



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
Parks Department



**DATE:** March 30, 2016

**COMMISSION MEETING DATE:** April 7, 2016

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Marlene Finley, Director

**SUBJECT:** Director's Report

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Read report.

**BACKGROUND:**

This report highlights activities since the Commission's February 2016 meeting.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Sharp Park Golf Course** – is an 18-hole, municipal golf course owned by San Francisco and operated by the San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department. The golf course is located in Pacifica, within San Mateo County. Opened in 1932, it was designed by famous golf course designer, Dr. Alister MacKenzie and is recognized as a historic resource. It is also habitat for the endangered San Francisco garter snake and home to the threatened red legged frog. The golf course provides an affordable golf experience for San Francisco and San Mateo County residents. Several years ago, the County's Board of Supervisors passed a resolution directing the County Manager or his designee to proceed with negotiations with the City and County of San Francisco with regard to the operation and management of the golf course. Recently, these talks were suspended while San Mateo County worked with consultants to secure an updated financial analysis. This analysis is currently in progress and expected to be available in May.

**Pedro Point Headlands** – As previewed in previous Commission meetings, the Parks Department is working with the City of Pacifica and California Coastal Conservancy to explore the potential transfer of 245 acres to the County for the purposes of managing a public park, including public access and natural resource preservation. County Parks, County Real Property and County Counsel are working on the staff analysis and

recommendations to be presented to the Board of Supervisors at a future date. The City of Pacifica has been asked to provide a survey of their parcels. On February 9, 2016, I presented an informational report to the Board of Supervisors on the conveyance. The general plan conformity review of the proposed Pedro Point Headlands conveyance is scheduled for the April 27, 2016 Planning Commission meeting.

**Staffing** – Sarah Birkeland will join the Parks Department staff as Assistant Director effective April 18, 2016. Sarah is currently working as a Natural Resource Attorney for the U. S. Department of Agriculture in San Francisco where she has served for eleven years counseling the U.S. Forest Service regarding management of National Forest System lands in California. Prior to her work as an attorney, Sarah was a practicing landscape architect in a Seattle, Washington firm, where she worked on park, school, and residential projects. While in graduate school, Sarah worked for King County, Washington, on an innovative watershed protection program. She holds an undergraduate degree in botany, as well as a master's degree in landscape architecture and a J.D. Sarah was born and raised in Davis, California and says she is looking forward to working in our Department's team environment.