



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joint Statement by City of Pleasant Hill, Contra Costa County and Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District

MAY 3, 2019, Pleasant Hill, CA – The City of Pleasant Hill, Contra Costa County, and the Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District are developing projects on Oak Park Boulevard which will include a new library building, new sports and recreation fields, much-needed housing and improvements to Monticello Avenue. The City is planning to circulate a draft Environmental Impact Report in early Summer 2019.

In order to finalize and ready the project for construction, additional state and federal permits are required. The original timeline for receiving these permits needed to be adjusted, and this will delay the projects moving forward such that activity originally scheduled to begin in Fall 2019 is now anticipated to begin in late Spring 2020.

As a result of the delay, Contra Costa County Supervisor Karen Mitchoff announces library services at 1750 Oak Park Boulevard will continue at the current location until late Spring 2020.

The City of Pleasant Hill looks forward to the construction of the new building and will be maximizing this time to ensure that the new library building will fit the needs of patrons.

Project Overview

The Oak Park Project - encompassing 15 acres at 1700 and 1750 Oak Park Boulevard - is actually four projects in one. It is a new library building to replace the current outdated building; new sports fields for the community to enjoy; a new neighborhood of 34 single-family homes; and a greatly improved Monticello Avenue as well as the adjacent section of Oak Park Boulevard.

It is a unique partnership between Contra Costa County, the principal owner of the land; the City of Pleasant Hill; and the Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District. The Mt. Diablo Unified School District also owns a portion of 1700 Oak Park Blvd with the County.

This partnership is described in a July 2018 Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU establishes a framework for the transfer of five acres from the County to the City of Pleasant Hill for a new library building; the sale of five acres to Recreation & Park District for sports fields; and the ultimate sale by the County of 1750 Oak Park Blvd (the existing library site) to a home builder for construction of 34 single-family homes.

All partners are sharing in the common infrastructure, environmental review, design and construction costs. That includes sharing the cost of transforming Monticello Avenue from a narrow private road into a tree-lined boulevard that will better serve the nearby middle school, the new library building, sports fields, and the entire community.

Contact:

June Catalano, City Manager, City of Pleasant Hill, (925) 671-5267

Michelle Lacy, General Manager, Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District, (925) 682-0896

Lisa Chow, Supervisor Karen Mitchoff's Office, Contra Costa County, (925) 521-7100