


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

DATE	January 16, 2024
TITLE	Approval of Reappointments of Luana Espana, Bruce Henry, Bob Peoples, Bob Reid and Bob Simmons to the Park Advisory Committee
DIVISION	General Manager's Office
FROM	Erich Pfuehler, Chief of Government and Legislative Affairs Dr. Ana M. Alvarez, Deputy General Manager
APPROVED	Sabrina B. Landreth, General Manager 

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager recommends the Board's consideration to approve the reappointments of several community members to the Park Advisory Committee for terms commencing on January 1, 2024 and ending on December 31, 2025. Reappointments to the Park Advisory Committee include:

- Luana Espana, reappointment of Director Ellen Corbett

Luana Espana is the Community Affairs Representative for the Port of Oakland. She has previously worked as a Public Affairs consultant for the Park District. She has a Master's Degree in Public Policy from the University of California, Berkeley. In addition to the PAC, she serves as a Board Member for the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council. She lives in San Leandro.

- Bruce Henry, reappointment of Director Olivia Sanwong

Bruce Henry worked in consumer-packaged goods for Proctor and Gamble, Coca-Cola and Clorox. He is retired and served on the City of Pleasanton Bicycle, Pedestrians and Trails Committee prior to being appointed to the PAC. He lives in Pleasanton.

- Bob Peoples, reappointment of Director John Mercurio

Bob Peoples serves on the City of San Ramon Open Space Advisory Committee. He retired from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services after a 32-year career. He has a life-long interest in conservation and enhancement of natural systems. He lives in San Ramon.

- Bob Reid, reappointment of Director Dee Rosario

Bob Reid is a long-time equestrian. He is affiliated with the Moraga Horseman's Association and Orinda Horseman's Association. He is a musician and journalist. He was a founding member of BentitoLink, news and information website for San Benito County. He is the son of long time Rosie the Riveter Ranger Betty Reid Soskin. He lives in Oakland.

- Bob Simmons, reappointment of Director John Mercurio

Bob Simmons was an attorney for the U.S. Department of Agriculture before retiring in 2004. He is the former Mayor of Walnut Creek. He co-founded the Walnut Creek Watershed Council. He is also a former President of the Walnut Creek Open Space Foundation and a member of the Orinda Hiking Club. He previously served on the PAC from 2010 to 2018. He lives in Walnut Creek.

BACKGROUND

The East Bay Regional Park District's (Park District) Park Advisory Committee (PAC) is a 21-member community advisory group primarily appointed by the Park District Board of Directors (Board). Candidates are nominated by individual Board members and a variety of other public entities, such

as the Mayors' Conference, Board of Supervisors, and Special District Chapters of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The Park Advisory Committee (PAC) Meetings are on the fourth Monday of each month.

The PAC provides community perspectives and advice to staff and to the Board on the issues, projects and policies of the Park District. They make formal recommendations to the Park District Board on:

1. Land Use Plans and Land Use Plan Amendments
2. Budget and Annual Comprehensive Financial Report
3. Ballot Measures
4. Ordinance 38 changes
5. Naming of facilities, parks, or trails

They also consider focused items assigned by the Board or brought to the Board for approval by a vote of the PAC. They include items such as the Park District's trail use and naming policies. These items are considered by the PAC over a series of meetings to solicit a range of input. Members are appointed for a two-year term and may serve a total of four consecutive terms, or eight years. Service is voluntary and members receive no compensation.

ANALYSIS

The current terms of the five PAC Members noted in the recommendation expire December 31, 2023. Each of the five have indicated their interest in being reappointed. The nominating Board Members have notified the General Manager's Office of their desire to reappoint these five PAC Members. On December 13, 2023, the Board Executive Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the full Board of Directors the reappointments of these five PAC Members.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact with this action.

ATTACHMENTS

None



**EAST BAY REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-01-
JANUARY 16, 2024**

APPROVAL OF REAPPOINTMENTS OF LUANA ESPANA, BRUCE HENRY, BOB PEOPLES, BOB REID AND BOB SIMMONS TO THE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Park Advisory Committee (PAC) of the East Bay Regional Park District is established by and for the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Board Operating Guidelines provides description and procedures of the PAC's composition, nomination and appointments which includes the appointment of two members by each of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Luana Espana, reappointment of Director Ellen, has been nominated to serve an additional two-year term; and

WHEREAS, Member Espana brings a community perspective rooted in her work at the Port of Oakland, as well as from serving as a Board Member of the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council; and

WHEREAS, Bruce Henry, reappointment of Director Olivia Sanwong, has been nominated to serve an additional two-year term; and

WHEREAS, Member Henry holds a deep connection to the East Bay's trail network, having previously served on the City of Pleasanton Bicycle, Pedestrians and Trails Committee; and

WHEREAS, Bob Peoples, reappointment of Director John Mercurio, has been nominated to serve an additional two-year term; and

WHEREAS, Member Peoples shares with the PAC a community perspective guided by his role on the City of San Ramon Open Space Advisory Committee and career at the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Services; and

WHEREAS, Bob Reid, reappointment of Director Dee Rosario , has been nominated to serve an additional two-year term; and

WHEREAS, Member Reid supports the PAC with a perspective guided by his experience as an equestrian connected to the Moraga Horseman's Association and Orinda Horseman's Association; and

WHEREAS, Bob Simmons, reappointment of Director John Mercurio, has been nominated to serve an additional two-year term; and

WHEREAS, Member Simmons, as the former Mayor of Walnut Creek, co-founder of the Walnut Creek Watershed Council and former President of the Walnut Creek Open Space Foundation, shares his many years of public service focused on open space and natural resource protection with the PAC.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the East Bay Regional Park District hereby approves the appointments of Luan Espana, Bruce Henry, Bob Peoples, Bob Reid, and Bob Simmons to the Park Advisory Committee for terms commencing on January 1, 2024, and ending on December 31, 2025 as presented to the Board on January 16, 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
January 16, 2024, by the following vote:

FOR:

AGAINST:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN: