

# County of Santa Clara

## Parks and Recreation Department

298 Garden Hill Drive  
Los Gatos, California 95032-7669  
(408) 355-2200 FAX 355-2290  
Reservations (408) 355-2201  
[www.parkhere.org](http://www.parkhere.org)



October 5, 2018

Noujeng Her  
Santa Clara Valley Water District  
5750 Almaden Expressway  
San Jose, CA 95118

Re: Calero & North Shore Trail Project / Agreement A3860R

Dear Noujeng,

Thank you for reviewing the revised budget submitted to you on September 11, 2018. Per your email of September 20, 2018, we are now submitting our formal request to change the scope of work and budget for the above referenced project and grant.

Santa Clara County Parks and Recreation Department (Parks) requested a one-year extension of the grant in August 2018, which was consistent with the conditions of the grant. The extension of the grant was finalized in March 2018, extending the grant until June 2019. In addition, Parks required an Encroachment Permit from the Santa Clara Valley Water District (District) for the construction of both the Oak Cove and North Shore Trails. This process was started in November 2017, and Parks was issued an Encroachment Permit for the Oak Cove Trail in August 2018. Due to the delays in permitting, construction was not started in 2018 because of water quality and erosion concerns with a partially completed trail during winter. Given the project delays, Parks is requesting an extension of the grant through December 2019 to complete construction, re-vegetate, and open the trail to the public.

Parks' new scope of work for the District's 2015 Safe, Clean Water Priority D3 Grant (Grant) would be limited to the construction of the Oak Cove Trail. The original scope of work for the Grant was the construction of the Oak Cove and North Shore Trails. These trails are part of the Calero County Park Trails Master Plan (Trails Master Plan), which was approved in 2013. The Trails Master Plan expanded the existing trail system at Calero County Park from 20 miles to 36 miles, including the creation and conversion of several trails to multi-use to allow mountain biking. The Trails Master Plan also included staging areas and trails for the Rancho San Vicente property, which was purchased in 2009, to allow the property to be opened to the public.

The original scope of work for the grant included approximately 5 miles of new trail, 6 free-span, multi-use trail bridges, and 5 rock crossings. The alignments submitted for the grant were taken from the Trails Master Plan, which were designed to be trail corridors with changes based on terrain, soils, and sensitive resources. The portion of the North Shore Trail included in the grant

connected the Calero Reservoir Boat Launch to the trail system below Calero Dam. The Oak Cove Trail started at the existing Cottle Trail at the western end of the Calero Reservoir, traversed along the southern edge, and ended at the County Park office on the eastern end. Portions of both trails were located on District property.

Since the Trails Master Plan was approved and the grant was awarded to Parks, there have been changes to site conditions and trail alignments. The District is planning a seismic retrofit of the Calero Dam facilities in the next few years to address seismic stability issues. The project will require use of access roads below Calero Dam to transport materials and equipment, as well as staging for those materials and equipment. Due to the high level of traffic on and around the proposed North Shore Trail, it is likely that the North Shore Trail would need to be closed for the duration of the project for public safety. There is also potential for damage to the trail during the seismic retrofit project from vehicles and equipment and possible realignment of the trail depending on dam retrofit infrastructure. Since the North Shore Trail would not be usable for public recreation for the duration of the seismic retrofit, Parks has requested that the North Shore Trail be removed from the grant.

The Oak Cove Trail alignment has changed from the original proposal to reduce potential impacts to water quality and locate it further from Calero Reservoir. The original alignment was close to the shoreline, which resulted in crossing streams that were substantially incised. Parks revised the alignment to be located higher up in the watershed to reduce the number of bridges over incised channels and decrease potential for erosion by crossing drainages higher in the watershed. This realignment also resulted in a smaller percentage of the trail being located on District property.

The new scope of work for the grant would be limited to the construction of the Oak Cove Trail. The Oak Cove Trail will be approximately 4.6 miles with 24 drainage crossings. The drainage crossings will consist of 22 rock fords, 1 culvert, and 1 free-span bridge (see attached map). The width of the trail will be approximately 5 feet, while the impacted area, including the trail, brush clearing, trail cutting, and limited sidecast, will be approximately 10 feet in width.

Rock fords will be armored with large rocks at the base to make up the keystone/foundation and smaller rocks and soil will make up the tread for multi-use passage and energy dissipation. Rocks will be sourced from nearby on County Parks' property, if possible, or from a local quarry. No mortar will be used during construction, and construction will only occur in dry stream channels. The drainages being crossed are minor and do not flow frequently; any flow occurs primarily during peak storm periods for short duration. The trail has been located to avoid removal of vegetation and trees to the extent practicable. The vegetation to be removed is primarily poison oak and chaparral.

The culvert at Crossing OC#19 will be installed according to State of California Parks (State Parks) trail construction, with approval from California Department of Fish and Wildlife under a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement. The culvert will be constructed of using ~15 feet of a 24-inch corrugated, polyethylene pipe. The culvert will be placed perpendicular to the trail and will not alter the current flow direction of the watercourse. Material will be removed using an excavator and the culvert will be placed close to stream grade at the stream width, to the maximum extent practicable, to avoid a perched outlet and erosion on the outfall. Backfill material will consist of native material removed during excavation, and the culvert will be buried at least 6 inches below the trail tread surface. The inlet will have a headwall composed of large



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rocks, and the outlet will have rock protection and energy dissipation.

The bridge at Crossing OC#22 will be constructed according to State Parks trail construction standards, with approval by California Department of Fish and Wildlife under a Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement. The bridge will be approximately 20 feet long and 7 feet wide, with a 5-foot user width that matches the trail width. The bridge will be constructed using pressure treated wood materials that will serve as abutments for the bridge. The bridge abutments will be placed outside of the active stream channel and consist of a mud sill (contact with the ground) and soil dam (to prevent soil from sloughing onto mud sill) using pressure treated wood. The bridge stringer will be a steel I-beam, while the decking, cross bracing, and hand rails will be cedar wood. The metal I-beam stringer may be replaced with cedar wood if OHV vehicles are unable to access the site due to the significant weight of the steel I-beam. Metal braces and hardware will be used to secure the wooden components together.

A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan has been prepared for the Trails Master Plan implementation, and an amendment will be prepared specific to the conditions of the Oak Cove and North Shore Trails. The project is a covered activity under the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Conservation Plan and has been evaluated for temporary and permanent impacts. A Streambed Alteration Agreement notification is currently being reviewed by California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Thank you for considering our request to change the scope of work and budget for the Calero Trail Project. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Christian Elliott, Management Analyst at 408-355-2291. We look forward to hearing from you with the second amendment to the grant agreement.

Best Regards,



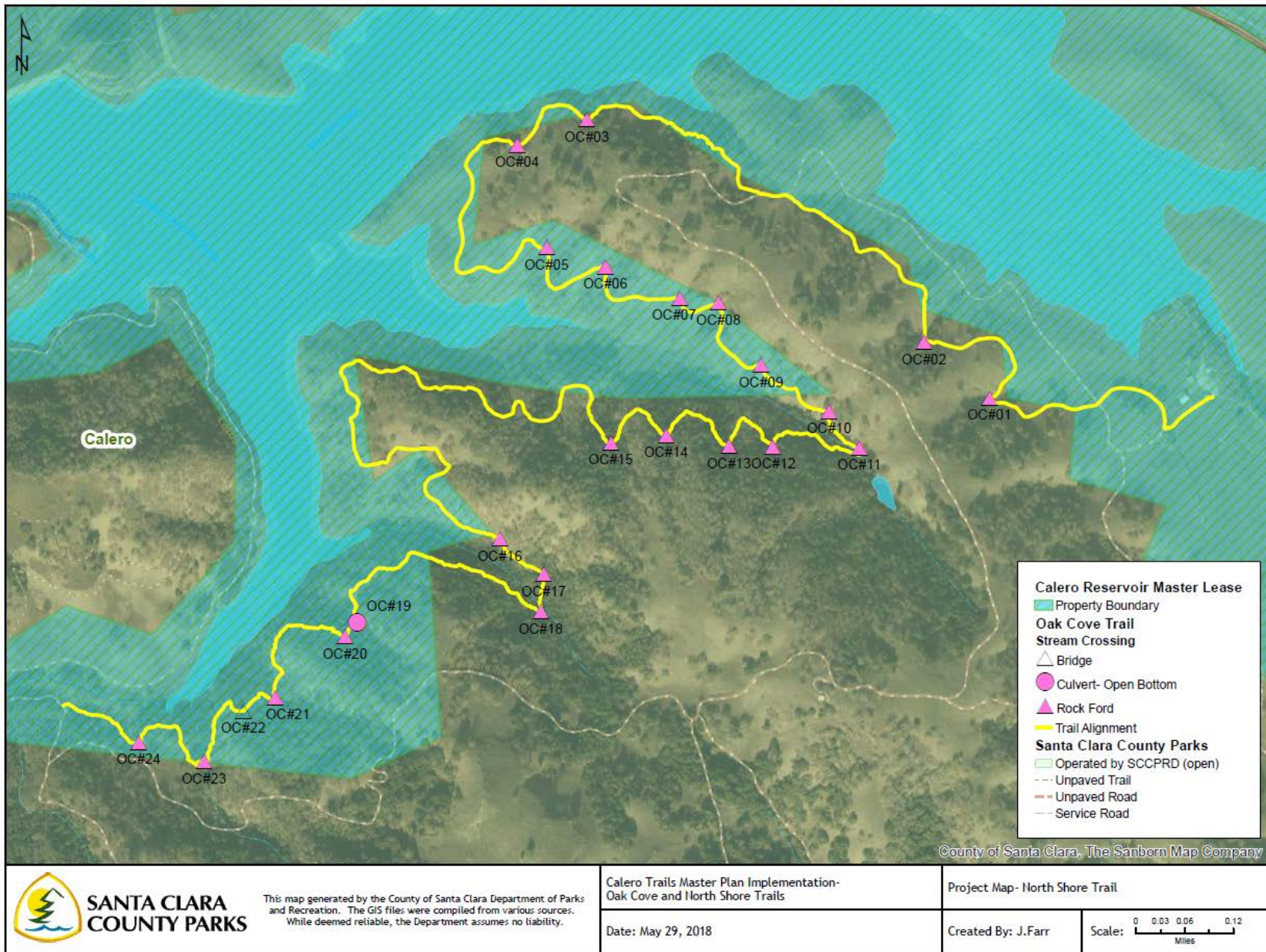
Don Rocha, Interim Director



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