



Conejo Recreation & Park District

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May 30, 2017

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
Los Angeles River Center and Gardens
570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Re: **SMMC Proposition 1 Grant Cycle; Grant Cycle No. 3810-P01-04032017**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Conejo Recreation and Park District (CRPD) is pleased to submit the enclosed application outlining the Sapwi Trails Community Park project for the subject grant.

CRPD realizes the importance of efforts to conserve and manage the state's water supply and the Sapwi Trails Community Park project will assist in meeting these challenges. The project will yield both water quality and quantity benefits while including additional benefits such as job creation, health, and educational and recreation opportunities.

The project is ready for immediate implementation with an expected construction start date in Fall 2017 and completion approximately 18 months later.

Thank you for your consideration of CRPD's application. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Palermo at (805) 495 – 6471 or bpalermo@crpd.org.

Sincerely,

Tom Hare
Administrator, Parks and Planning

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

403 West Hillcrest Drive • Thousand Oaks, CA 91360-4223
(805) 495-6471 • FAX: (805) 497-3199 • Email: parks@crpd.org • Website: www.crpdp.org

SMMC PROPOSITION 1 GRANT CYCLE
GRANT CYCLE NO. 3810-P01-04032017



Conejo

Recreation & Park District

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**SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
GRANT APPLICATION**

Project Name: Development of Sapwi Trails Community Park	Amount of Request: \$1,760,000						
	Total Project Cost: \$7,000,000						
Applicant Name: Conejo Recreation & Park District	Matching Funds: \$2,500,000						
	Lat/Long: 34.21058° N/118.82983° W						
Applicant Address: 403 West Hillcrest Drive Thousand Oaks, CA 91360	Project Address: Westlake, Avenida de los Arboles & Erbes Road						
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>County</td> <td>Senate District</td> <td>Assembly District</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center">Ventura</td> <td align="center">19</td> <td align="center">37</td> </tr> </table>	County	Senate District	Assembly District	Ventura	19	37
	County	Senate District	Assembly District				
Ventura	19	37					
Tax ID: 95-2265201							
Phone: 805-495-6471 Email: bpalermo@crpd.org							

Grantee's Authorized Representative:
Tom Hare, Administrator Parks & Planning
Name and Title 805-495-6471
Phone

Overhead Allocation Notice:

Any overhead costs will be identified as a separate line item in the budget and invoices.

The Conservancy encourages grantees to reduce overhead costs including vehicle and phone expenses.

The overhead allocation policy has been submitted prior to, or with, the grant application.

Outreach and Advertising Requirement:

Applicant has read the staff report and board resolution regarding contract policies.

Applicant has adopted contract policies for the purpose of increasing outreach and advertising to disadvantaged businesses and individuals.


All check boxes must be checked

Brief Project Description:
Development of 17 acres of a 145-acre project site with several passive and semi-passive recreational activities such as hiking, biking, disc golf, and non-motorized model glider flying. The project area includes open space, interconnecting multi-use trails, and a perennial stream, Lang Creek, that traverses the northern portion of the property. *attach additional pages with project detail

Tasks / Milestones:	Budget:	Completion Date
1 Environmental Consultant/Design Areas @ Creek and Arboles Parking Lot	\$ 100,000	Spring 2017
2 Braunton's Milk Vetch Protection	\$ 10,000	Fall 2017
3 Ped. Bridges over Creek	\$ 475,000	Fall 2017/2018
4 Clear Veg. / Mitigate and Planting @ Creek	\$ 85,000	2018/2019
5 Trails Connection to Creek Area	\$ 40,000	2018/2019
6 Interpretive Exhibits/Signage	\$ 50,000	2018/2019
7 Arboles Parking Lot	\$ 1,000,000	2018/2019

For Acquisition Projects: **APN(s):** N/A
Acreage: N/A

I certify that the information contained in this Grant Application form, including required attachments, is accurate.


Signature of Authorized Representative

5/30/17
Date

**SANTA MONICA CONSERVANCY GRANT APPLICATION
PROPOSITION 1 COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM**

Project Description:

Conejo Recreation & Park District proposes to develop a community park on approximately 17 acres of a 145-acre project site with several passive and semi-passive recreational activities such as hiking, biking, disc golf, and non-motorized model glider flying. The project area includes open space, interconnecting multi-use trails, and a perennial stream, Lang Creek, that traverses the northern portion of the property (see EXHIBIT 1 for Regional Location Map, Local Vicinity Map, and Project Site Reference Plan).

Falling under the Prop1 grant category, "All Other Improvement Projects", the project will serve community residents by providing recreational facilities in an area currently lacking improved parkland facilities. Construction drawings are nearly completed and we anticipate going out to bid within the next few months. The total estimated cost for the project is \$6,711,020 (see EXHIBIT 2 for electronic link to full set of construction drawings and full project cost estimate)

As part of the project, the stream will be restored, with the removal of trash, debris, silt, and non-native plant species, to promote watershed health, improve water flow/resiliency and reduce the risks of wildfire.

The watershed is the focus of this application. In order to facilitate access and protect the watershed, four span bridges will be installed across the creek at specified locations, connecting users to main activity areas within the park and other open space areas beyond the park (see EXHIBIT 3 for photographs of existing conditions at approximate proposed bridge locations). Construction of the span bridges will employ slope stabilization measures that will reduce creek erosion.

The project includes three public parking lots that serve as trailheads to the park's interior. Low Impact Development measures will be implemented in the construction of parking areas and thus storm water generated will be contained and collected. Specifically, the Arboles Parking Lot, will provide primary access to the creek and all creek monitoring activities, such as water quality, flow fluctuation, water levels/storage, and habitat evaluation. All three lots provide access to the park, however, the Arboles lot connects users to the creek and the vast opportunities of its exploration.

Trail connections to the creek facilitate access and enable users intimate contact with the stream. The Conejo Recreation & Park District's Outdoor Unit will conduct nature hikes and lectures to educate participants about stewardship of the land, climate change and the value of our natural resources.

The project will consist of interpretive signage and kiosk elements throughout the site to enhance the learning experience of the natural communities within the park site. The vegetation communities, particularly the Southern Cottonwood-Willow Riparian Forest and Coast Live Oak Woodland, offer many interpretive and educational opportunities, such as, watershed protection, wildlife study, bird watching, tracking, and plant identification. An outdoor classroom, located in the north-central portion of the project site, will provide an area for outdoor education programming. The area will have an informal amphitheater, consisting of informal seating utilizing logs and boulders, and a series of educational exhibits and signage to highlight a variety of site-related topics such as biology, geography, and cultural history. Conducting the learning experience outside of the formal classroom setting will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of the natural environment and watershed resource.

**SANTA MONICA CONSERVANCY GRANT APPLICATION
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Braunton's milk vetch, a federally threatened and California Native Plant Society (CNPS) List 18.1 species, is currently present on the project site in two separate locations, one in the northern portion of the site north of Lang Creek, and one in the southern portion of the site. The environmental consultant for the project, FirstCarbon Solutions, outlines specific recommendations to protect this plant species. Protective measures include temporary fencing and physical barriers to create a buffer around specimens during construction. Post construction, with evidence of new Braunton's milk vetch, staff will seek the guidance of a qualified biologist.

Monitoring of sensitive species and water resource management will be carried out by project staff through observations and detailed data collection during construction and by on-site maintenance staff after construction. These efforts will be coordinated with appropriate regulatory agencies. All onsite construction and maintenance workers will be provided information to assist them in monitoring and the preparation of progress reports to gauge the effectiveness of the project.

Conejo Recreation & Park District, through consultants, FirstCarbon Solutions (FCS), performed an Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration and a comprehensive analysis of air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. Also evaluated were hydrology and water quality, biological and cultural resources, geology and soils, grading and topographical modifications, noise, and traffic. The Conejo Recreation & Park District's Board of Directors adopted the Final Mitigated Negative Declaration in December of 2014. (see EXHIBIT 2 for electronic link to full adopted Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and Appendices)

Staff has contacted and consulted with the California Conservation Corps and a certified California Local Conservation Corps. (see EXHIBIT 2 for electronic link for results)

"All Other Improvement Projects"

Project achieves four or more of the thirteen purposes of Proposition 1 per Water Code Section 79732(a).

2) *Implement watershed adaptation projects in order to reduce the impacts of climate change on California's communities and ecosystems.* The development of Sapwi Trails Community Park preserves the natural environment of the project site and restores the watershed of Calleguas Creek, which Lang Creek deposits into. It's low-impact design conserves water, improving our ability to manage scarce water supplies. As a result, no turf will be installed or irrigated at the site. The District recognizes that, although the recent drought emergency has somewhat subsided, we must continue to develop innovative strategies for increased water conservation and revise our operations to respond to extreme conditions. Climate change has brought conservation to the forefront and we must continue to build on our efforts to conserve water.

The restoration within and adjacent to Lang Creek involves the removal of trash, debris, silt, and non-native plant species, such as Washingtonia and Arundo. The objective is to enhance water flow within the stream that will restore ecological health, and natural system connectivity. Predominant species targeted for protection include Coastal California Gnatcatcher, Least Bell's Vireo and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher.

**SANTA MONICA CONSERVANCY GRANT APPLICATION
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8) Implement fuel treatment projects to reduce wildfire risks, protect watersheds tributary to water storage facilities, and promote watershed health. Lang Creek runs along the northern portion of the property close to residences along Avenida de los Arboles. The fuel modification implemented with this project will protect habitat within the creek, as well as, the adjacent homes. The reduction of fuels will improve water flow, quality, and volume, and restore the resiliency of the ecosystems that support the wildlife populations on the project site and further downstream. In addition, if a wildfire were to occur, the span bridges would help facilitate access in any required emergency response effort.

9) Protect and restore rural and urban watershed health to improve watershed storage capacity, forest health, protection of life and property, storm water resource management, and greenhouse gas reduction. Storm water resource management is integral to our operations. The more water we can retain on site, the less imported water we are dependent on, thus extending the supply provided from local purveyors. FirstCarbon Solutions, the environmental consultant for the project, notes that the storm water generated on the project site will be contained and collected using low-impact development (LID) techniques. LID is an approach to land development working with nature to manage storm water as close to its source as possible. LID employs principles such as preserving and re-creating natural landscape features to reduce impervious surfaces, creating functional and appealing site drainage which treats storm water as a resource rather than a waste product. LID practices such as bioswales or similar features will be used throughout the project site to complement the existing natural pervious drainage areas.

The project also employs sound soil management practices with reduced land disturbance and use of conservation cover in developed areas. Such practices reduce erosion and dust, and improve overall plant health.

11) Reduce pollution or contamination of rivers, lakes, streams, or coastal waters, prevent and remediate mercury contamination from legacy mines, and protect or restore natural system functions that contribute to water supply, water quality, or flood management. Immediately adjacent and upstream of the project site is a large dam, capable of withstanding a 100-year storm event. The dam offers formidable protection to the residences to the west and has substantial storm water storage potential. This creates greater flexibility in the system, holding water when it flows heavily and releasing it when it does not.

The removal of silt and other debris from the stream will greatly improve water quality and flow. The current condition is less than desirable, threatening wildlife and habitat. By improving the stream's condition, we will restore natural system functions and protect complex ecosystems. There are no legacy mines in the area warranting remediation from mercury contamination.

The project will provide multiple benefits related to water quality, water supply, and/or watershed protection and restoration.

The project's designed landscape elements, such as bioswales, coupled with the dam's surface storage increase opportunities for groundwater recharge and, in turn, greater water management benefits. Paraphrasing from the California Water Action Plan, we must better manage our ground water levels so as to avoid land subsidence, poor water quality, reduced surface flows, and ecosystem impacts. The project will not only enhance the waterway, but improve flood safety and protection, and cleanse the water to restore the creek's ecosystems. In addition, the bioswales and surface storm water retention

employed with the project will reduce our dependence on imported water, and thus conserve this valuable resource.

The project results in more reliable water supplies pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.

The restoration of the creek will improve the stream's capacity to hold a greater volume of water and improve creek conditions not only on the project site and but further downstream as well. Improving flow improves water quality and habitat conditions.

The project results in restoration or protection of important species and habitat pursuant to the California Water Action Plan.

FirstCarbon Solutions identified eleven sensitive plant species within Thousand Oaks, California USGS 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map (see EXHIBIT 4 for Biological Resources Map). One sensitive plant species, Braunton's milk vetch, has a moderate to high potential to occur on the project site and was previously identified there in 2006 and spring 2013. No other sensitive plant species have a moderate or high potential to occur on the project site.

FirstCarbon Solutions outlines specific recommendations to protect the Braunton milk vetch. Protective measures include temporary fencing and physical barriers to create a buffer around specimens during construction. Post construction, with evidence of new Braunton's milk vetch, staff will seek the guidance of a qualified biologist. (Please see MM Bio Sections 1-4, pages 47 and 48 of FirstCarbon Solutions', "Sapwi Trails Community Park Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, City of Thousand Oaks, Ventura County, California").

Sensitive wildlife species evaluated on the project site include Coastal California Gnatcatcher, Least Bell's Pond Turtle and Southern California Rufous-Crowned Sparrow. Various mitigation measures will be implemented by CRPD to reduce potential impacts to these species (see page 51 and 52, FirstCarbon Solutions', "Sapwi Trails Community Park Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, City of Thousand Oaks, Ventura County, California", electronic link available in EXHIBIT 2).

The project employs new or innovative technology or practices, including decision support tools that support the integration of multiple jurisdictions, including, but not limited to, water supply, flood control, land use, and sanitation.

During the planning process and prior to actual development of any project, the District solicits feedback from several local and state agencies, such as, the City of Thousand Oaks, Calleguas Municipal Water District, Ventura County Watershed Protection District (formerly Ventura County Flood Control), and California Department of Fish and Game, to ensure the project meets current regulatory standards and utilizes sound and sustainable practices. The collaborative effort encourages agreements that support all beneficial uses of water and enhances water natural resource policy and management decisions.

Conejo Recreation & Park District also maintains partnerships with the major user groups that will benefit from the park's development, namely, the Thousand Oaks Soaring Society (TOSS), Conejo Disc Golf Club (CDGC), Thousand Oaks High School Cross Country and Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association

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(CORBA). The District has secured Memorandums of Understanding with TOSS, CDGC, and CORBA, forming an umbrella group of the parties with interests at Sapwi Trails Community Park.

Social media and the District's website are avenues for user groups and individuals to disseminate information or to offer feedback/comment about an event or concern within the park. Such communication is critical in identifying issues that arise so they can be addressed in a timely manner.

The project is located in or adjacent to communities defined no less than 81 percent disadvantaged as defined by the CalEnviroScreen 2.0 tool.

The project site will serve adjacent communities of disadvantaged populations as defined by CalEnviroScreen 2.0 tool through the project's trail system and connection and linkage through the Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency and Conejo Recreation and Park District's Trail Master Plan. Additionally, as a community park, it will draw patrons from outlying communities that meet this criterion.

Applicant has proven that implementation of the project is feasible.

Conejo Recreation & Park District is committed to seeing this project to its successful completion to improve water flow of the stream and to provide recreational facilities to residents where none currently exist. The District also possesses the staffing (see EXHIBIT 5 Parks and Planning Division Organizational Chart) and financial backing to accomplish this goal. Construction is anticipated to commence in the fall of 2017.

Applicant has financial capacity to perform project on a reimbursable basis.

Assistance from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy through the Proposition 1 Grant program is essential, as the project is short approximately two million dollars (\$2,000,000) of the total seven million dollars (\$7,000,000) required for project implementation. Five million dollars (\$5,000,000) has been allocated for the park's development, with an additional five hundred and twenty thousand dollars (\$520,000) in planning, design, and consulting costs. Construction drawings are nearly completed and we anticipate going out to bid within the next few months.

Applicant, or active project partner, has successfully completed multiple projects of similar size and scope.

Conejo Recreation & Park District manages a yearly capital improvements budget of an average of \$6-million dollars and has completed single projects of nearly \$10 million dollars. We have successfully completed a multitude of projects similar in size and scope of the proposed project. The District, over the years, has developed 59 parks and 637 developed acreage, including five community parks, six sports playfields, and one districtwide park, as well as special facilities with a variety of recreational amenities. Additionally, CRPD, through the auspices of Conejo Open Space Conservation Agency, maintains over 15,000 acres of open space and a 150-mile multi-use trail system.

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The project is a partnership between two or more organizations and each organization has committed to contributing toward project implementation.

Of the five million dollars (\$5,000,000) allocated for the project, the District is contributing two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) and, the City of Thousand Oaks, through a grant agreement approved by the City Council on April 11, 2017, will contribute a matching two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000).

Applicant, or project partner, has 1+ years experience maintaining and operating projects of similar size and scope.

Conejo Recreation & Park District became an agency in 1963 and has over 52 years of experience maintaining and operating projects of a similar size and scope; CRPD has 59 parks and 637 developed acreage.

Applicant has identified funding for proper maintenance throughout the expected life of the improvements.

District management has designated funding for expected maintenance for the life of the improvements from the District's General Fund. Leading up to the design and development of the project, the District has appropriated an annual maintenance budget of \$250,000 since 2011. In early 2017, the District hired a full-time Grounds Maintenance Worker III designated for the park site. The position will assist in the development of the site during construction, as well as provide general park maintenance when in operation. With the addition of Sapwi Trails Community Park, the District will appropriate ample funding from the District's General Fund to maintain the project throughout the expected life of the improvements. The District's capital improvement budget is evaluated on a bi-annual basis, with potential projects projected over a 10-year period. CRPD is diligent in assessing community needs and flexible to allocate additional funding as the need arises.

Applicant has identified maintenance funding for at least 2 years after completion.

The District has identified and will allocate maintenance funding from the General Fund for the life of the improvements. CRPD is diligent in assessing community needs and flexible to allocate additional funding as the need arises.

Project adds new trail or recreational resources not available within a 0.5-mile radius.

There is an existing void of recreational facilities in the planning zone of the project site and the project adds new trails and recreational resources not currently available within a 0.5-mile radius. The new park will fill in the gap by providing needed recreational amenities to residents living in Lang Ranch, North Ranch and Sunset Hills. As a community facility, we will also draw residents from outlying communities. According to FirstCarbon Solutions', "Sapwi Trails Community Park Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, City of Thousand Oaks, Ventura County, California":

A 5 plus mile multi-use trail network will traverse the project site, connecting each project feature and support a variety of activities such as hiking, biking, disc golf, and, on occasion, organized cross-country meets. Throughout the park, a combination of

pervious and paved accessible walkways will connect amenities within each of the activity areas. Outside the confines of these areas, the multi-use trail will consist of an unpaved, natural surface (e.g., compacted earth, decomposed granite, etc.) trail capable of supporting a number of different user groups. Trailhead signage will be provided at the four critical staging points. In general, the multi-purpose trail will be approximately 3 to 12 feet wide and constructed at a grade allowing a variety of park users to traverse the trail, however, actual width and grade will vary depending on topographical constraints.

The trail will cross Lang Creek at four different locations, connecting residents of the adjacent communities to the park and avid trail users to open space corridors to the north and east. An existing crossing currently used by CRPD to access a maintenance yard could potentially be utilized by park users as well.

The project substantially restores a site by reestablishment of native species to reduce wildfire risk and promote watershed health.

The restoration of Lang Creek involves the removal of non-native plant species, such as Washingtonia and Arundo, other understory non-native plant species and dead brush. The removal of non-native species has multiple advantages. It eliminates undesirable species allowing native plant communities such as grasslands, California sage scrub, and riparian/coast live oak woodland to grow in their place. It improves water flow, protects riparian habitat and reduces the risk of wildfire. Sensitive wildlife species identified include Coastal California Gnatcatcher, Least Bell's Vireo and Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. FCS, who prepared a Biological Resources Study in April 2014, concluded that the project would not have an adverse effect on any plant or animal species listed by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Wildlife Service as sensitive, special status species or rare and/or endangered. The project, during and after construction, will maintain native vegetation on the project site and will not disturb or remove existing wildlife habitat.

The project upgrades an existing regional trail or river parkway to protect its continued use and enjoyment by the public.

The current condition of the project site is unimproved and informal trails are evident along existing fire roads or routes of least resistance, both in terms of direction ("point A to point B") and grade fluctuations. In contrast, the project establishes a clear and fluid plan for the trail system, connecting various activity areas that will be developed, and, also serve as a segment of a larger, regional trail system connecting open space corridors. The span bridges will enable neighboring residents easy access to the park and enhance their experience of the natural environment as they cross the creek.

The span bridges will protect and preserve Lang Creek in several ways. Spanning well beyond the banks of the creek, they will provide erosion control, slope and soil stabilization. The spanning design is such that they will not disturb the habitat or water flow below, or invite unwanted activity within the stream. The bridge and trail connections traverse the project site and extend to open space trails to the south and southwest (Los Cerritos Middle School), as well as Lang Ranch Neighborhood Park to the northeast.

Applicant has conducted outreach to the affected communities.

Throughout the environmental analysis and design/planning stages of the project, and during the approval process to obtain a development permit, the District frequently reached out to the public to notify them about community-based planning meetings for the project and to solicit feedback. Since the concept for the park's development changed from the initial park design, it was crucial to get the community's feedback on the new design. The recreational elements that were selected as a result of the planning process were disc golf, biking, hiking, and non-motorized model flying. The community's involvement in the planning of the park serves as evidence of their knowledge of the project and their acceptance of the design.

The project adds visitor-serving amenities, accessibility, and public safety improvements to public parkland with multiple ecosystem benefits.

The project consists of three public parking lots that serve as trailheads into the park site. All parking lots provide ADA parking and path of travel to park signage/kiosks, restrooms, drinking fountains, picnic areas and additional site amenities. Low Impact Development measures will be implemented in the construction of parking areas, walkways, and developed site amenities and kiosks.

The project location, within CRPD Planning Zone II, Neighborhood Area 5, is deficient in community park acreage. The project will satisfy this acreage deficiency by introducing the recreational amenities cited above. As noted, pervious paved and unpaved accessible walkways and span bridges will provide the necessary circulation in and throughout the site.

The project provides non-personal interpretive elements that will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of a watershed resource.

The project will consist of interpretive signage and kiosk elements throughout the site to enhance the natural communities within the park site. The vegetation communities of the project site, particularly, the Southern Cottonwood-Willow Riparian Forest and Coast Live Oak Woodland, offer many interpretive and educational opportunities, such as, watershed protection, wildlife study, bird watching, tracking, and plant identification. An outdoor classroom, located in the north-central portion of the project site, will provide an area for outdoor education programming. The area will have an informal amphitheater, consisting of informal seating utilizing logs and boulders, and a series of educational exhibits and signage to highlight a variety of site-related topics such as biology, geography, and cultural history. Conducting the learning experience outside of the formal classroom setting will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of the natural environment and watershed resource. Conducting the learning experience outside of the formal classroom setting will significantly enhance appreciation and enjoyment of the natural environment and watershed resource.

The project creates a new venue for education and/or interpretation activities that promote water conservation and stewardship, or enhances an existing venue.

The unique development of the park, with its large size and without any irrigated turf, creates multiple opportunities for education and interpretation activities that promote water conservation and stewardship. The park itself will serve as a new model for what a community park can represent in a world with less water. Furthermore, the natural setting lends itself to nature hikes, environmental study, and other learning opportunities and experiences. Open space preservation and water conservation will be principal topics of discussion, emphasized for their importance, now and in the future.

The project results in new public access to a watershed resource with high interpretive and/or educational value, or enhances existing access.

The restoration of Lang Creek, parking lots, especially Arboles parking lot, and the addition of four accessible span bridges, will enhance the overall park experience and create many learning opportunities for community residents. The bridges will provide enhanced access and intimate park experiences for users of all ages and abilities.

Project has approval from all landowners to complete the project, or Applicant is the landowner.

The Applicant, Conejo Recreation & Park District, is the landowner holding title of the project site.

The project demonstrates a reduction in baseline greenhouse gas emissions through carbon sequestration or other innovative techniques or project designs, such as diverting organic material from landfills.

There will be no exportation of fill from the project site and minimal land disturbance during the park's development. FirstCarbon's report outlines scoping plan measures and project consistency relative to greenhouse gas emissions – see Table 6: Scoping Plan Measures Consistency Analysis, page 39-41, FirstCarbon Solutions, Conejo Recreation & Park District - Sapwi Trials Community Park, Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration. Project Consistency is listed as either "Not Applicable" or "Consistent" relative to the scoping plan reduction measures cited.

The project acquires, preserves, or restores natural areas at risk of development and quantifiably avoids emissions associated with development.

The property of the project site was dedicated to CRPD in 1993. Designated "Parks, Golf Course, and Open Space" in the City of Thousand Oaks' General Plan, even if the Conejo Recreation and Park District desired an alternate land use (which it doesn't), the property's General Plan designation could not change without approval of Thousand Oaks voters. The natural design of the project avoids the emissions and dust associated with more invasive development. Greenhouse gas emissions and other emissions were evaluated by FirstCarbon Solutions in their assessment of the project's environmental impact, and the

findings/projections are included with this application. (see, “FirstCarbon Solutions, Conejo Recreation & Park District - Sapwi Trials Community Park, Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration”, pages 29 through 45).

The project implements water saving technologies and techniques to yield quantifiable water and energy savings. Such techniques may include the use of drought-efficient landscaping, storm water filtration, impervious surfaces and other forms of water capture and storage.

The project utilizes several water and energy saving technologies and techniques with its low-impact design. The project includes below grade bubbler irrigation as well as point source above grade bubbler irrigation. Native and drought-tolerant landscaping, permeable trails, bioswales and naturally pervious drainage features that will be employed, and the installation of synthetic turf, and mulching around trees all conserve water. There will not be a single blade of live turf grass on the project site. Savings will be determined by comparing this park’s utility costs with that of our other community parks that have a more traditional community park design, with ballfields, tennis courts and a community center. The project will also include two solar powered restroom buildings.

The project contributes to tree canopy cover and/or greenways in urban areas to mitigate heat island effects and promote public health and recreation.

The proposed park design retains the naturally-occurring vegetation, with large tree canopy along the creek on the north side of the site. This area is described as a Southern Cottonwood-Willow Riparian Forest and Coast Live Oak Woodland. The shade provided by this tree canopy significantly reduces ambient air temperatures to mitigate heat island effects, and will provide a “recovery zone” to escape the heat when recreating. All of the trees on the property, including over 400 Oaks trees, will be retained.

The project acquires and/or maintains wildlife corridors and linkages to provide connections between areas of undeveloped lands, particularly significant public lands and key habitat ecosystems.

The project maintains wildlife corridors by linking Old Meadows, Hillcrest, and North Ranch Open Space to other open space areas to the north and east, namely Lang Ranch Open Space, Woodridge Open Space, and Simi Hills. These connections are vital to the well-being of our wildlife communities, and offer critical habitat for bobcat, deer, coyote, and birds of prey.

The project develops or maintains multi-use trails that connect communities, provides access to public resources and reduces vehicle miles traveled.

The multi-use trails provided with the project connect to a larger network of trails that are spread out throughout the city in open space areas. In addition, there is a “Ring Trail” that encircles the entire valley and offers connectors to adjacent communities. Specifically, linkages will be achieved to National Park Service, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority, and Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy properties in China Flats, Cheeseboro Canyon, Sage Ranch, Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space

Preserve and continuing to other points in the San Fernando Valley. Access to the project site can be obtained via public transit, car, bike, or on foot, from Erbes Road or Westlake Boulevard, and is conveniently located along routes of many public resources (i.e. library, Teen Center, Goebel Adult Community Center, hospital, etc.).

The project engages local communities through outreach, education, and interpretation regarding long-term stewardship and climate change awareness.

Sapwi Trails Community Park will not only serve as a place for recreation but also as a learning center to engage the community in open space education. The District's Outdoor Unit and COSCA Ranger staff will conduct workshops and lectures on various subjects designed to enlighten attendees about long-term stewardship of public land and climate change awareness.

Project utilizes a local job training entity for a portion of the work.

The project will largely be constructed through contracted services, however specific user groups and volunteers, with training, will assist in developing various staging areas.

Project has secured matching funds of at least 25 percent of total project costs.

The project cost is \$7-million, with the District contributing 64% of the project cost, and the City of Thousand Oaks, 36%.

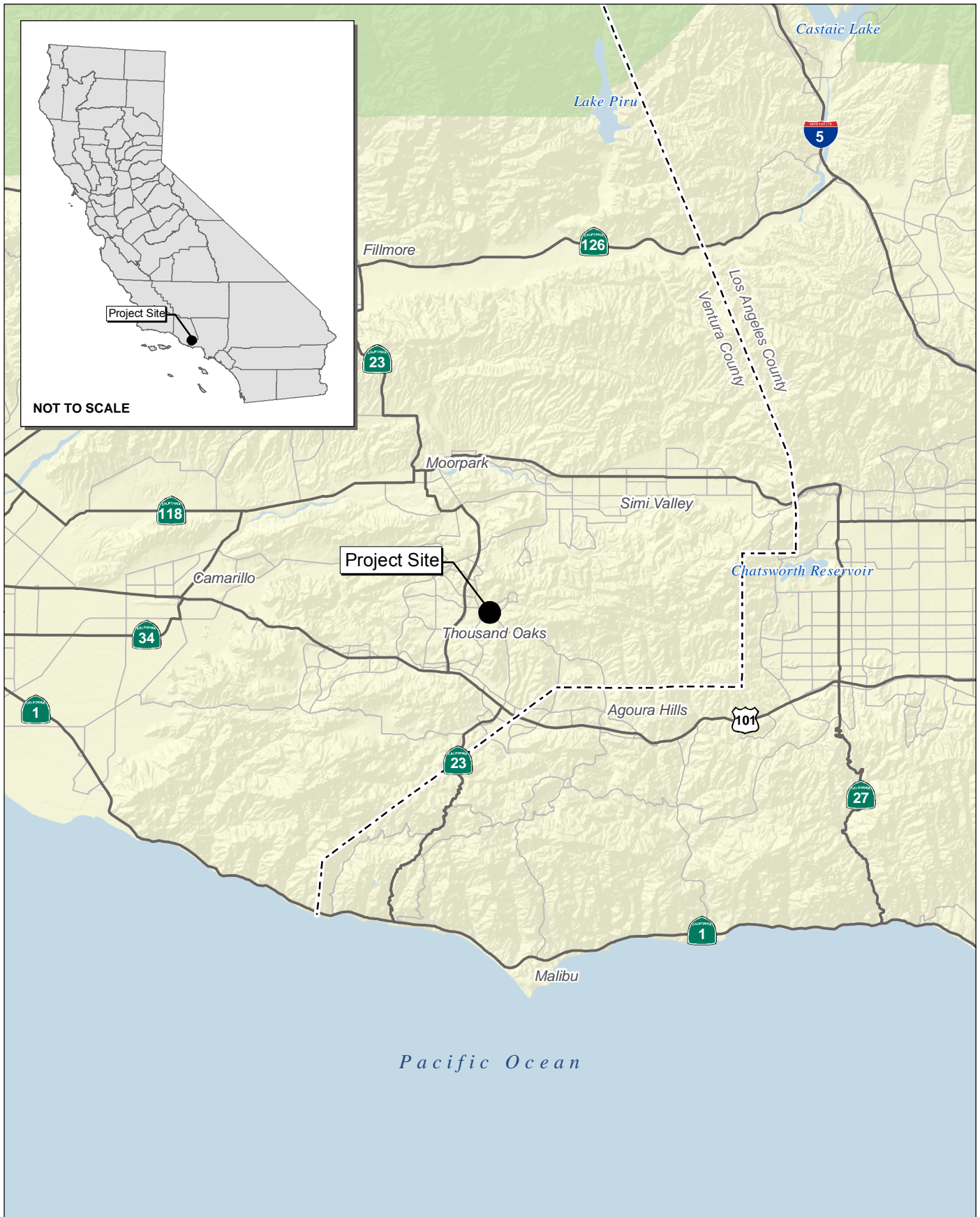
Project is within 1 mile of public transportation.

There is a bus stop/shelter within 0.3-miles of the project site and additional bus stops along Avenida de los Arboles. The City of Thousand Oaks also offers Dial-A-Ride, a van transportation service for seniors at a reasonable rate.

Project results in additional uses for users of a wide range of ability levels.

The recreational amenities provided with the project accommodates users of all ages and abilities. The bike park area, for instance, offers beginner, intermediate and advanced courses, and the multi-use trails can be utilized by hikers, bikers, disc golfers, gliders, equestrians and those with disabilities.

EXHIBIT 1



Source: Census 2000 Data, The CaSIL, FCS GIS 2014.

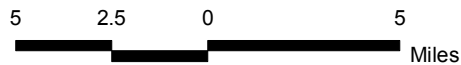


Exhibit 1 Regional Location Map

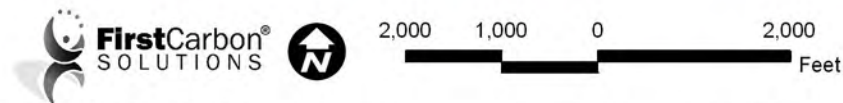


Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery.

Exhibit 2

Local Vicinity Map

Aerial Base



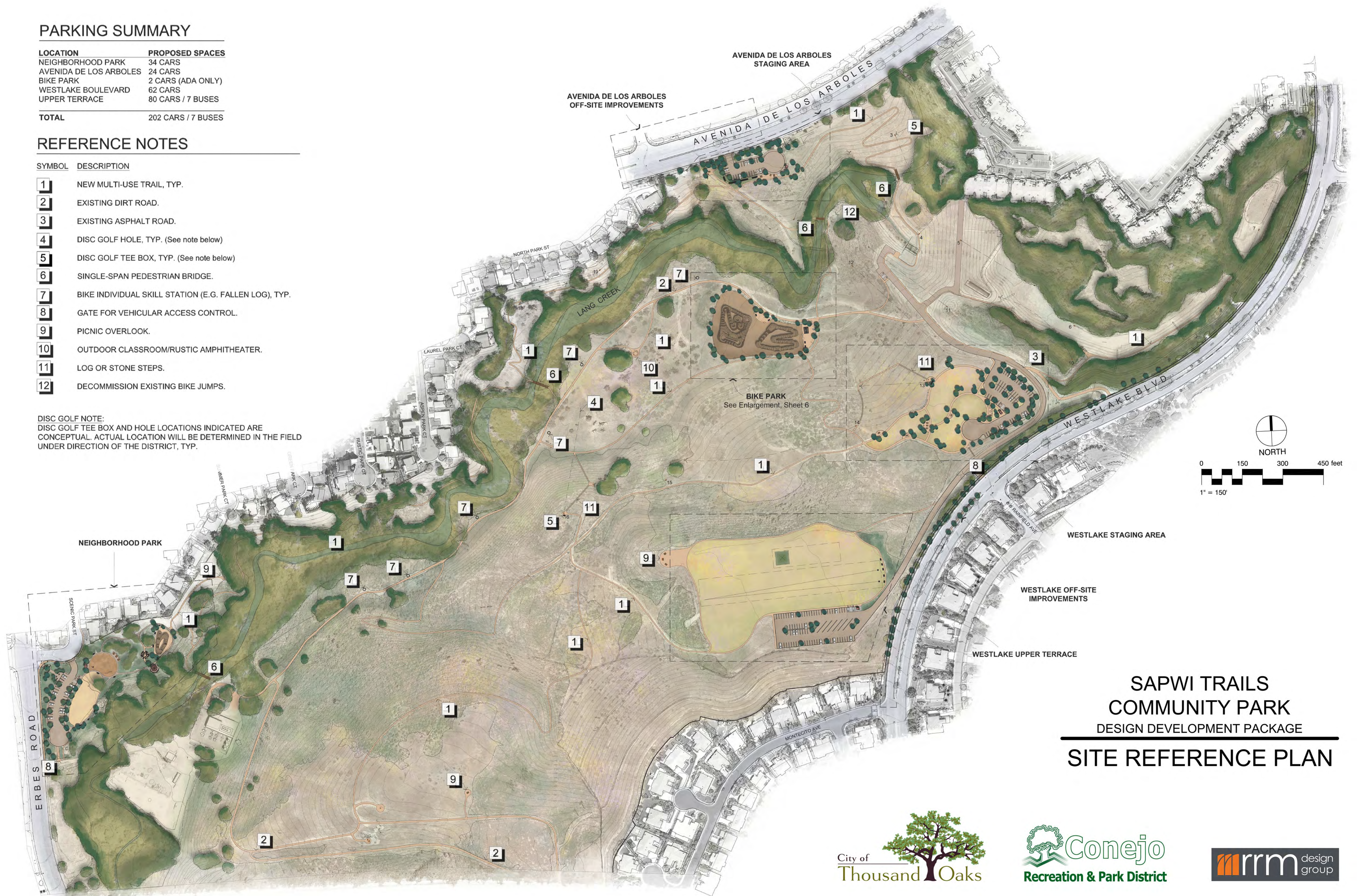
PARKING SUMMARY

LOCATION	PROPOSED SPACES
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	34 CARS
AVENIDA DE LOS ARBOLES	24 CARS
BIKE PARK	2 CARS (ADA ONLY)
WESTLAKE BOULEVARD	62 CARS
UPPER TERRACE	80 CARS / 7 BUSES
TOTAL	202 CARS / 7 BUSES

REFERENCE NOTES

SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION
1	NEW MULTI-USE TRAIL, TYP.
2	EXISTING DIRT ROAD.
3	EXISTING ASPHALT ROAD.
4	DISC GOLF HOLE, TYP. (See note below)
5	DISC GOLF TEE BOX, TYP. (See note below)
6	SINGLE-SPAN PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE.
7	BIKE INDIVIDUAL SKILL STATION (E.G. FALLEN LOG), TYP.
8	GATE FOR VEHICULAR ACCESS CONTROL.
9	PICNIC OVERLOOK.
10	OUTDOOR CLASSROOM/RUSTIC AMPHITHEATER.
11	LOG OR STONE STEPS.
12	DECOMMISSION EXISTING BIKE JUMPS.

DISC GOLF NOTE:
DISC GOLF TEE BOX AND HOLE LOCATIONS INDICATED ARE CONCEPTUAL. ACTUAL LOCATION WILL BE DETERMINED IN THE FIELD UNDER DIRECTION OF THE DISTRICT, TYP.



SAPWI TRAILS COMMUNITY PARK DESIGN DEVELOPMENT PACKAGE SITE REFERENCE PLAN



EXHIBIT 2

ELECTRONIC LINKS

Construction Design Plan

[Design Plans](#)

Project Cost Estimate

[Full Project Cost Estimate](#)

First Carbon Solutions, Sapwi Trails Community Park, Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration, City of Thousand Oaks, Ventura County, California

[Sapwi Trails Initial Study/MND](#)

FirstCarbon Solutions – Appendices

[FCS MND Appendices A-F](#)

Appendix A – Air Quality and Greenhouse Gas Analysis

Appendix B – Biological Resources

Appendix C – Cultural Resources

Appendix D – Geotechnical Reports

Appendix E – Noise

Appendix F – Traffic and Circulation

California Conservation Corps and Certified Community Conservation Corps

[CCC Prop 1](#)

[Corps Consultation](#)

EXHIBIT 3









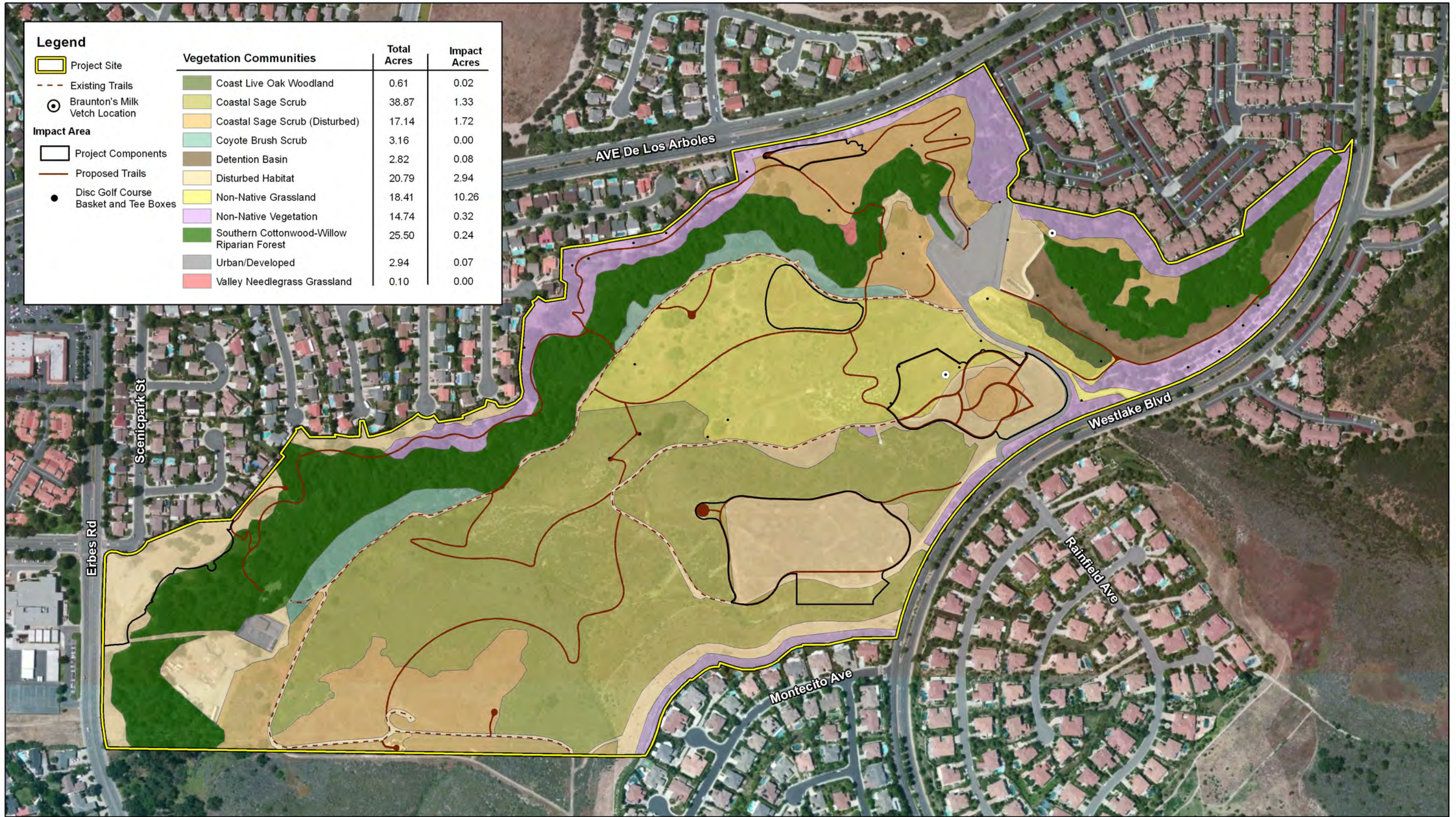








EXHIBIT 4



Source: ESRI Aerial Imagery, FCS Survey and GIS Data, 2014.

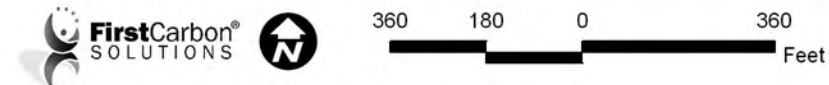


EXHIBIT 5

PARKS AND PLANNING

