



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

DATE	September 17, 2024
TITLE	Authorization to Enter into an Agreement with Contra Costa County for Clark Road Improvements in the Amount of \$113,000 at Wildcat Canyon Regional Park
DIVISION	Operations
FROM	Robert Kennedy, Chief of Park Operations Lisa Goorjian, Assistant General Manager of Operations
APPROVED	Sabrina Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends that the Board of Directors authorize execution of a one-time cost sharing agreement with Contra Costa County (County) in the amount of \$113,000 for improvements to Clark Road that will meet the minimum County road standards for acceptance into the County’s road maintenance inventory.

BACKGROUND

The East Bay Regional Park District (“Park District”) holds a public trail easement for a hiking and horseback riding trail into Wildcat Canyon Regional Park along Clark and Boas Roads, between San Pablo Dam Road and the park boundary (see Attachment A). The Park District maintains a small, graveled five-car parking area and trailhead, the Clark-Boas Trailhead, at the south end of Clark Road. Clark Road is a paved road located in unincorporated El Sobrante that provides access from San Pablo Dam Road to the Clark-Boas Trailhead, the East Bay Waldorf School, and several residences.

An approximately 900-foot section of Clark Road between Fable Court and the East Bay Waldorf School is not maintained as a public road because it was never formally accepted into the County road inventory when the surrounding residential development and road system were built in the 1950s. This 900-foot section of Clark Road was also never deeded to any of the neighboring private property owners who live along the road. Therefore, this section of Clark Road has received little maintenance and has fallen into disrepair, with numerous large potholes and other pavement deterioration. The road shoulder is also the site of occasional garbage dumping. Since the early 2010s neighbors along Clark Road have made repeated complaints to Contra Costa County and the Park District about the lack of road maintenance.

Between 2020-2024, County, Park District Staff and Clark Road neighbors held several remote meetings and a site visit to discuss the road maintenance issue but were not able to arrive at a successful resolution due to the lack of jurisdictional responsibility for the road. Contra Costa County Staff have proposed to take on the ongoing maintenance of this unmaintained 900-foot section of Clark Road if the road can be improved to a satisfactory condition to meet minimum County roadway standards.

The County has estimated that the cost to meet minimum standards could be accomplished by performing a double chip-seal on the road with an estimated cost of \$341,000. To pay for the improvements the County has requested that the Park District contribute a reasonable share of the project cost based on proportionate usage of the road.

The Park District and County staff have observed that traffic usage of Clark Road includes several sources including a relatively small, but regular volume of trail users who drive the road daily to use the Clark-Boas trailhead, and by Park District Operations, Park District Public Safety staff, and other Park District staff for access to Wildcat Canyon Park. Clark Road provides reliable access for public, emergency and maintenance purposes into the remote northeast area of the park. Other than Clark Road, the next closest vehicle access points are 2-3 miles away near Tri Lane in El Sobrante and McBryde Avenue in Richmond. Traffic on Clark Road also includes many weekday drivers dropping off students and staff at the nearby school as well local residential traffic.

Park District staff have identified \$113,000 from Park District paving funds that can be used as a reasonable contribution toward the project cost, which is approximately a 1/3rd share of the \$341,000 estimated project cost, with the County responsible for the remaining amount. County staff has preliminarily agreed that the Park District’s contribution is acceptable, and that the County would take full responsibility for completing the road improvements and would request that the road section be accepted into the County road inventory for future maintenance, subject to authorization by the County Board of Supervisors.

ANALYSIS

The Park District’s participation in the Clark Road improvement project would serve the public benefit by helping the County and Park District resolve a long-standing issue that has resulted in park visitors and others needing to travel on a substandard road and has caused complaints from park neighbors about illegal dumping in the unmaintained road section. The one-time Park District contribution is based on a reasonable proportionate share of the road usage that serves the District’s interest, namely providing public, emergency and maintenance access into Wildcat Canyon Park.

As a long-term public benefit of this project, the County would be able to accept the full length of Clark Road into its road inventory to maintain it in perpetuity. The Park District and larger community would benefit from the County undertaking future maintenance and clean-up of Clark Road so it could continue to be safely used by park visitors, Park District staff, emergency vehicles, the surrounding community.

FISCAL IMPACT

SOURCE OF FUNDS	
District Paving Funds (553 Fund)	\$ 113,000
Total Funds Available	\$ 113,000

USE OF FUNDS	
Contribution to Contra Costa County for Clark Road Improvements	\$ 113,000
Total Current Project Cost	\$ 113,000

ATTACHMENTS

Project Location Map



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2024 – 09 -
SEPTEMBER 17, 2024**

**AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH CONTRA COSTA
COUNTY FOR CLARK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$113,000 AT
WILDCAT CANYON REGIONAL PARK**

WHEREAS, the East Bay Regional Park District (“Park District”) maintains a graveled 5-car parking area and trailhead for Wildcat Canyon Regional Park, at the end of Clark Road, a paved road in unincorporated El Sobrante; and

WHEREAS, Clark Road is regularly used by Wildcat Canyon Park trail users and Operations, Public Safety, and other staff for access to the northeast portion of the park, and alternative access points are 2-3 miles away; and

WHEREAS, an approximately 900-foot section of Clark Road is not currently maintained as a public road because it was never formally accepted into the Contra Costa County (County) road inventory; and

WHEREAS, the unmaintained section of Clark Road has fallen into disrepair and experiences illegal dumping on its road shoulder; and

WHEREAS, the County has requested that the Park District contribute a proportional share of the cost toward a project that would restore the unmaintained section of Clark Road to a minimum pavement condition under which it could be accepted into the County’s road inventory for ongoing future maintenance; and

WHEREAS, Park District and County staff have proposed that a reasonable cost-share based on proportionate use of Clark Road for District purposes, would be approximately one-third of the total estimated cost of road improvements, or \$113,000; and

WHEREAS, funding in the amount of \$113,000 is available in the District pavement repair budget to contribute to the County Public Works Department to complete the road improvements; and

WHEREAS, When the Clark Road improvements are completed, County Staff has indicated they would request authorization from the County Board of Supervisors to accept the unmaintained road section into the County road inventory and take full responsibility for future road maintenance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby authorize execution of an Agreement with Contra Costa County for Clark Road Improvements in the amount of \$113,000 at Wildcat Canyon Regional Park; 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 September 17, 2024, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: