



CITY OF SANTA ROSA
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the
Roseland Creek Community Park Master Plan
State Clearinghouse No. 2022080148
April 25, 2024

LEAD AGENCY: City of Santa Rosa

PROJECT TITLE: Roseland Creek Community Park Master Plan

PROJECT LOCATION: The project site is an approximately 19.49-acre site consisting of four City-owned parcels located at 1027 McMinn Avenue, and 1360, 1370, and 1400 Burbank Avenue in the Roseland area of Santa Rosa, Sonoma County. Roseland Creek flows from northeast to southwest through the lower portion of the site. The site is surrounded by single- and multi-family residential land uses on the north and east, by rural residential uses to the south, and by an elementary school to the west. The site is mostly undeveloped and contains grassland, oak woodland and riparian habitat zones. The parcel located at the northeast corner of the site (1027 McMinn Avenue) formerly contained one single-family home. The parcels at 1370 Burbank Avenue and 1400 Burbank Avenue formerly contained two single-family dwellings, a barn, and several associated outbuildings. The structures on-site have since been removed and the remnant improvements associated with prior development on the site such as foundations, building pads, driveways, refuse, fences, and underground utilities are proposed to be removed with the project. There are also two existing domestic water wells on-site that are proposed to be capped and abandoned and a septic system that is proposed to be removed.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project proposes to construct a new community park to serve the Roseland neighborhood. The proposed Master Plan for the park shows two vehicle entrances to the park, both from Burbank Avenue. Each of the two entrances leads to a small parking lot, the more northerly lot containing 19 parking spaces and the southerly lot containing 17 parking spaces. The parking lots would be added concurrent with the proposed improvements they are intended to serve on each side of Roseland Creek. A multi-use trail runs from the southwest corner of the site to the northeast corner, following the south side of the Roseland Creek riparian corridor across the southern portion of the site and crossing the creek near the eastern park boundary. The proposed multi-use trail creek crossing would be a prefabricated bridge placed on abutments outside the top of bank. A network of smaller trails and walkways would provide pedestrian circulation throughout the park, providing interconnectivity to the other features of the park as well as a pedestrian connection between the Burbank Avenue and McMinn Avenue neighborhoods

on the west and east sides of the park. A secondary creek crossing on the western side of the park to connect the smaller proposed trails would also be a prefabricated bridge placed on abutments outside the top of bank. All proposed parking areas and walkways would be constructed with permeable pavement, except for areas where extra support is needed for ADA compliance.

The park is designed to preserve and enhance the habitat values of the existing grassland, oak woodland, riparian and purple needlegrass habitat areas on the site. Trails, interpretive signs, and upland habitat restoration in existing grasslands are proposed for the northern section of the park. The City, in coordination with community groups, would plant native grassland species to enhance and restore habitat in the northern section of the park. The central portion of the site contains the oak woodland habitat, which would be left intact and would also contain trails and interpretive signs. A nature center and restroom building would be constructed near the parking lot on the west side of the park, north of the creek. A picnic area and outdoor classroom or community garden are proposed to be located along the northern side of the riparian corridor at the edge of the oak woodland. On the south side of the riparian corridor, there would be a restroom near the parking lot, picnic areas (including single-use BBQs), a nature-themed play area, a lawn area, and sports court. A trail surrounding the lawn and play areas would include fitness stations. The existing purple needlegrass grassland area near the southeast corner of the site would be preserved, with trails encircling it. A potential future off-site trail connection to the multi-use trail is proposed near the eastern park boundary along the south side of Roseland Creek.

Development of the proposed park on the project site would adhere to existing conservation easements on 1027 McMinn Avenue, and 1360 and 1400 Burbank Avenue that are held by the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District (SCAPOS). A conservation easement would also likely be granted for 1370 Burbank Avenue by the SCAPOS.

SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS: The City of Santa Rosa has prepared a Draft EIR to address the specific environmental effects of implementing the proposed project. The Draft EIR includes an analysis of the following environmental issue areas that may be impacted by the project:

- Aesthetics
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Energy
- Geology and Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
- Land Use and Planning
- Noise
- Population and Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation
- Tribal Cultural Resources
- Utilities and System Services
- Wildfire

The proposed project would result in potentially significant impacts to Biological Resources, Cultural Resources, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Noise, and Tribal Cultural Resources. However, all project impacts would be mitigated to a less-than-significant level through implementation of recommended

mitigation measures or through compliance with existing Municipal Code requirements or City standards. The project would not result in any significant and unavoidable impacts.

Pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15087(c)(6) and Government Code Section 65962.5, the project site is not located on a hazardous waste site identified on the California Hazardous Waste and Substances Sites (Cortese) List.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD/STATUS: A 45-day public review period will be provided to receive written comments on the adequacy of the Draft EIR. The comment period will start on April 25, 2024, and end on June 10, 2024. Written comments may be emailed to jsantos@srcity.org or mailed to the following address:

City of Santa Rosa
Recreation and Parks Department
55 Stony Point Road
Santa Rosa, California 95401
Attention: Jen Santos

PUBLIC HEARING: The Santa Rosa City Council will hold a public hearing on the EIR, tentatively scheduled for September 24, 2024. Information about attending the City Council hearing can be found on the City's website at the following link: <https://www.srcity.org/1322/City-Council>.

AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT EIR: The Draft EIR may be reviewed on the City's website www.SRCity.org/RoselandCreekPark. Reference material used in the preparation of the Draft EIR may be reviewed upon request to the Recreation and Parks Department, 55 Stony Point Road, Santa Rosa.