

## STAFF REPORT

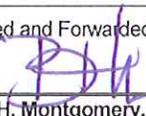
**Date:** Tuesday, October 11, 2016

**To:** Bryan H. Montgomery, City Manager

**From:** Kevin Rohani, Public Works Director/City Engineer

**Subject:** Resolution of support for the concept of the Marsh Creek Corridor Multi-Use Trail connecting the Delta shoreline to Mount Diablo

Approved and Forwarded to City Council:

  
Bryan H. Montgomery, City Manager

### Background and Analysis

Marsh Creek winds along Marsh Creek Road from the City of Clayton to the City of Brentwood. Marsh Creek continues in the northerly direction and meanders through the City of Brentwood and Oakley and ultimately connects to the Delta. An existing multi-use Class I trail runs along Marsh Creek from the City of Brentwood to Big Break Regional Park in the City of Oakley. A 15 mile trail segment within unincorporated Contra Costa County is being proposed. When completed, the trail will connect the fertile Delta region with the wooded foothills of Morgan Territory Regional Preserve and the quiet serenity of Round Valley Regional Park east of Mt. Diablo State Park. Trail users can benefit from several community parks and greenbelts along the way, which offer respite from mid-day summer heat. The completion of the trail will be a huge recreational benefit to the community and all trail users.

### Fiscal Impact

No Fiscal Impact.

### Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Council adopt the resolution of support for the exploration of the Marsh Creek Multi-Use Trail concept that would connect the Delta to Mount Diablo and neighboring communities; and supporting efforts to identify and secure project study and implementation funding from local, state, and federal transportation, recreation, park and open space sources.

### Attachments

- 1) Marsh Creek Corridor Multi-Use Trail Concept for Expanded Connectivity
- 2) Marsh Creek Corridor Multi-Use Trail Study Area Map
- 3) Resolution of Support

# MARSH CREEK CORRIDOR MULTI-USE TRAIL

## CONCEPT FOR EXPANDED CONNECTIVITY: DELTA SHORELINE TO MOUNT DIABLO



*Cyclist on Marsh Creek Road*



*Marsh Creek Corridor*



*View of multi-use trail*

**Project Description:** Develop an approximately 15-mile long multi-use trail through the Marsh Creek Corridor on or near Marsh Creek Road between the City of Clayton and the City of Brentwood. Once this trail and adjacent trails are completed, there will be one continuous non-motorized route from Concord to Mount Diablo that ultimately continues to the shoreline of the Delta in Oakley.

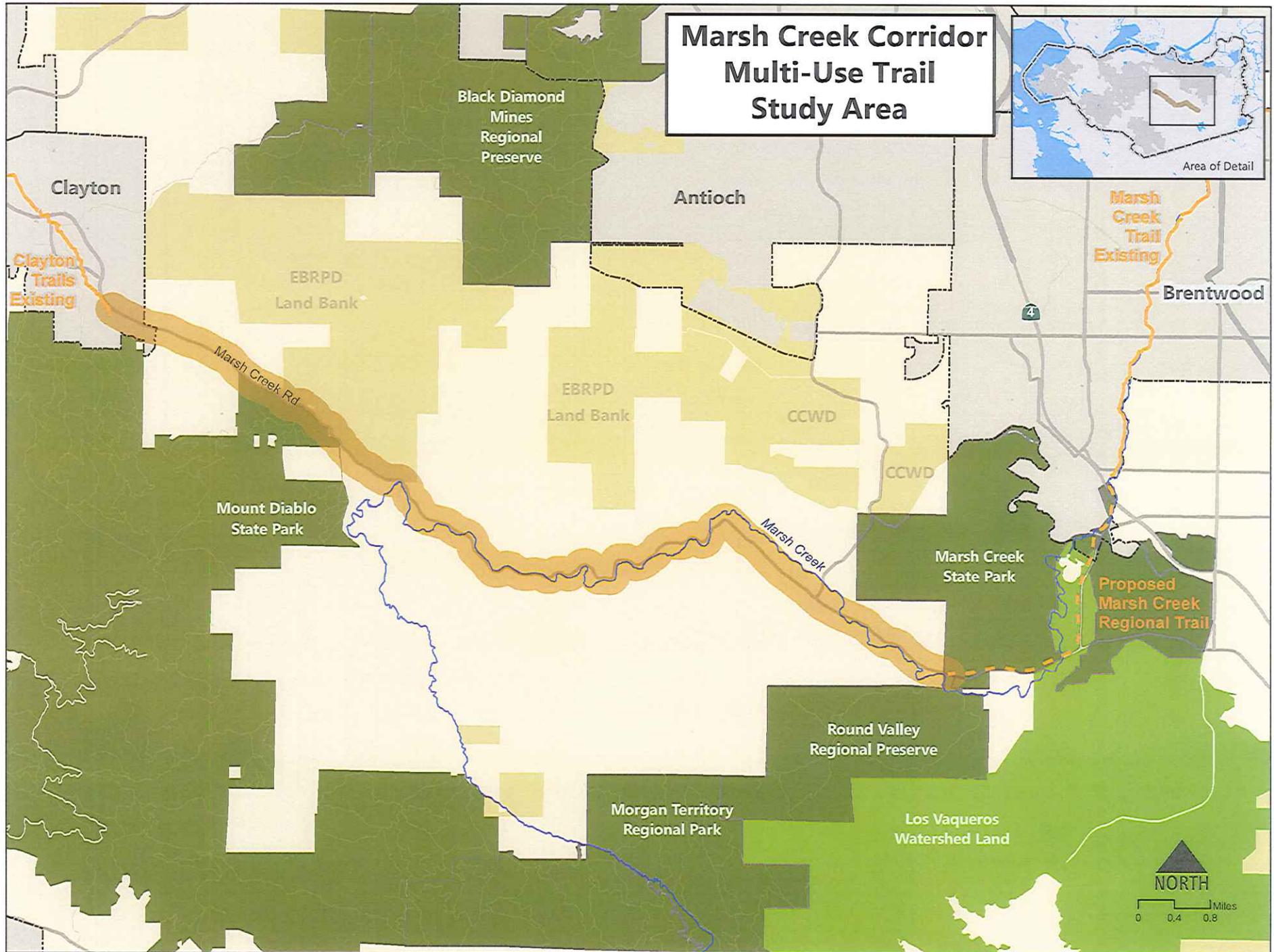
**Background:** Marsh Creek Road is a major thoroughfare that connects Central and East Contra Costa County. This stretch of Marsh Creek Road where a trail is proposed receives up to 10,000 average vehicle trips a day. The western segment of Marsh Creek Road carries a higher volume of commuters on average each day due to its proximity to the City of Clayton while the eastern segment near Round Valley Regional Preserve (Deer Valley Road) receives significantly fewer average daily vehicle trips. Marsh Creek Road is the gateway to 110,000 acres of open space and recreational areas managed by the East Bay Regional Park District, Contra Costa Water District, State Parks, and other organizations. A significant number of bicycle trips take place on Marsh Creek Road, in spite of the lack of a bicycle path or designated lane. Marsh Creek Road within Clayton has an existing Class II bicycle lane, which connects to Clayton's extensive trail network. In East Contra Costa County, the Marsh Creek Trail currently runs from the Big Break Regional Shoreline in Oakley to the southern city limits of the City of Brentwood. The East Bay Regional Park District plans to extend the Marsh Creek Trail through the City of Brentwood to the Round Valley Regional Preserve. After that section is completed, a gap in the multi-use trail would still exist between Round Valley Regional Preserve and the City of Clayton.

**Benefits:** The completed multi-use trail will create a new major non-motorized east-west thoroughfare for expanded commuting and recreational opportunities. It will provide access to downtown Clayton, Diablo View Middle School, Mount Diablo State Park, Round Valley Regional Preserve, and the existing Marsh Creek Trail in Brentwood and Oakley. Once this trail is completed, there will be one continuous trail from Concord to the Delta shoreline in Oakley that can accommodate various forms of non-motorized travel, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and equestrians. Various trail alignment options are available that allow for flexible design opportunities. These include potential alignments that follow the creek, the road or separate the trail entirely to follow safer and more user-friendly routes. Construction of the trail could be performed in conjunction with restoration of Marsh Creek, as anticipated in the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan /Natural Community Conservation Plan, and be constructed in a manner that reflects the scenic and natural resources of the area.

**Policies:** Both the County's General Plan and the Contra Costa Transportation Authority's Countywide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan call for bicycle facilities along Marsh Creek Road.

**Funding Opportunities:** A number federal, state, and local funding opportunities exist to support the planning, additional ROW acquisition, and construction of the Marsh Creek Trail. Local agencies in Contra Costa County have an additional opportunity to generate secure local funding by including the Marsh Creek Trail as a project in the upcoming proposed augmentation of the county-wide transportation sales tax.

**Cost:** TBD



RESOLUTION NO. \_\_-16

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OAKLEY SUPPORTING THE EXPLORATION OF THE MARSH CREEK MULTI-USE TRAIL CONCEPT THAT COULD CONNECT THE DELTA TO MOUNT DIABLO AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES; AND SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY AND SECURE PROJECT STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING FROM LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION, RECREATION, PARK AND OPEN SPACE SOURCES**

**WHEREAS**, Marsh Creek Road is a major thoroughfare that connects Central Contra Costa County and East Contra Costa County, and is the gateway to 110,000 acres of open space and recreational areas managed by the East Bay Regional Park District, Contra Costa Water District, State Parks and other local jurisdictions; and

**WHEREAS**, a significant number of bicycle trips take place on Marsh Creek Road, in spite of the lack of a bicycle path or a dedicated lane; and

**WHEREAS**, Marsh Creek Road within the City of Clayton ("Clayton") has an existing Class II bicycle lane, which connects to Clayton's extensive trail network into the City of Concord ("Concord") and Mount Diablo State Park; and

**WHEREAS**, in East Contra Costa County, the Marsh Creek Trail currently runs from the Big Break Regional Shoreline in the City of Oakley ("Oakley") to the City of Brentwood's ("Brentwood") southern city limits, leaving a gap between that terminus and trails in Clayton; and

**WHEREAS**, the completed multi-use trail would create a new major non-motorized east-west thoroughfare for expanded and safer commuting and recreational opportunities, would provide non-motorized access to Downtown Clayton, Diablo View Middle School, Mount Diablo State Park, Round Valley Regional Preserve, and the Marsh Creek Trail through the cities of Brentwood and Oakley; and

**WHEREAS**, once this trail and adjacent trails are completed, there will be one continuous non-motorized route from Central Contra Costa County to the Delta; and

**WHEREAS**, improved access to separated trails, of the type proposed, are consistently shown to substantially increase use of non-motorized modes of travel relative to facilities in the shared roadway; and

**WHEREAS**, construction of the trail could be performed in conjunction with restoration of Marsh Creek, as anticipated in the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Community Conservation Plan and be constructed in a sensitive manner that reflects the scenic and natural resources of the area.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council of the City of Oakley does hereby support the exploration of the Marsh Creek Multi-Use Trail concept that would connect the Delta to Mount Diablo and neighboring communities; and supporting efforts to identify and secure project study and implementation funding from local, state, and federal transportation, recreation, park and open space sources.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Oakley at a regular meeting held on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016 by the following vote:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  
ABSTENTIONS:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kevin Romick, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Libby Vreonis, City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date