

**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
AGENDA STAFF REPORT**

DATE	December 17, 2024
TITLE	Authorization to Accept an Emergency Vehicle Access (EVA) Easement from Ronald Knarr: Briones Regional Park
DIVISION	Acquisition, Stewardship, and Development
FROM	Becky Bremser, Chief of Land Acquisition Ken Wysocki, Assistant General Manager of Acquisition, Stewardship & Development
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize acceptance of an Emergency Vehicle Access (EVA) easement from Ronald Knarr at Briones Regional Park to facilitate emergency response.

BACKGROUND

Echo Springs Road is a private road running from Reliez Valley Road to just shy of the Briones Regional Park boundary. East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) staff have used Echo Springs Road and an EBMUD right-of-way on the Knarr driveway to access this area of Briones Regional Park since the acquisition of the adjacent Shapell property in 1976. The Park District has an agreement with many of the landowners along Echo Springs Road to share maintenance costs and has legal access across the road for much of its length. The portion of Echo Springs Road on the Knarr property, and the connecting EBMUD right-of-way, has also been used for many years as a local walk-in entrance to the park.

In 2021, the Park District submitted a comment letter to the City of Lafayette stating the importance of the access route to the Park District for emergency operations, and requesting the City investigate a potential public access easement in connection with a proposed development on the Knarr property. While neither option was conditioned in the approved project, a neighborhood group reached a separate settlement with the Knarr property landowner to allow for public access across the property and into Briones. The Park District was asked to allow the public to access the park via the new entrance and staff agreed contingent upon an EVA easement being granted along the Knarr driveway. The Park District and the property owner have reached agreement on easement language and are now ready to record the document.

ANALYSIS

Acceptance of the EVA easement will ensure permanent access for Park District staff over an existing private road into this area of Briones Regional Park. Not accepting the easement would potentially hamper Park District emergency response to this area.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no cost to accepting this easement aside from staff time.

ATTACHMENT

Map – Briones Regional Park / Echo Springs Road Easement



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – 12 -
DECEMBER 17, 2024**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT AN EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESS (EVA)
EASEMENT FROM RONALD KNARR: BRIONES REGIONAL PARK**

WHEREAS, Echo Springs Road is a private road from Reliez Valley Road to the edge of Briones Regional Park; and

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District (Park District) does not have legal access across the portion of Echo Springs Road on the Knarr property; and

WHEREAS, the Park District and Ronald Knarr have reached agreement on an Emergency Vehicle Access (EVA) easement across Echo Springs Road on the Knarr property in favor of the Park District; and

WHEREAS, the EVA easement will improve Park District emergency response to this area of Briones Regional Park;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorize acceptance of an Emergency Vehicle Access (EVA) easement from Ronald Knarr as presented to the Board on December 17, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the General Manager is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the Park District and in its name, to execute and deliver such documents and to do such acts as may be deemed necessary or appropriate to accomplish the intentions of this resolution.

Moved by Director _____, and seconded by Director _____, and adopted December 17, 2024, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: