  
**To:** Buffo, Kristi <[KBuffo@srcity.org](mailto:KBuffo@srcity.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Roseland Creek Community Park - Public Comment

Dear Ms. Buffo:

I received a notice of public hearing on Roseland Creek Community Park. Since I won't be able to attend, I would like to submit the following comments:

Since the elected, appointed, and hired officials of the City of Santa Rosa are unable or unwilling to effectively maintain public spaces for the legal, proper, and safe use of residents, I strongly recommend that the City NOT proceed with spending tax dollars on this new park. Until the City decisively deals with the issue of transients squatting on public property, no additional funds should be spent on expanding public property. It's a ludicrous squandering of tax money.

Sincerely,

Eric Walters  
2180 Hastings Ct  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

**From:** [kathykerst@tds.net](mailto:kathykerst@tds.net) <[kathykerst@tds.net](mailto:kathykerst@tds.net)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 04, 2020 5:09 PM  
**To:** Buffo, Kristi <[KBuffo@srcity.org](mailto:KBuffo@srcity.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Pickleball At Roseland

Dear Ms. Buffo,

With the master plan for Roseland being considered on January 14, I propose that pickleball courts be added to the complex. I am the Santa Rosa Pickleball Ambassador through the national pickleball organization, and I play at Finley daily, with an average of 25 players of all ages. The sport is definitely intergenerational, and I have delighted in teaching my granddaughters the sport. Attached is a picture of their exuberance while playing. Kindly pass on my email to those considering the project. Thank you.

Kathy Kerst

**From:** Buffo, Kristi  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 4:28 PM  
**To:** [trinicoqui@hotmail.com](mailto:trinicoqui@hotmail.com)  
**Subject:** RE: Roseland Creek Community Park

Dear Katrina Matos,

Thank you for contacting us about Roseland Creek Community Park. You are correct that early in the master planning process for the park, community members stated that they wished to have a Pomo interpretive village at the park, which would include picnic areas with a Pomo tribal theme. In total, two tribes have registered with the City of Santa Rosa, asking to be notified of Roseland Creek Community Park development. These include the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria (FIGR) and the Lytton Rancheria of California (LRC). The FIGR expressed interest in meeting to discuss the master plan, but upon meeting expressed no interest in having a "Pomo Village" included in the Roseland Creek Community Park development and suggested any reference to a "Pomo Village" be removed from the plan. FIGR requested that the park include a few primary elements including barbeques, an outdoor sink, picnic tables, parking access for elders, proximity to a restroom and identification of all native tree species along the southern side of Roseland Creek.

The LRC reviewed the plan and had no comments.

Although Dry Creek Pomo Rancheria (DCPR) is not registered with the City to be notified of development, interest from a resident who claimed to be connected to this tribe requested the "Pomo village" concept remain in the plan. Thus, the DCPR was contacted by City staff and no reply was received.

At the request of the FIGR, the reference to 'Pomo Village' was removed from the plan (current Master Plan attached for your reference).

The details of the future interpretive signage has not yet been determined but it is likely to interpret the native plants and potentially the native use of the area or similar. All tribal nations on register with the City of Santa Rosa to be notified of proposed development will be involved in future interpretive signage regarding native people. Their feedback and approval will be used to formulate the content of any interpretive signage related to native people.

Thank you, again, for your comments and please contact me should you have any questions.

Kindly,

**Kristi Buffo | Marketing & Outreach Coordinator**

Recreation & Parks | 55 Stony Point Rd | Santa Rosa, CA 95401  
Tel. (707) 543-3276 | Fax (707) 543-3288 | [kbuffo@srcity.org](mailto:kbuffo@srcity.org)



**From:** Katrina <[trinicoqui@hotmail.com](mailto:trinicoqui@hotmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 06, 2020 3:06 PM  
**To:** Buffo, Kristi <[KBuffo@srcity.org](mailto:KBuffo@srcity.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Roseland Creek Community Park

Greetings Kristi,

I was looking at the plans for the park, and wondering how this space will acknowledge Santa Rosa's Pomo community, and how their input has been incorporated. As you know, Pomo people and their ancestors have lived on this land for centuries upon centuries. I heard about plans for a Pomo interpretive village to be part of the structure and experience of the park. At the very least, I expect that the interpretive signage will talk about Pomo history, as well as plant identification and the like.

Please let me know.

Thank you,  
Katrina Matos  
SR resident since 2006

Dear Jenn Santos,

I would advise that you take a more nature oriented approach and chose a more beneficial plan that would not invade the ecosystems and would aim to conserve as much natural space as possible in order to keep the present ecosystem stable.

The Santa Rosa City plan may have a nice recreation area and can be beneficial to the overall usability of the space, but the amount of noise that may be created from these activities may interfere with the animals that call this place their home. I would suggest the Roseland Neighborhood plan be taken into action because although it does not have a picnic area, it will be beneficial in invading less space in this ecosystem. It will also require less trees to be cut down, thus leaving a more habitable area and more space for animals to live. Creating picnic areas as mentioned in the Santa Rosa City plan is not necessary because there is a picnic area already at Bayer Farm as well.

The Roseland Neighborhood plan could also be more beneficial for educational purposes as there will be more of a wilderness aspect to the area, where students can make observations and learn about ecosystems and their effects, from their visits to their local natural areas. It is next to Roseland Creek Elementary and can serve as a place to learn and spend time in nature. I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my opinion about this decision and hope it helps give insight into the pending decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cesar Sanchez', with a stylized, cursive script.

Cesar Sanchez

12/02/19

Dear Jen Santos,

I am a student at RUP and the draft master plan that is proposed in the area of McMinn and Burbank is an area I am very familiar with .I got the opportunity to explore the area and get more of a feel of the place. It was an area that was very relaxing and it felt soothing being surrounded by all the nature.

The plans being proposed about building a playground, a turf field, and also basketball courts I believe would be an amazing idea but if there were more areas in Roseland that were similar to the amount of nature available because then there are more sources for oxygen and can lead to a healthier life in Roseland. For that reason I believe it would be a better idea to keep it as a preserve and rather make a trail where people of the community can hike through.

The ideas of all the playgrounds and having picnic tables are nice but there would have to be nature removed such as many trees that are home to many natural species that have been living there for a long time. It would also affect the ecosystem as it might be to loud for animals to where they can longer find food or care for their young forcing them to leave. The problem is where would they go to seek shelter with no other area with nature available.

There also has to be efforts into making systems that could combat climate change. Even though it may not seem like a difference it can make a difference we just might not see the results instantly.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter. I Hope you take these things into consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adolfo Ros". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Dear Jen Santos,

I am a Roseland University Prep student in tenth grade and I am in support of having the Roseland Neighborwood Preservations. I have recently gone to the area surrounding Roseland Creek and I enjoyed the time I spent in the wilderness it made me feel as though I was in a whole new area of Santa Rosa; this feeling of truly being in nature was a pleasant feeling. As being in nature has proven to reduce anxiety, which many high school students experience, and increase creativity along with many other benefits.

I believe that by creating a nature preserve this experience of being in a whole new area could be magnified. In addition to the area being so close to many schools, it could be used as a way to teach students about wildlife, ecosystems and about the importance of protecting the ecosystem which many animals call their home. Although a turf field, sports courts, and picnic areas would be nice to have for our community, I believe that with all the other parks and schools we have within a quarter of a mile radius of Roseland Creek, these will suffice for children entertainment and sports. Additionally, with the very important dilemma that climate change is nowadays partly destroying areas will not mitigate the consequences of climate change in any way because we are destroying more nature and creating parks; when there are parks and basketball courts within the vicinity of half a mile. But with a nature preserve and limited area for picnic areas, we will slowly improve our habits of destroying the place we call home.

As a member of the Santa Rosa community and part of the future of Santa Rosa, I agree with making the area around Roseland Creek a nature preserve. Thank you for taking the time to read this card and I hope you the best in making the important decision of deciding the future of the area surrounding the Roseland Creek.

Sincerely,

*Alexander Jaesinde*

Roseland University Prep  
1931 Biwana Dr  
Santa Rosa CA 95407

November 12, 2019

Dear Jen Santos,

I am a sophomore currently attending Roseland University Prep High School and I would like to express my point of view about the Neighborwood Preserve and the ideas the council has about the development of it. As a member of the community, and as part of the next generation, I am interested in seeing what happens to the preserve. I appreciate you for taking the time out of your day to send my teacher an email addressing all questions, concerns and clearing things up.

I have gone several times to the preserve for field trips, involving learning about nature and the effects climate change has on my community. I find it useful to get out of class and learn about a subject first hand. I've learned more about the preserve, the cause and effects climate change has and the animals inhabiting it. When my Biology teacher first introduced me to the idea of building a park, I thought it was a good opportunity for the community to get out more without issues, like poison oak, inhabitants and open space filled with trash.

Personally, I found it a good idea of how the animals will have a free space where they will not get disturbed. But with that, I have some concerns regarding the habitats of animals. When the building of the park occurs, what will happen to the animals in the way of construction? Or the ones being disturbed by the noise? Thank you for taking the time out of your day to read my ideas about the Neighborwood preserve. I can't wait to see how they preserve will turn out.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Corona

Cynthia Corona

Dear Jen Santos,

I am currently a sophomore at Roseland University Prep and I agree with the Roseland Creek Neighborwood Preserve Master Plan Proposal July 2019. I think this is a better way to preserve the park and not destroy habitats and trees. What I think we should do to the park is not to do much to it like build turf, sports courts, a play area, and picnic areas when we already have three elementary schools, a high school, middle school, and a park surrounding the area. When I visited the park with my biology and AP Spanish classes it was relaxing and it felt good to be in nature while learning about climate change and what different types of plants, trees, leaves, and even animals live and are planted in this land. Being in nature made me forget about all the stress I had and about life because I was relaxed and enjoying the beauties of the park.

My opinion on this issue is that you should not do the Draft Master Plan Concept because it would destroy most of the parks and the animals will lose their homes. Due to climate change, the birds or other animals living in the park won't have anywhere else to go since that was a park that was quiet and not touched by humans. During my visit to the park since it was quiet and there weren't a lot of sounds so people we got to see some animals. If we build a big park there or even something similar to the Draft Master Plan Concept, the animals will be affected because if we had loud noise the animals who aren't used to it or are sensitive to noise along the environment will leave. We shouldn't be kicking wildlife out of their homes.

I think you as the City Council should go with the Roseland Creek Neighborwood Preserve Master Plan Proposal because there would be less noise and we would be able to keep the majority of the park and it does not move the animals from their habitat. In this plan, they are planning on keeping more of the nature of that building. The fewer amount of trees the more heat that will be sitting on the land and making the park a hotter temperature and make it hard to find shade. If there were more trees there would be more shade and make the park cooler since I learned that in the forest it gets 15 degrees cooler than in other areas in the open without trees. If you decide to do the Roseland Creek Neighborwood Preserve Master Plan Proposal July 2019 how much time would it take to do it and when would the park be finished by? If the City Council can't make a decision on which option to do for the park can we as the student's vote on which park we want to be made?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathaly Hernandez". The signature is written in black ink and has a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Nathaly Hernandez



Dear Jen Santos,

I am a member of the community that wants to make some suggestions of how the Roseland community nature preserve. it should be left as a nature preserve instead of a park that is not as safe for the ecosystem that lives there.

A few days prior to the writing of this letter I went with my peers to the Roseland Community Nature Preserve. We saw an abundance of living creatures in that area like lizards, birds, and more. It was also a really nice place just to take a walk in the early morning. In addition, we found out that the Roseland Community Nature Preserve was filled with great benefits that one might need.

The first being health benefits, the air found in the Roseland community nature preserve is a lot cleaner because there is less pollution. Studies show how being outside in nature can lower depression and it can also lower stress levels. Furthermore, there are also many living creatures and plants in that area. For example, the Native grass that lives there is very important because most of the plants that we have around us are not native and that makes this plant very special.

We also learned that there are a bunch of trees in that area making it a place with lots of clean and fresh air but there are creatures already being affected by climate change in this area. One of them being the birds that live there because the climate affects the weather and the birds base their lifestyle or yearly routine on the weather.

I would suggest this being more of a nature reserve than a park because we already have many parks around us that are for nature. If we made a park and cut down most of those trees, we are not helping the problem. I hope this can suggest a way to help the community and thank you.

Sincerely,

Lino Mondragon Reyes

Dear Jen Santos,

I am a member of the Roseland community. I have a plentiful of interest for the Roseland forest. It is in the Roseland community and it shows the natural beauty of nature and its native plants. I went on a walk through the forest this past week and it showed me a wide variety of evidence, trees, native plants etc. In regards of it helping the ecosystem, The creek in the forest helps our town and the different species and insects that live in the forest and are native. The Roseland master plan for the forest compared to the Santa Rosa plan for the lot is far better because it offers little construction and not as much reconstruction and or damage to the natural space it advocates with small but complete areas for school trips or a walk through to see its natural beauty. The forest helps eliminate climate change as well as trees because they produce oxygen. Nature itself helps with climate because of the ecosystem that it has built over the years and The Santa Rosa plan to install turf and leave minor sections for nature really takes away from what the area can really help with decreasing Climate change.

By keeping it how it's natural will significantly reduce the chances of climate change from rising at a rapid rate. It also offers some other advantages by having an open space to be free and have natural recreation areas and de stressing people when encountering with nature and having a forest to go to is a huge advantage to play or relax especially when it's in our vicinity. One question I have is will the reconstruction and added turf fields help to reduce climate change and help out the community ?

Sincerely ,



Efrain Renteria

Dear Jen Santos,

Hello, my name is Roxana Robles and I am a student at Roseland University Prep. I have seen what your plan is for the neighborhood park in Roseland. I have gone through the neighborhood park with my class and also out of school. It is a wonderful and amazing place to de-stress yourself. Sometimes school and my personal life can give me anxiety and stress me out, just by sitting down while either drawing or reading can really help me out. I learned many new facts about that park-like the different types of species and the variety of plants. Therefore, it is the choice of the neighborhood to what happens to that park. Roseland is not only an all Hispanic culture neighborhood but it is also a place where they care about their surroundings. In what way can this master plan for the neighborhood park help our community?

. The city council's plan will be destroying nature. If we cut down all those trees, it can affect the amount of rainfall and it can be destructive to our earth. We all depend on trees to give us oxygen. Do you plan to leave us without oxygen? That park is the only place that has naturally made itself without anyone else helping. With the council's plan, there will be many trees cut from there. There are all types of species that rely on the neighborhood park and with this master plan, those species will either die or leave. Will Santa Rosa be proving the money for their master plan?

Sincerely,

Roxana Cano

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Roxana Cano". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dear Jen Santos,

I am currently a student at Roseland University Prep. Thank you for accepting our opinions from the outside perspectives and for us to be able to have a say in what will be added to our community. The Roseland Creek Neighborhood Preserve park looks nice and very peaceful. I think the idea you have as to add to the park is a good idea such as adding a park, basketball courts, picnic tables, etc. is a good idea. This idea can bring many people from the community and allow to socialize and meet new people. This will bring more people from the community out and will allow them to have a good time. I think the homeless rates rising there will be a problem just as any other park.

Leaving a part of nature is good for those who like to be in the woods and have time for themselves. I look forward to seeing how the park turns out and hopefully has a good overall outcome. While on the neighborhood visit I learned different things about climate change and how the things at the park will be affected when one thing goes different. Some things that can be affected in the park are species becoming for extinct in that area such as a tiger salamander. For example, the food chain different animals would be affected by it. I would like to give you a thank you for listening to what I have to say and that the upcoming project goes as planned and brings good to the community.

Sincerely,

Jesus Ochoa


Jesus Ochoa

12/10/19

Dear Jen Santos,

I love the idea, the draft master plan; adding parking lots, benches, and basketball courts. I think the park would be such an amazing use and so many kids can enjoy this park. I personally would really enjoy the park because I love nature and being able to sit and just talking with my friends and family or play a sport outdoors is great. I have been in the Roseland district for nine years and it's really exciting that the Santa Rosa council is planning on building this close to my neighborhood. I definitely do think that Roseland needs a park like this where there would still be alot of nature surrounding this area. I think this would impact us in a positive way because kids will feel safer to go around there because it will be a safer environment. Personally I don't like walking alone around that area. Another way this idea will impact us in a positive manner is the trees and plants will most likely be taken care of and won't be as dead as they are now. I think it's great that there are certain areas that there will be no construction like the purple needle grass to preserve more of its nature. Lastly, I think it will be a more pleasing area to look and admire. It will feel safer for me and the rest of the community.

With great thought,

  
Kailey Hernandez

Dear Jen Santos,

I, as a member of the Roseland school district, feel deeply troubled by the situation going on with the Roseland forest. As your plans reflect no regards for the future of the environment and can even be harmful. I myself have gone to the Roseland forest and I must say it's a beautiful place with a lot of potential if we can just make some minor changes that would be beneficial for everyone like planting more trees. Going to the Roseland forest really opened my eyes to see how preserving the Roseland creek neighborhood is the best course of action to take with that land. It's important for a park to be able both cater for the lives of humans, animals and plants but more importantly to help build a place where we can all coexist since plants and animals can't speak so we must take actions on behalf of them. And not just make it a place where children or humans can thrive but instead a whole ecosystem teeming with life.

As you can probably tell, I believe that the restoration of the forest is the best course of action not only because it helps the animals or plants but because at the end of the day things like this help us as it promotes a cleaner future. Restoring the forest would add more trees that would help clean up our atmosphere by removing CO<sub>2</sub> that in addition would help combat the greenhouse effect. Plus make a great biodiversity so all animals can have a role to play like fertilizing crops and many more things which would all have a better effect to the Atmosphere/world than putting benches and a playground that might not even be used to their full extent. But a clean environment where all animals can find a home or place where trees can be planted that would clean up the atmosphere, now you know that would be used to its one

hundred percent capability. Thank you for your time and I hope you take the preservation of the forest in to consideration.

Sincerely ,

Raul Gallardo

Raul Gallardo



**PETITION FOR ALL NATURE IN "THE NEIGHBORWOOD"**

**WE THE UNDERSIGNED SUPPORT THE FORMATION OF THE ROSELAND CREEK PARK AS A SPECIAL PURPOSE PARK WHICH IS CENTERED ON "ENVIRONMENTAL INTERPRETIVE EXPERIENCES" (PSF-A-3), WHERE "...THE MOST SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE AREAS SHOULD GENERALLY BE PRESERVED FOR MORE PASSIVE RECREATION THAT ASSURES THEIR PROTECTION" (PSF-A-5) AS SET FORTH IN THE SANTA ROSA GENERAL PLAN 2035.**

**WE SUPPORT THE APPROVAL OF THE "COMMUNITY IDEAL PLAN 2019" WHICH THE SURROUNDING RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY HAS GENERATED, INSTEAD OF THE CITY PARKS DEPT. DRAFT MASTER PLAN 2018, WHICH CONTAINS ELEMENTS OF ACTIVE RECREATION AND OTHER FEATURES WHICH THREATEN, RATHER THAN PRESERVE THIS SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE AREA FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATIONAL ENDEAVORS.**

**NAME STREET ADDRESS/CITY E-MAIL**

NAME	STREET ADDRESS/CITY	E-MAIL
Sheila Morrissey		
Brad DeGraf		
JULIA WHITTY		
Simone Harris		
Jenny Mercado		
Annabelle Lampson		
Sherley Johnson		
CHRIS GUENTHER		
Suzanne Doyle		
Simone Yings +		





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NAME	STREET ADDRESS/CITY	E-MAIL
Diana Davis		
Keech Jones		
Tom Creek		
Dr. Stephen		
Richard E. Miller		
Mick Kelley		
Glenn L. Lurman		
E.J. Trader		
Flora N. Haliczak		
Mablee Sewell		



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NAME	STREET ADDRESS/CITY	E-MAIL
Mark Orlando		
Sandy Stodolow (ROSELAND)		
Brian W. Reed		
*TREVOR THOMPSON		
SUNNY CAMPBELL		
Eugene Campagna		
William Hoban		
Affila Nagy		
MICHAEL WEST		



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NAME	STREET ADDRESS/CITY	E-MAIL
Dena Allen		
Tor Allen		
WOODY HASTINGS		
KERRY ISHMOOL		
DIANNA WAITE		
John Szyrenski		
William Hoban		
DAVID SKELLEN		
Salvador Fuentes		
Irma Ramirez		

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NAME STREET ADDRESS/CITY E-MAIL

Brian McKown		
Alan Duncan		
EARL WALTERS		
Carlton Jimini		
GABRIEL AREVALO		
ANTONIO R. RAMBONCA		
BRUCE E. CARPENTER		
Rich Atilano		
TOM DUNDAS		
Zach Kester		

### PETITION FOR ALL NATURE IN "THE NEIGHBORWOOD"

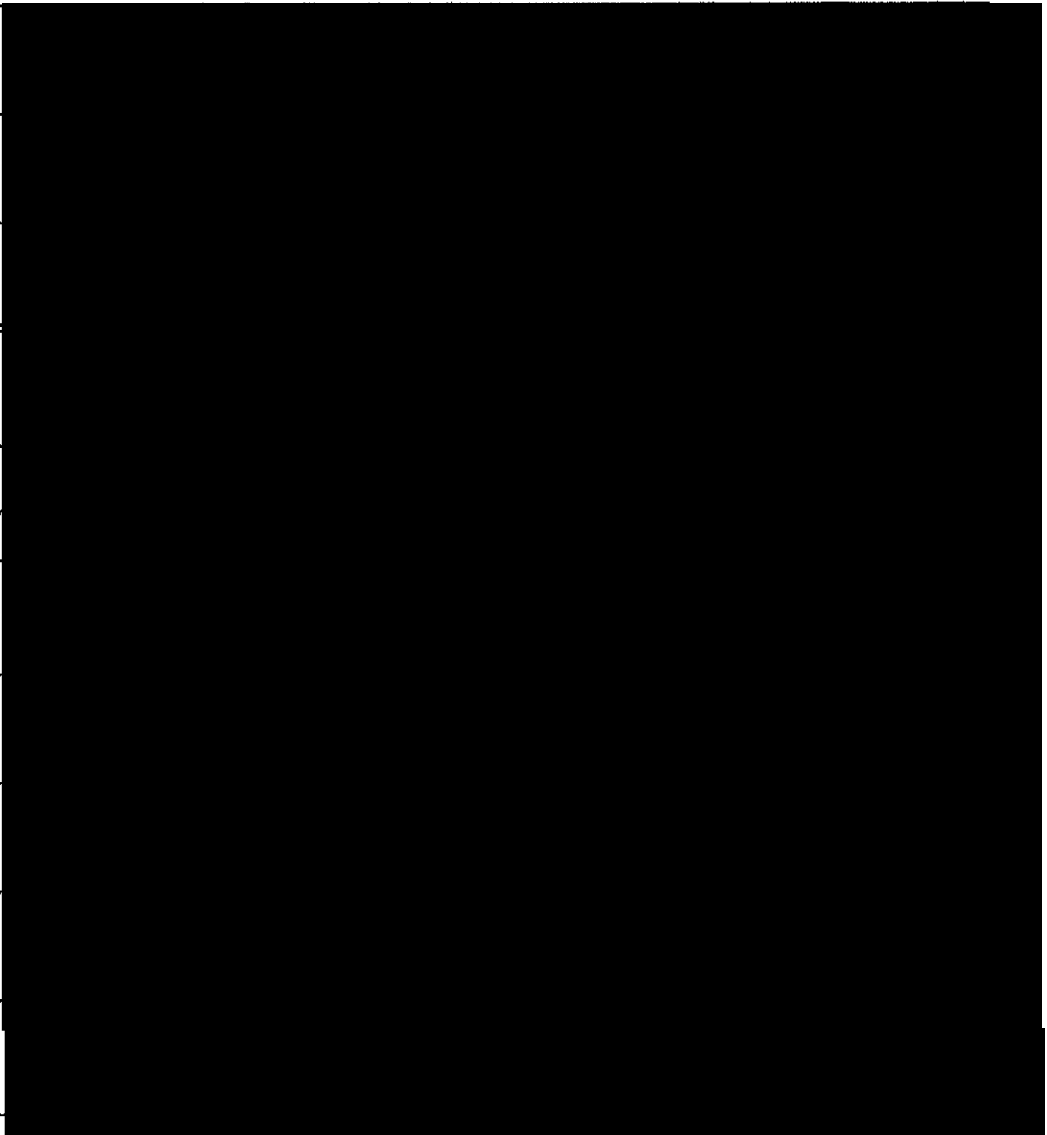


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NAME STREET ADDRESS/CITY E-MAIL

Lee Nunez
Pat Clouston
Kathleen J. O'Hare Palmer
Rory Varnum
Lawrence E. Houston
Gary Gullum
Robert A. Cross
Denny Wilson
[Signature]
Mary Munak



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NAME STREET ADDRESS/CITY E-MAIL

Mary Goe		
Gary Bekerak		
Claudio Calvo		
Kimberly Valdez		
PAUL L. SYMONDS		
Sienna Johnston		
Michael Bitterman		
Harold Goldwin		
Rob Gerd		
NIKO QADANEN		



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NAME	STREET ADDRESS/CITY	E-MAIL
Hans W. Herb		
Magda Mohamed		
GREGG JANU		
Thomas Ellis		
Scott Brewster		
Harold P... ..		
Brandon Stewart		
Rob Beidl		
DAVE PHILLIPS		
WILLIAM VAN W... ..		

A



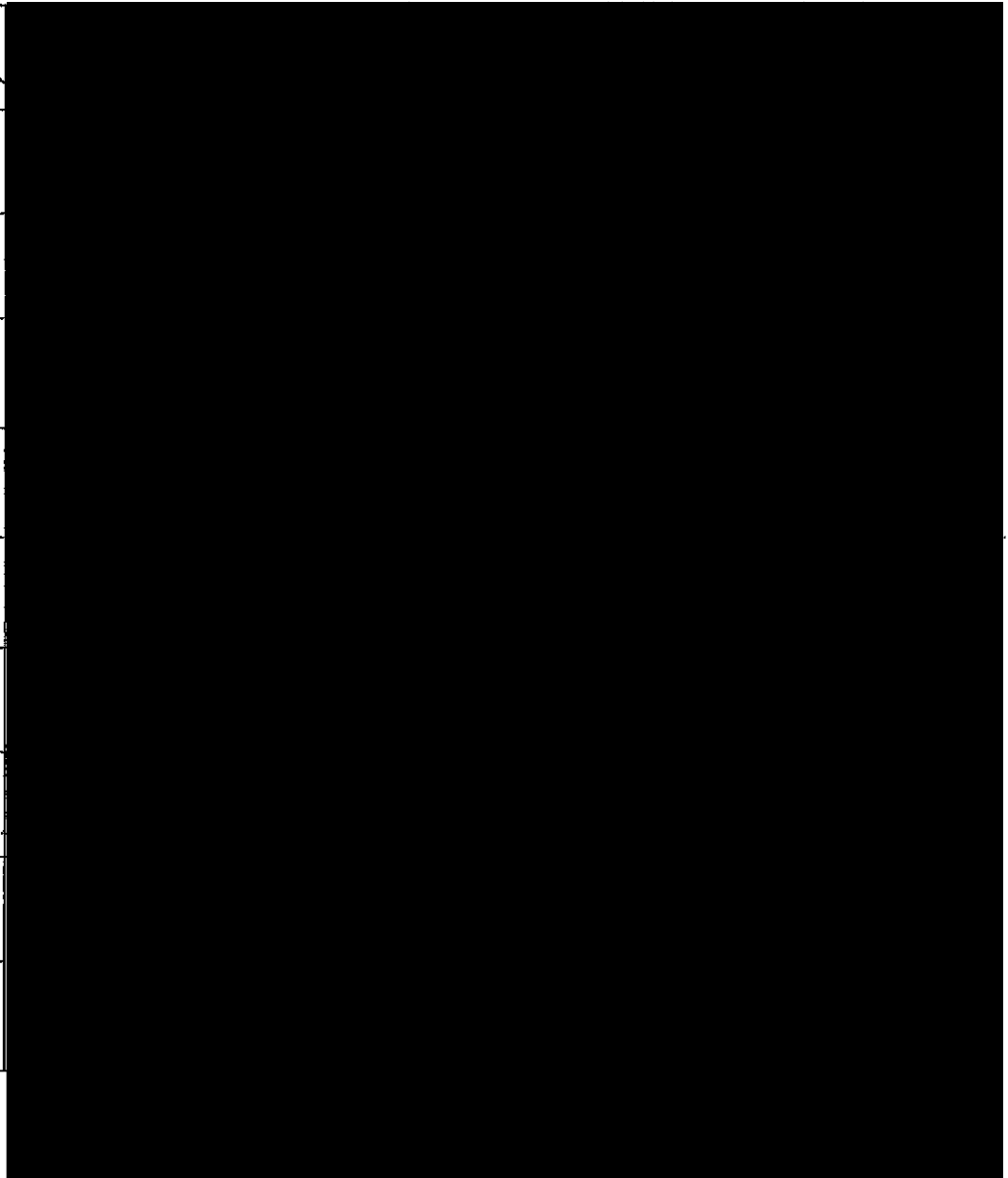
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Aaron Hill Aaron Hill
Charles Abrams
Joseph [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]
James Krupka James Krupka
Sherrie Kane
Sherrie Kane
John Tiller
Jo de Benedictis Jo de Benedictis









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Aaron Hill Ann Hill		
Michael R W Artines michael R W Artines		
Angelina Comalli Angelina Comalli		
LINDA R. PICTON Linda R. Picton		
Steven G. Elmore Steven G. Elmore		
CURTIS KUMPALA (ROSELAND) CURTIS KUMPALA		
Jim Bray		
Larahn M. Myers		
Sam S.		
Wes Blackford		

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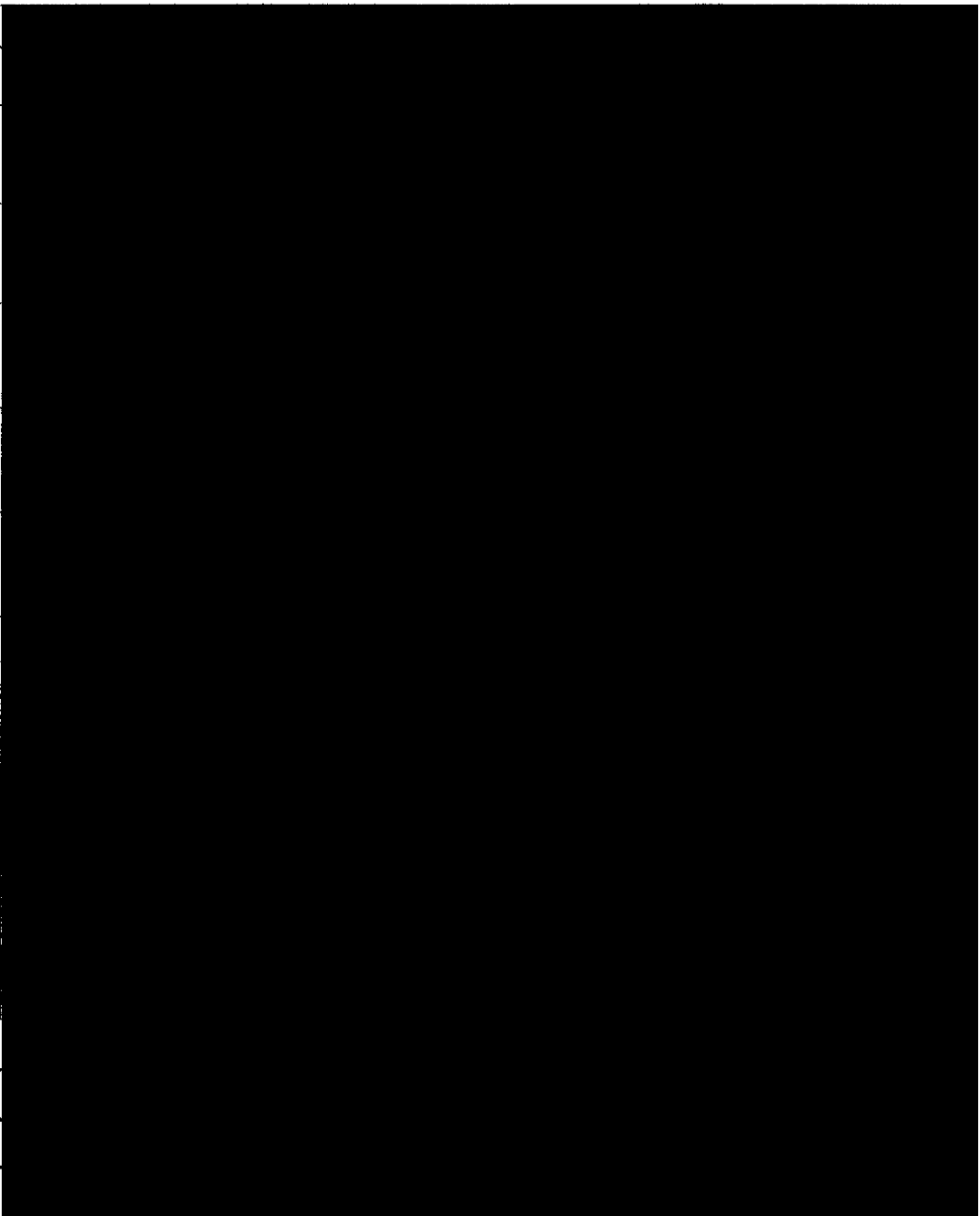


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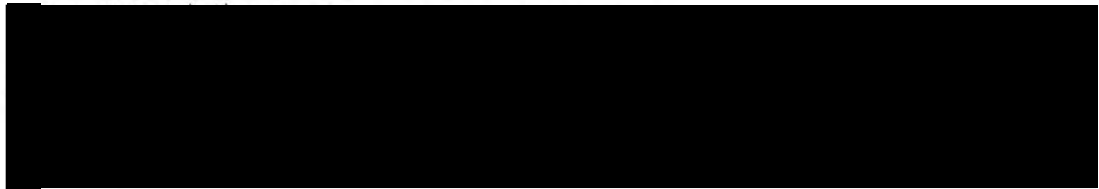
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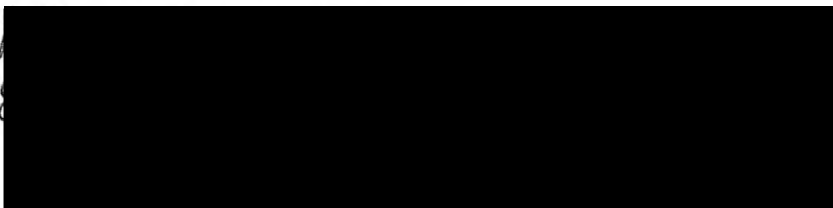
Amanda Hill <i>[Signature]</i>
abigail zoger
Amy Lilly Sarah Olson
Bob Libian
Anne Japelli
Christine Haex MARK MORTENSON
Mark R. M... PETE GANG PAC
MICHAEL Lipert <i>[Signature]</i>
Tyra Bennett <i>[Signature]</i>
Chris Thompson Sandy Reynolds



TOM AMATO



\* Francesca Duval



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Gilbert Flores		
ARNOLD JONES		
JACK LANGLOIS		
Jacqueline Jones		
ELIZABETH BLACK		
Hal Libbey		
ANDRE BOLCOT		
Jason Richardson		

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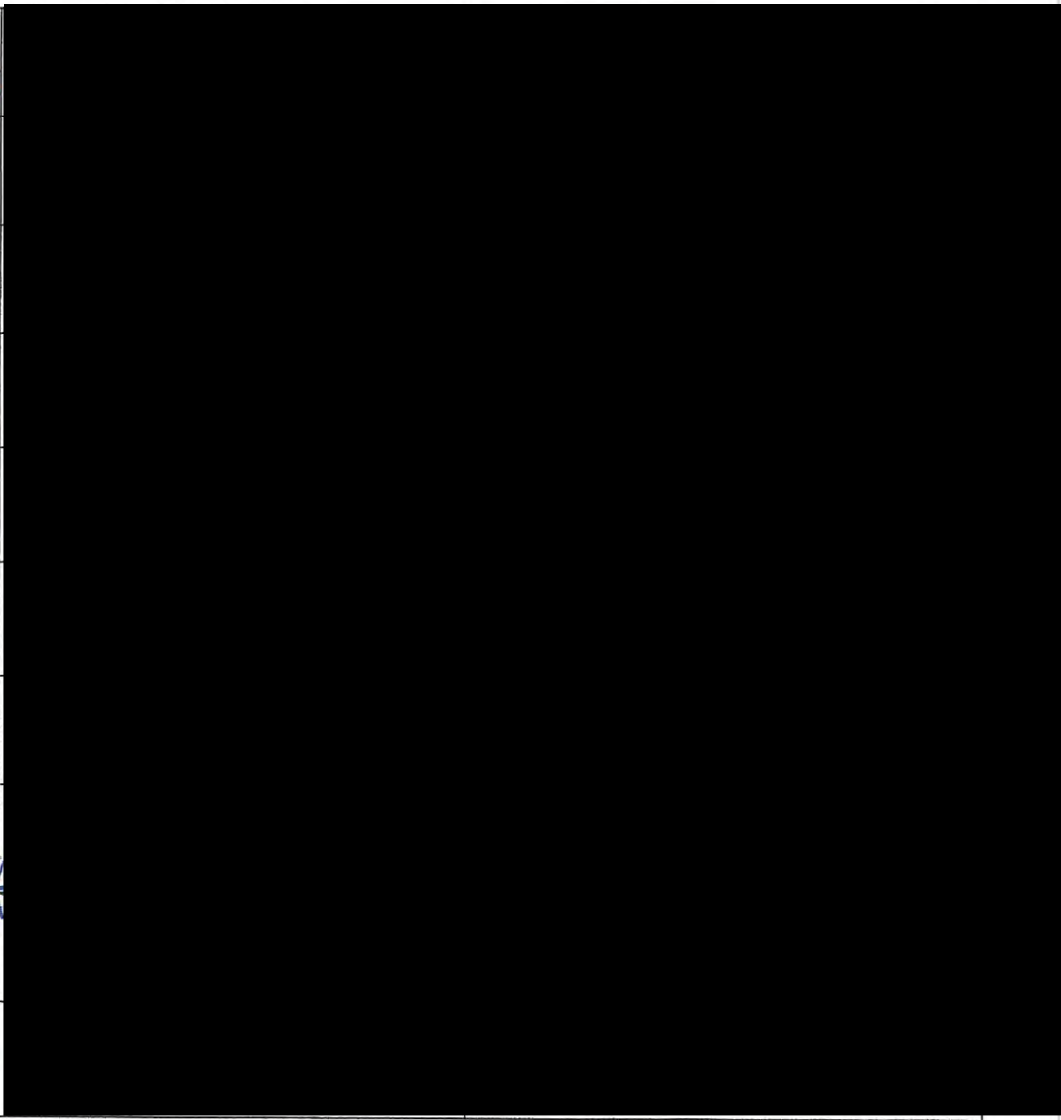
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NAME STREET ADDRESS/CITY E-MAIL

David J. Harris
John Creager
NORM HARDIN
Norman L. Bryan
Michael Ferrel
SIM HURD
Robert Oleton
MICHAEL WEEC
Duke Sanborn Pauliger
Charles E. Phares



January 9, 2020

To the Santa Rosa City Council: Tom Schwedhelm, Victoria Fleming, John Sawyer, Chris Rogers, Ernesto Olivares, Jack Tibbetts, and Dick Dowd;  
and  
Jen Santos, Deputy Director of Recreation and Parks,

My name is Dr. Catherine Lipson and I am co-Chair of the Education and Outreach Committee for the Milo Baker chapter of the California Native Plant Society. I would like to take this opportunity to point out our chapter's experience with stewardship and how we can enhance the educational value of oak woodlands and mixed and/or native grasslands contained within Roseland Creek Community Park.

The Milo Baker chapter currently provides stewardship for four specialized native plant habitats in Sonoma County, with two of them included within the boundaries of the city of Santa Rosa. The Southridge Conservation Easement Preserve was approved in 1988 as part of the mitigation required by the City of Santa Rosa when Fountaingrove Ranch was developed and has been maintained by volunteer stewards in the decades since then. The Milo Baker chapter adopted the Sensitive Plant Area of Santa Rosa's Rincon Ridge Park in 2004 and has worked to preserve the unique habitat in collaboration with the city. These successful efforts are an example of what CNPS volunteers can accomplish when working with neighborhood associations and city staff members.


It is important to note that unlike the existing specialized plant habitats in Sonoma County, the proposed Roseland Creek Community Park does not include endangered plant species. Mitigation requirements for this site will be less stringent since the plan proposes only limited tree removal. In contrast to the specialized habitats, the oak woodland, native purple needle grass area, and mixed grassland will tolerate frequent access by the general public.

CNPS members have extensive experience in planning volunteer workdays and educational presentations related to mitigation after tree removal, creek restoration, or elimination of invasive species. Neighborhood residents have already worked on invasive plant removal during a CNPS-led work day. Local schools have already used the oak woodland and riparian corridor habitats as outdoor classroom sites. Feedback about these projects has been overwhelmingly positive and encourages us to stay involved! Moving forward with the City of Santa Rosa, CNPS would be happy to coordinate additional educational opportunities for adult learning or student science projects, using the outdoor classroom site and other features of the proposed Roseland Creek Community Park.

Our Education and Outreach committee routinely works with other community organizations such as the Children's Museum of Sonoma County to develop educational presentations and exhibits. In the long run, retaining a portion of the Roseland Creek Community Park as native plant habitat will achieve many of Santa Rosa's educational and recreational objectives. Please join me in my ongoing



support for the biodiversity represented by this welcoming natural area, which provides such excellent access for local neighborhood residents.

Sincerely,   
Catherine Lipson  
Co-Chair, CNPS Milo Baker Education and Outreach Committee