

<p>2/4/2022</p>	<p>From: Mandy Gibbs <mandygibbs@udque.com> Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 6:19 PM To: P&R Comm <PRComm@belmont.gov> Subject: Hidden Canyon open space</p> <p>First I'd like to thank the Parks & Rec Commission for their dedication and measured approach to figure out how parks can best serve the Belmont community.</p> <p>After reviewing the proposed plans for Hidden Canyon, it seems clear to me, that developing this property in accordance with the Master Plan will be a wonderful addition to the Belmont community. The plans appear to thoughtfully provide spaces that will serve many needs.</p> <p>As someone who lives across the street from a neighborhood park, I love the community it provides and the opportunity to share the good fortune of living near an open space. And I'm sure the neighbors living around Hidden Canyon will find it equally rewarding to see others discover this special green space.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing more about the plans tonight! Thanks for all your work!</p> <p>Mandy Gibbs 1642 Prospect St Belmont</p>	<p>Mandy Gibbs</p>
<p>2/4/2022</p>	<p>From: michelle kelley <brodiekelley40@gmail.com> Sent: Wednesday, February 2, 2022 5:37 PM To: P&R Comm <PRComm@belmont.gov> Subject: Comment on Hidden Canyon Park Proposal</p> <p>Dear Belmont Park and Rec Commission, Regarding Agenda item 6 B. I want to let you know that I am in favor of the development of Hidden Canyon park. The plans look stunning, and I believe that by developing this space, our community will be able to enjoy this breathtaking area. Thank you, Michelle Kelley</p>	<p>Michelle Kelley</p>
<p>2/7/2022</p>	<p>I want the Park Commissioners and the Consultant reviewing the Open Space to know that the trails are unsafe to hikers and walkers due to bikers. In the last 5 days I've nearly been hit twice by bikers speeding around turns that stopped just 3-5 feet from me on the John Brooks trail. They skidded to a stop at the last second when they saw me. There was absolutely no warning to me as the bikers sped around blind curves. They had no bell or other device to warn me. I was fortunate in both these occurrences as I could have been crashed into by these bikers.</p> <p>Many of the trails are only 30"-36" wide and cannot accommodate a bike rider and a hiker. I implore you to restrict bikers from riding on any trail that is less than four feet wide. I must also state many of my friends will no longer walk or hike these trails due the danger posed by the bikers. Many of these Belmont residents have hiked these trails for years but they literally fear for their life on these trails due to the numerous bikers on the trails who sped on the trails making it extremely dangerous. At some point someone is going to be seriously injured. It falls on the biker who undoubtedly will be sued and also the City of Belmont for allowing this unsafe condition to exist.</p> <p>Thank you, Pamela Stahl</p>	<p>Pamela Stahl</p>
<p>2/14/2022</p>	<p>Brigitte,</p> <p>Attached please find a letter and attachments that we would like forwarded to WRA Consulting.</p> <p>Thanks, Paul</p>	<p>Paul Sheng</p>
<p>2/10/2022</p>	<p>From: Jonathan Carter <joncartermd@gmail.com> Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 9:03 PM To: P&R Comm <PRComm@belmont.gov>; Brigitte Shearer <BShearer@belmont.gov>; Daniel Ourtiague <dourtiague@belmont.gov> Subject: idea for Hidden Canyon park</p> <p>As we turn our attention to the plan for Hidden Canyon Park, one great idea has been to add a nature interpretive center along with public restrooms and drinking fountains. An excellent example is the interpretive center down at Arastradero Preserve in Palo Alto. Worth checking out if you haven't been there.</p> <p>If we do build such a center, I was wondering if we could add a tool shed in the back to store our trail maintenance tools? I have them now stored on the side of my house, which is fine, but at some point Mrs. Carter might want to have her side yard back. And she's the boss!</p> <p>Also, I think we could raise funds pretty easily to build something if we put our minds to it. A lot of folks would donate.</p> <p>Warmly, Jonathan Carter, MD Lead, Waterdog Trailkeeper Volunteers</p>	<p>Jonathan Carter</p>

<p>2/24/2022</p>	<p>Good morning Brigitte, it was nice talking to you this morning and I'm very happy to hear that further discussion of a dog park at Ralston Ranch Park has been terminated. We are all eager to see what the new plan looks like and if the other points in this petition have also been addressed.</p> <p>Attached is a scan of our petition, with 97 signatures of residents within the 1-mile radius of Ralston Ranch Park - the area this park is intended to serve.</p> <p>Thank you for listening and I know we all share a love of Belmont and are trying to find a good compromise.</p> <p>Warmly - Wendy</p>	<p>Wendy Miller</p>
<p>2/24/2022</p>	<p>Dear Belmont Park and Rec Commissioners,</p> <p>+2 Noreen and Mike, Homeview's Co-Presidents, for perspective.</p> <p>I am excited about many of the additions and upgrades being planned for Belmont's parks and open spaces.</p> <p>With that being said, I took a moment to review the current Pros Plan and there is a current change being suggested that I think can be done without disrupting the usage of a key feature of the park for many of our young people.</p> <p>At present, there is a proposal to replace the half basketball court that sits on the eastern-most portion of O'Donnell park with a water feature which, on the surface (pardon the pun), is a fun idea! But, living near this park, I often observe that the two half court basketball areas are used very often by young people and that the eastern most half court (the one in the Pros Plan) has lower rims that allow for the very young to dribble and shoot baskets - something that clearly provides them with great joy and satisfaction.</p> <p>To replace those courts, even with something as exhilarating as a water feature, would be a net loss for many of the young people that use O'Donnell Park on a daily basis. Especially since we could still provide the water feature (as proposed by a member of the Parks and Rec Advisory Council) by just relocating it to the fenced in children's play area in the park a few meters due west of the current plan. Moreover, given the nature of water play with young kids running around the perimeter of water features, it seems to me that locating the water feature behind the existing fence and away from an unprotected intersection (Ralston and Kedith) is an elegant and much safer solution.</p> <p>Therefore, I would like to officially request that the ProsPlan be amended to relocate the proposed water feature from the east facing basketball court to the gated section of the park.</p> <p>Please let me know if I can do anything further to follow through with this humble request.</p> <p>And, thank you for your service to our community.</p> <p>Submitted respectfully, Eli Latimerlo Homeview (2003 - present)</p>	<p>Eli Latimerlo</p>
<p>2/25/2022</p>	<p>I heard that there were funds and initial bids to resurface the tennis courts at the park.</p> <p>I do not see that on the agenda nor anywhere else on the Belmont website.</p> <p>Don</p>	<p>Don Pierce</p>
<p>2/26/2022</p>	<p>I must again state the danger posed by bikers on the Water Dog trails. My wife and I have nearly been hit by bikers three times in the last three weeks by bikers on the John Brooks and Rambler trails. On many of these trails the width is less than 36 inches wide and there is no way for bikers to pass a walker or hiker safely without one party stopping to allow the other to pass.</p> <p>Each of the last 3 weeks a speeding biker has come within inches of hitting us. Twice they rounded a blind turn in front of us. Neither they nor us saw each other until the last few seconds. The most recent time a biker came speeding up right behind us and veered off the trail to avoid hitting us- fortunately.</p> <p>In any new plan for Water Dog Open Space, please plan to have separate trails for bikers and hiker/walkers.</p> <p>Thank you.</p> <p>Bob Stahl</p>	<p>Bob Stahl</p>

<p>2/26/2022</p>	<p>Hello, this is Bob Stahl, a member of the Advisory Committee for the Belmont PROS Plan. I want to bring to your attention requests from several neighbors who have contacted me and raised serious concerns regarding several of the proposals regarding changes or additions to Hallmark Park. The concerns are as follows: 1.The residents do not want to add any amenities to the upper meadow up the hill from the tennis courts. Several have told me that they have seen group going up there in the past for parties, creating loud noise late at night. The neighbors also do not want to create an "attraction" or structures to draw more people to the area and possibly leave trash, have parties, create possible wildfires and frankly destroy the natural environment. There are residents living right below the meadow as well whose privacy would be invaded. 2. Residents are concerned about drawing numerous more people to the park which they believe should be a "neighborhood park". The area is very over crowded on days when the track meets occur and they do not want to see similar situations from major changes that will bring in more people than local neighbors. 3. They do look forward to resurfacing of the tennis courts, adding pickle ball lines and resurfacing the path to get to the tennis courts which is seriously in need of repair. 4. Residents are divided on the idea of a bocce ball court. Several stated they like the idea but they have concerns about the building of it, where it would be placed and how it would be maintained with all the pine trees in the area and the current inability to maintain the parks with the low budget Belmont has for park maintenance. Others bring up the fact that they have a concern about this being an attraction for that would require moving the current tot lot and possible cutting down more trees. Residents also do not want more traffic in the area. 5. Overall, residents feel there are enough amenities already at Hallmark Park and that it would be great to just improve what is there i.e. the tennis courts, play structure, pathway to the tennis courts. Obviously the CSM cross country trail is already there and is enjoyed by many neighborhood residents on a regular basis. Residents enjoy the natural setting of Hallmark Park with the trees, some wild flowers, occasional deer, birds and rabbits. Thank you. Bob Stahl</p>	<p>Bob Stahl</p>
<p>2/27/2022</p>	<p>To Whom it may concern:</p> <p>We live at 2605 Wakefield Drive and have for the past 30 years. We love it here mainly because it is away from the crowds of the peninsula and the bay area. It is quiet and usually there isn't a lot of traffic. Our children grew up here and now our grandchildren enjoy almost the same serene environment. Although Belmont is hardly the same sleepy town it was back then, this neighborhood has maintained its quaintness. We tolerate the track practices and races that take place every year. We clean up the garbage the visitors leave, we give up our street parking and we are kind and friendly to the crowds. We do this because we understand the uniqueness of the area and honestly don't mind sharing it. The garbage accumulates and often overflows at the park and it takes the city quite some time to clean it up. The crows and other wildlife rummage around it and create quite a mess. We tolerate that as well. However, we are not prepared to do this on a daily basis.</p> <p>If the city thinks for a moment that this will not affect our homes with the same issues we deal with when track season arrives, you are mistaken. If you want to update what is currently there, I am all for it. The current play structure is old and the wood is rotten and dangerous. The pathway is a trip hazard because of the tree roots coming through it. We already have a significant amount of people using the park daily for their workouts and tennis games. We don't need any more traffic. We paid to live here, we pay an association fee to keep the area in good condition. We don't need any interference from the city. If it's not broke, don't fix it.</p> <p>Sincerely, Michael and Stephanie Moore</p>	<p>Michael and Stephanie Moore</p>
<p>2/27/2022</p>	<p>Attn: Park and Rec. Commission As almost 50 yr residents in Belmont my wife and I are opposed to any additional structural buildings in Hallmark Park. We moved to Belmont many years ago to enjoy the natural setting and tranquility of the area. To date, this has changed with cross country racing, additional walking paths and illegal bike paths. All this has brought in additional people as well as additional vehicles and Hallmark Drive and adjoining areas have become parking lots as outsiders are using our area creating difficulty to drive and to park in the area that we live in. Enough is enough already! There are already existing dog parks, playground structures, ball courts etc that are nearby and are hardly used in Belmont and nearby areas. Belmont does not need anymore of these areas! Let our population enjoy our natural settings of wild life, plants, trees, birds and animals. Why is it necessary to cover every inch of our beautiful Peninsula Area with man made things. Lets enjoy nature. Thank you Ken and Bobbie Lebovitz</p>	<p>Ken and Bobbie Lebovitz</p>
<p>2/27/2022</p>	<p>Park and Recreation Commissioners, My wife and I have happily resided at 28 Elder Drive for more than 43 years. We drive past Hallmark Park multiple times each week. Over those years, my family, I, and many of my neighbors have enjoyed the current setting and facilities in the park. In earlier days my family used the tennis courts. Now, at 81, I play golf weekly, and my wife regularly attends exercise classes. Our daughter and son have their own families in the Bay Area. But new families are regularly locating in Belmont Heights and will likely visit Hallmark Park, as their families grow. I and many of my neighbors are opposed to the commissions plan to expand the park, including new structures. Apparently the commissioners are not familiar with the fact that a bocce ball court requires daily maintenance of the playing surface for the balls to roll true. So, a skilled parks employee would need to tend to that on a daily basis with proper supplemental court surface dressing and leveling tools. We support the proposed maintenance of the existing facilities. But otherwise, please leave well enough alone. We are sure that the commission can find other worthy placed to spend the taxpayers hard earned money! Respectfully, Bill Larsen</p>	<p>Bill Larsen</p>

<p>2/27/2022</p>	<p>We oppose addition of any man-made structures or surfaces in Hallmark Park.</p> <p>How have you missed the blaring message that Belmont residents value our natural settings? It's expressed in the Belmont Vision Statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Our natural surroundings inspire us to play, create, and contemplate. · Our actions today preserve and enhance Belmont's beauty for future generations. <p>and Conservation Element:</p> <p>"Human safety and recreation opportunities must be balanced with maintaining the proper functioning of natural systems." (p.5.3)</p> <p>and your own PROS guiding principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Reflect our commitment to environmental resilience and sustainability · Respect the beauty and importance of our natural resources <p>We moved to Belmont to raise our children in this natural setting. Every school-day they play on a schoolyard - on metal and plastic man-made structures; regulated, sanitized, surrounded by concrete with lines and rules.</p> <p>Outside school is where they learn about our natural world and Hallmark Park is their classroom. We teach them to understand habitats, ecosystems, and the extraordinary and delicate balance of all inhabitants of our planet. They learn by immersive play; adventuring, inventing games using natural materials and their own imagination. Exploring a deer trail, they learn about feeding habits, shelters, the predator-prey balance. Exploring the meadow, they discover the incredible biodiversity of hundreds of plant species right under their noses.</p> <p>You have constructed play spaces at every school. But these natural meadows and woods are far more valuable, and rapidly vanishing. Children need natural settings accessible to their neighborhood - not just in distant national parks. We need these natural settings as the classrooms for future generations if we are to change our horrible path of environmental exploitation.</p> <p>Please leave Hallmark and all of our parks as natural as possible. Repair and maintain what you have. Replace dead trees with native species. But leave the meadows and woods untouched.</p> <p>Don't invest in more man-made structures. Invest in restoring nature and teaching to value our natural world.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Kristin and Frank Mercer</p>	<p>Kristin and Frank Mercer</p>
<p>2/27/2022</p>	<p>To whom it may concern:</p> <p>I'm not sure who came up with this idea of building out Hallmark Park with new gaudy structures & artificial walkways, but as a 34 year resident of Hallmark Drive, I protest this plan. I love the natural landscape presently available. I hope you understand that just upgrading & maintaining the tennis courts (with new lines for Pickle Ball), the paths that already exist, removing dead trees & replacing them with native plants & trees will suffice & much cheaper in the long run. And maybe upgrading the play structure that is already there.</p> <p>Please: No new man-made structures or paths. Simplify this plan & keep nature on the top of the list!</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Michelle Speert</p>	<p>Michelle Speert</p>
<p>2/27/2022</p>	<p>Hello Belmont's Parks and Recreation:</p> <p>I am writing to you now to let you know that as 25-year residents of Belmont Heights, my husband and I have enjoyed many walks in our neighborhood and at Hallmark Park, and consider the park an attraction that makes our neighborhood very special.</p> <p>I was however, recently informed that you are considering adding to the park manmade structures in the upper meadow, as well as a bocce ball court and playground structures. While I support your efforts to maintain and/or upgrade the park's paths, tennis courts, and tot lot and to replace non-native plants with native oaks, bays and buckeyes, I do not support the addition of the proposed manmade structures, bocce ball court, and playground structures to the park since those additions will ruin the park's natural beauty.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing that the proposed additions will not be allowed.</p> <p>Thank you for your time.</p> <p>Carol</p> <p>Carol Epstein</p>	<p>Carol Epstein</p>

<p>2/27/2022</p>	<p>Dear Park & Rec,</p> <p>I write as a resident of Belmont Heights to object to certain of the plans to "improve" Hallmark park. Years ago, in the 1970s, the BHClA fought for preservation of this open space as a casual, natural park with tennis courts. The tennis courts were a specific wish of the Belmont Heights residents. Have we asked for a bocce ball court in our neighborhood? Have we been surveyed about a bocce court, or any other structural additions for that matter? Yes, the tennis courts, current paved paths, and tot lot have been sadly neglected over the years. We would be grateful for those long overdue upgrades, as well as replacing non-native with native plants. Please seek neighborhood specific input before going any further with plans for structures and paved paths in our "neighborhood park."</p> <p>Respectfully, JoAnn Berridge</p>	<p>JoAnn Berridge</p>
<p>2/27/2022</p>	<p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>Personally, I think the Hallmark Park should be upgraded but not to the extent to attract more visitors, e.g., making the tot lot like a McDonald playland! Adding the bocce court should be definitely rule out! It will not only make our neighborhood very noisy but also congested with more cars creating parking problems!</p> <p>Our neighborhood has already attracted many bicyclists in the Water Dog area. We don't want our neighborhood to become tourist attraction but for the enjoyment of us neighbors!</p> <p>Sincerely, Bessie Ip</p>	<p>Bessie Ip</p>
<p>2/28/2022</p>	<p>Park and Rec, Absolutely OPPOSED to your plan for new structures. Yes to fixing the current paths, tennis courts.</p> <p>Ron and JoAnn Berridge</p>	<p>Ron and JoAnn Berridge</p>
<p>2/28/2022</p>	<p>Ron and JoAnn Berridge</p>	<p>Ron and JoAnn Berridge</p>
<p>2/28/2022</p>	<p>Thank you for all the work done on the PROS plan.</p> <p>The Summary of Feedback is a step in the right direction but it is misleading due to the omission of pertinent data - specifically the number of supporters for various new amenities or sentiments.</p> <p>Why is this important?</p> <p>The Commission is given this summary without knowing whether one sentiment is more broadly supported by Belmont residents than another. For example, the Hidden Canyon neighborhood meeting had tremendous neighborhood attendance. The vast majority of residents (approx 10-15) opposed building a bathroom and gave reasons why. Only 2-5 residents supported the building of bathrooms. Yet, reading the Summary of Feedback the Commission would have no idea the tremendous opposition to the bathrooms. This is because the Summary of Feedback merely states there was neighborhood support and opposition for the toilets -- which makes it sound like it was an evenly contested issue. This is not reflective of the public comments given at the neighborhood meeting.</p> <p>In an effort of transparency, on the Summary of Feedback, I urge staff to add the number of public comments received supporting each amenity or sentiment (the number can be put in parenthesis next to the sentiment). This will enable the Commission to have all the data when making decisions.</p> <p>Thank you. Deniz Bolbol</p>	<p>Deniz Bolbol</p>
<p>2/28/2022</p>	<p>We prefer keeping the Park largely as is.</p> <p>G& Y Weinstein</p>	<p>G& Y Weinstein</p>
<p>2/28/2022</p>	<p>We are dismayed at the planning for Hallmark Park. We absolutely need open space in our densely packed area of Hallmark homes. I would also be concerned of people coming in from other areas use the new spaces.</p> <p>Please let our native area along for animals and green areas.</p> <p>Rosemary Lake</p>	<p>Rosemary Lake</p>

<p>2/28/2022</p>	<p>I want to let you know my thoughts on the proposed plans for Hallmark Park.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. This is a neighborhood park. The plan should not propose supposed improvements which will draw people driving to the park for events. It seems some of your plans will encourage this. 2. To plan an event space on the upper meadow is not something which should be done. This space is above homes just below the space. Leave it natural. Don't build an event venue. That is unnecessary and counter to having the space where animals roam. 3. Fix the tennis courts, put in pickle ball lines. 4. Improve the children's play area. Add another play structure. 5. Keep the entire area as natural as possible. 6. Repair the path leading to the tennis courts. 7. Don't build a bocce ball court. It's unnecessary and will require excavation of trees and land. 8. Please- this is a neighborhood park. This should not encourage people to drive from other areas to come here. <p>Thank you. Pamela Stahl</p>	<p>Pamela Stahl</p>
<p>2/28/2022</p>	<p>Planning Commission and Others:</p> <p>This message is from Bob Beaulieu and Corinne Cho-Beaulieu - we have lived at 2649 Wakefield Drive in Belmont for over 25 years.</p> <p>We are asking you to please scrape any plans to change/modify Hallmark Park.</p> <p>We feel it is a beautiful park and nature walk , open to all just the way it is.</p> <p>In fact it is a real shame (in our opinion) that the city has already cut down so many t trees</p> <p>Sometime this are simply beautiful and any intended improvement distracts form that beauty.</p> <p>I believe this is the case.</p> <p>Thanks you for listening ,</p> <p>Bob Beaulieu and Corinne Cho-Beaulieu</p>	<p>Bob Beaulieu and Corinne Cho-Beaulieu</p>
<p>2/28/2022</p>	<p>I live across from Hallmark Park and for the past 40 years frequently visit or walk through it at least a couple times a week. It is a very small facility on a very small plot of land. It has a couple tennis courts which are frequently used by many local neighbors, and a small tot lot which is very seldom used. There is a path to walk around and some benches to sit and take in a view of the Bay Area. The setting is in a grove of trees, which makes it very relaxing.</p> <p>To try and add anything additional to this area would ruin and trash the tranquility of the setting. There is no room for a Bocce ball court (I do enjoy playing the game) without serious excavation and tree removal. To which the city just planted 20 new trees. The tot lot is more than sufficient, it is never crowded or frequented by more than one or two mothers/nannies at any given time. I bet I only see someone using it 1 out of 30 times I walk through.</p> <p>To even think of adding a Dog Park to this small space if ridiculous, there is no viable space to do this. Are you going to add a dog park for 3-4 dogs usage at a time? There is a very small clearing up behind the tennis courts which has a flat area about 30 x 30 yards, one side is fenced for SFPUC property and the rest has severely steep drop offs down to neighbors backyards. People tromping around there would have views into their property and the windows of their homes. If you even think of putting something up there, you better get approval and sign off from those people, as I am sure most don't know anything about what is going on with this proposal.</p> <p>Also, the existing tennis courts are in poor condition as is the small paved path that currently exists. It would be great to see them refurbished. The City is not able to maintain the small facility that exists currently, why do you think adding additional facilities would get care and maintenance. Where are the funds and personnel going to come from? Not the City of Belmont. Don't build more when you can't maintain what we already have. Keep the natural settings, we don't need additional man made structures replacing our trees.</p> <p>Bill and Pat Kurtz</p>	<p>Bill and Pat Kurtz</p>

<p>2/28/2022</p>	<p>Hello,</p> <p>Most of you know me pretty well. I wanted to take a few minutes to send you some information when I'm not on the clock and there is a bit less energy flying around.</p> <p>I do want to say I think the entire commission is doing a great job in general and in working on the PROS plan in particular. I can well imagine how difficult it is at times with the venomous negativity coming from a few but it appears you have been able to weather that and stay focused on a plan that looks to me like it is really coming together in a way that is going to benefit many many people in the community.</p> <p>This week's presentation is about community parks so that is what I'm going to talk about here.</p> <p>I was fortunate to be a commissioner when Semeria and then Davey Glen park were designed and built. Both parks had many rounds of public input. Davey Glen was such a physical challenge due to being on a hillside that we almost didn't make it across the finish line. But we did and both of these parks are serving as the quiet but well loved community parks they are supposed to be. Both parks started out with a good deal of very local opposition to any plan to change what was there. Remember what was there in both cases was a dirt lot people had just gotten used to. In the case of Semeria park, a vocal minority wanted the muddy, dirt lot to remain so they could park their work trucks there. Lots of hand wringing about parking and no place to park for residents when the park filled up. None of those fears materialized. Davey Glen had people up in arms at commission meetings talking about all the drug use that would happen with teenagers because its gonna be dark at night in there. None of that happened, in fact there is much more light in there at night and not some hidden drug den.</p> <p>So you will continue to hear these fears at meetings to discuss the details. SOME are legitimate fears about how their street will change. MOST are illegitimate stories being told because people don't want others to enjoy what they enjoy. In the case of people who live in the Pink homes at the top of Carlmont, everyone living there knows or should know the only reason those homes got built is because the developers and new buyers agreed to donate land and build a park at the end of the lane. What they don't seem to realize is that the park is going to create massive improvements for the people living in those homes. Lots of families in those homes have younger kids and thats exactly who tend to use these small parks the most.</p> <p>So now the city (we) are looking at some new small parks and improvements to existing parks. I strongly feel people trying to propose "Keep everything natural" don't really want anything changed at all. In my mind, there is no point in putting in a park if it doesn't attract young residents to play. So incorporating lasting play elements is essential. Once construction of park elements is completed, parks quickly look like they have always been there and the improvements are obvious. I strongly encourage you to go by Semeria and or Davey Glenn a few times over the next weeks as the plan comes together. What I think you will see is the parks are almost never crowded and yet are also almost never empty. These parks attract people in the neighborhood to get out of the house for a few hours. They rarely drive their cars to the park but sometimes do. Many of the park users are kids in strollers with moms or nanny. They grow up using and knowing the park, then they become teenagers and have other interests. That leaves room for the next set of kids in strollers and play age. Its what happens in parks.</p> <p>So please don't be afraid to be visionary in your plans. I love the idea of a Gateway to the open space and some of the examples could be copied as is, but why not create something of our own. Permanent and lasting conversation tables like we designed into Semeria and Davey glen provide for people to hang out and for people to have small parties or picnics. Once the initial construction is completed at Hidden Canyon, it will be more difficult to add or change once infrastructure has been installed. I encourage you to think big (well big for Belmont) and think of the people who will use the park. Plan for them not to appease the people who don't want a park anyway. If that is their only position and the city has decided a park is going in, its time to stop listening to the people who don't want the park. Listen to the people who will use it.</p> <p>I know you all have the community in mind or you wouldn't be spending your time on this commission since it has often been testy lately. But your commission works together WAY better than the commissions I was on and we were able to pull it off. I know you can too. Keep up the good work and I look forward to supporting your continued actions to make Belmont a better place to live for our residents.</p> <p>Hope that wasn't too long. I'll repeat some of it at the meeting. Have a great day.</p>	<p>Kevin Sullivan</p>
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Duplicate emails received at Info@BelmontPROSplan.com

Dear Belmont Belmont,

As a local resident, someone who is concerned with wildlife and wilderness protection, and a supporter of In Defense of Animals, I am writing to urge you to prioritize the protection of wildlife and habitat at Waterdog Lake & Open Space in the PROS Master Plan.

Belmont offers many recreational opportunities, but Waterdog is its primary natural open space, and only by prioritizing protection over recreation will we leave future generations of all species the same beautiful and essential wild land we witness today.

While opportunities for outdoor recreation and simply being able to enjoy nature are important, with increasingly little habitat in the Bay Area, this open space is critical for wildlife, and provides an invaluable and much-needed corridor that many species rely on and benefit from.

Protecting spaces like this is also important to residents, who see and respect the value of conserving natural spaces and habitat; Belmont and San Francisco Bay Area residents care about the environment, and they care about protecting wildlife.

If the area is given over further to recreational purposes, it will cease to function as it should. I am also extremely concerned that trails will be further opened here to mountain bikers, who have been damaging trails and running over wild animals.

I sincerely hope you will put conservation first when planning the future of this open space, and prioritize the need to protect it over development.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Date Received	Quantity	Commenter Name
2/19/2022	1	Bernadette Dra
2/20/2022	2	Karola Windweh, Lorena Black
2/25/2022	1	Ms. annah jetha
2/27/2022	1	Miss TATUM-ISABEL BRONTE
February 2022	5	Duplicate Emails Received at Info@BelmontPROSplan.com