

MEMORANDUM

DATE November 18, 2013
TO Iveta Harvancik
City of Saratoga
FROM Isabelle Minn
RE **Community Workshop #3 Summary**

This memorandum summarizes the third community workshop for the Saratoga Quarry Park Master Plan, which took place on November 12, 2013 at the Joan Pisani Community & Senior Center in Saratoga. Approximately 20 community members attended the community workshop. Patrick Miller, Principal of 2M Associates, began the meeting by introducing the members of the Project Team, followed by an overview of the Project process, vision, and goals, as well as the site's existing conditions. Isabelle Minn, Principal-in-Charge at The Planning Center | DC&E, and Christine Wilson, Landscape Designer at The Planning Center | DC&E, then took the audience through the concept plan for Saratoga Quarry Park.

Following the presentation, community members were given an opportunity to ask questions and provide their opinions regarding the Project. The community members then divided up into three small groups and asked to participate in a facilitated small group exercise. During the exercise the participants critiqued the concept plan, discussed the prioritization of the three unique use areas, brainstormed how to implement and manage the project, and provided recommendations for the park character, including style and materials. In conclusion, all participants wrote a word or phrase on a piece of paper that summarized what they were most excited about doing at Saratoga Quarry Park.

All three groups expressed support for the development of the Project design. Each group provided recommendations and comments, which are summarized below, regarding the draft concept plan.



Group # 1

Below is a summary of the third group's discussion on the concept design, prioritization, implementation, and character:

Thoughts on the Concept Plan:

- Establish a multi-use trail in place before implementing regional connections
- Make Saratoga-to-the-Sea connection accessible
- Prioritize the connection to Saratoga Village
- Design programming to be open-ended and natural
- Encourage revenue generation
- Avoid "in memoriam" programs, such as Adopt-a-Bench, for fundraising

Prioritization:

Conflicted between the upper use area and the mid use area:

1. Upper - because it will bring in families, require less work/money
2. Mid - because there are less activities, close to access

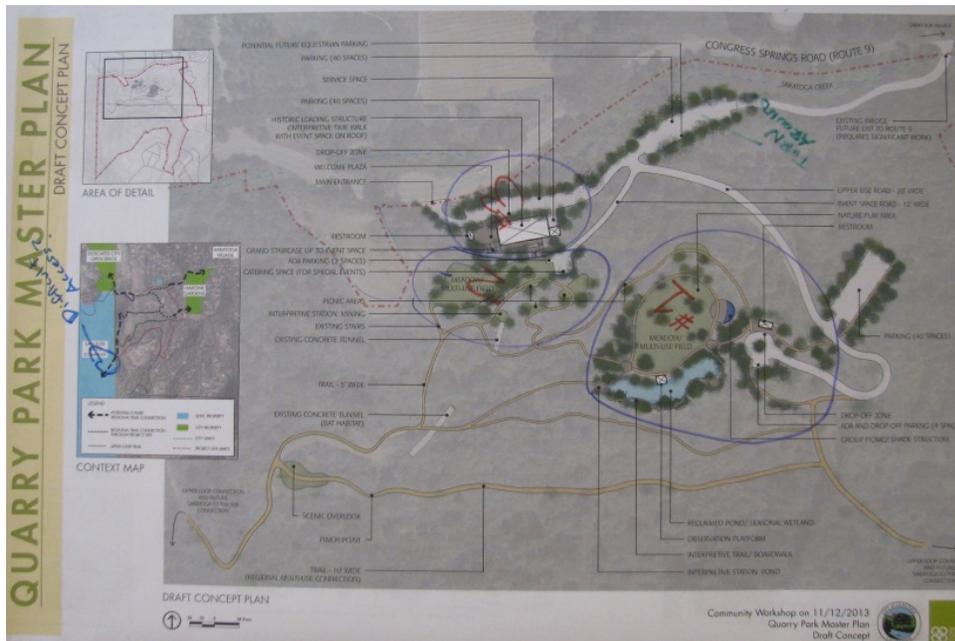
Implementation Resources:

- Generate revenue with family programs, weddings, competitions, and other special events
- Sempervirens Fund for trails, both money and labor
- Boy and Girl Scouts for volunteer time
- Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD)
- California Conservation Corps for labor and marketing
- University of California Santa Cruz students for labor and marketing
- High School Community Service Program for labor and marketing
- West Valley College Parks Program for labor and marketing
- Friends of Historical Museum for interpretation program
- Residents for interpretation program

Park Character:

- Natural wood and stone
- Use existing county benches and on-site materials
- Inviting
- Wildlife
- Historic: different eras, preserve, timeline (i.e. rebar rails)





Group # 2

Below is a summary of the second group’s discussion on the concept design, prioritization, implementation, and character:

Thoughts on the Concept Plan:

- Provide an overnight trail use permit for Saratoga-to-the-Sea backpackers, with a kiosk
- Restore pond, but may be difficult considering it’s mucky and the spring that feeds the pond has dried out over the years
- Incorporate a full-scale bulldozer into the design
- Create a center for mining history and include the equipment that is currently located on-site
- Remove noxious weeds
- Manage mosquitoes in pond

Prioritization:

1. Ensure loading structure is safe or block off and designate as “under construction”
2. Upper use area because of the “wow” factor

Implementation Resources:

- MROSD, specifically with pond, boardwalks, wildlife inventory, and bat cave
- Students at Santa Clara University, San Jose State, and other local universities; provide incentives like internships, which will require work to manage
- Sierra Club



Group # 3

Below is a summary of the third group's discussion on the concept design, prioritization, implementation, and character:

Thoughts on the Concept Plan:

- Design meadow to be natural; manage potential runoff problems
- Encourage viewing at pond, but protect birds with buffers
- Incorporate turtle sunbathing islands into the pond design
- Provide interpretive information on geologic conditions along trails
- Include interpretive information on Ohlone cultural history
- Promote ranger-led programs, including a star-gazing program
- Require permit for overnight parking
- Create seating at scenic overlooks that is ADA accessible
- Ensure signage at junctions informs the public of trail risks
- Install mile markers along trails at intervals of 0.10 or 0.25 miles
- Organize an interpretive program by historical eras

Prioritization:

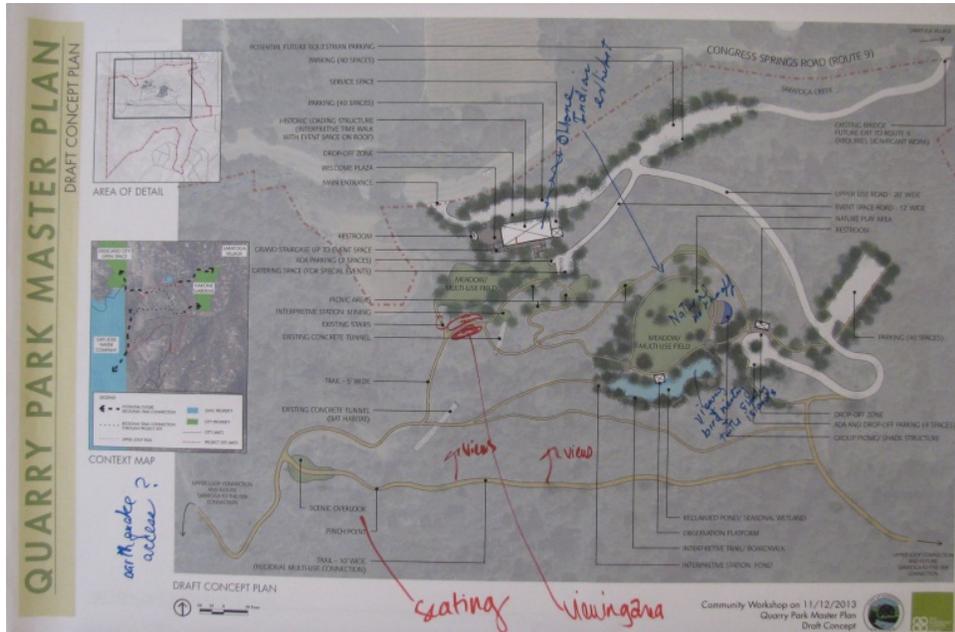
1. Trails, signage, and benches
2. Pond and upper area, with a vault toilet
3. Everything else

Implementation Resources:

- Coastal Commission
- Conservation Corps
- Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Committee
- Docents
- Equestrian and running groups
- Host running events
- Walking groups, correlate with school requirements on specific grades
- Eagle Scouts and Girl Scouts

Park Character:

- Use local stone or on-site materials
- Design to be more rustic than urban in character
- Include modern technology and sustainable materials
- Provide access to modern tools



For the final task, all participants were asked to write a word or phrase on a piece of paper in response to the following questions: *“What are you excited about doing at Quarry Park? What makes you excited about Quarry Park?”* These were their responses:

- “Regional Connection” (occurred twice)
- “Pond”
- “Trail Use during Lunch and Education for Kids”
- “The Views”
- “Hike from Village to Sanborn via S.Q.P.”
- “Fields”
- “Restoration of Native Vegetation & Wetland Area; Removal & Management of Noxious Weeds”
- “Natural Restoration”
- “Hiking through History”
- “Hiking and Bird Watching”
- “Hiking/ Walking through History”
- “Climbing Steep Steps”
- “See Bat Cave and Mine Entrance”
- “Unique”
- “Play Ponds Picnic”
- “A Place to Reconnect”



