

From: webmaster@portolavalley.net
To: [Town Center](#)
Subject: New Entry on Town Council Comments Survey
Date: Tuesday, September 26, 2023 6:32:05 PM

A new entry to a form/survey has been submitted.

Form Name: Comment on an Agenda Item for Town Council Meeting
Date & Time: 09/26/2023 6:31 PM
Response #: 36
Submitter ID: 7097
IP address: [REDACTED]
Time to complete: 4 min. , 7 sec.

Survey Details

Page 1

1. First and Last Name

Karen Askey

2. Email address (will not be publicly displayed)

[REDACTED]

3. Organization (Enter name of organization, business, or non profit if you are submitting comments on their behalf.)

Not answered

4. Street address (will not be publicly displayed)

[REDACTED]

5. City

PORTOLA VALLEY

6. State

CA

7. Zip Code

94028

8. Date of Meeting you are submitting comment for.

09/27/2023

9. Agenda Item number or name

5. COUNCIL LIAISON COMMITTEE AND REGIONAL AGENCIES REPORTS

10. Comment

As Sarah will not be at the meeting, I was asked to submit the presentation on Hawthorns I shared with the Parks & Rec Committee on 9/19/23. I have attached it below. Thanks.

11. Optional: You can upload a copy of your comments.

Hawthorns Area Submission to TC.pdf

Thank you,
Portola Valley, CA

This is an automated message generated by Granicus. Please do not reply directly to this email.

Hawthorns Area of Windy Hill Preserve

**Update to PV Parks & Rec Committee
September 19, 2023**

Hawthorns Project Vision

The MPOS District will protect and manage natural, scenic, cultural, and open space resources at the Hawthorns Area and provide ecologically sensitive public access consistent with the District's mission and the allowable uses outlined in the property's conservation easement.

Hawthorns Project Goals

- **Natural Resources:** Protect and restore native habitat and manage for ecological resiliency of aquatic and terrestrial habitat, wildlife connectivity, and other natural resources.
- **Public Access:** Open the Hawthorns Area to low-intensity public access, provide an internal trail system, and provide multi-modal access to the property.
- **Local and Regional Connectivity:** Connect to adjacent public trails and explore opportunities for trail connections to regional open space lands.
- **Natural & Cultural History:** Interpret the rich natural, cultural, and historic features and pursue partnerships to manage the property's natural and cultural history.
- **Aesthetics:** Highlight scenic viewpoints and design recreational amenities while protecting scenic viewsheds.
- **Operations & Maintenance:** Manage the property for safe public access in a fiscally sustainable manner that promotes ongoing public support and appreciation with ongoing public engagement and consistent with the District's Good Neighbor Policy.

Public Access Working Group

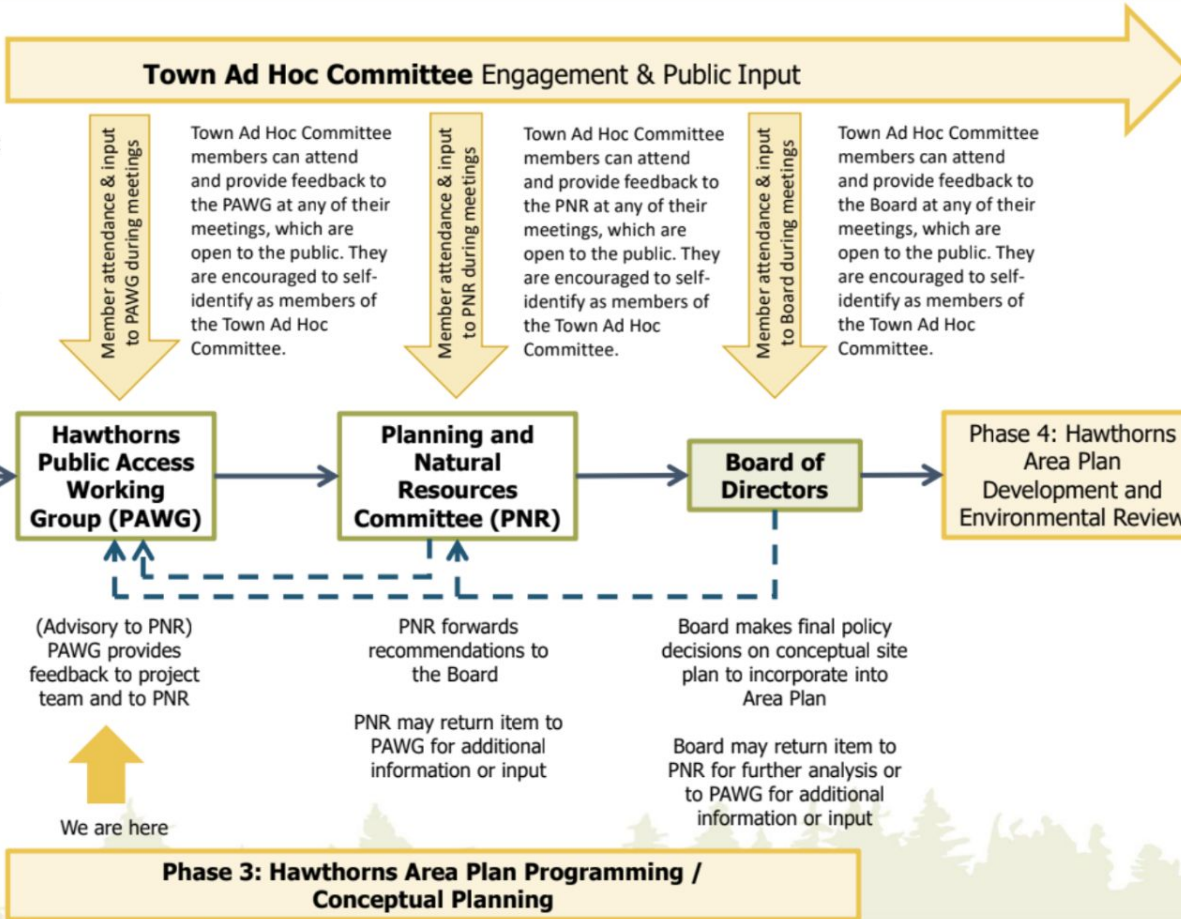
- Focusing on 66 of the 79 total acres. Additional 13 acres regarding the historical buildings site will be addressed later by a different group.
- 13 Voting Members (6 Area Interest Reps, 7 Ward Stakeholders)
- 2 are PV Residents: Helen Quinn and Karen Vahtra
- 2 are Los Trancos Residents: Charlie Krenz and David Smernoff
- Sarah Wernikoff is our Town Council Liaison

Timeline/Schedule

- 5 Total Meetings: 2 have been held, future dates are 10/26, 12/16, with final concept decision on 2/29/24
- Midpen's PNR Committee to review, concept then presented to PV Liaisons, then Planning Commission

Involvement and Input Opportunities

Town Ad Hoc Committee meetings would be scheduled after the Midpen Project Team has presented to Midpen's Planning and Natural Resources Committee (PNR), which is a board committee of the Midpen Board of Directors. All Board and Board Committee meetings are subject to the Brown Act and publicly noticed, such that members of the community can attend. While Town Committee members and Town Ad Hoc Committee members are welcome to attend PAWG, PNR and Board meetings and provide comment, formal presentations to the Town Ad Hoc Committee would follow presentations to the PNR and/or Board, and feedback received at Town Ad Hoc Committee meetings will be provided to the PNR and Board during their subsequent meetings for further consideration.



Town Ad Hoc Committee includes 7 members representing the following Town Committees:

- Open Space: Betsy Morgenthaler
- Nature and Science: Brook Coffee
- Historic Resources: Patty Dewes
- Trails and Paths: Fred Leach
- Conservation: Paul Heiple
- Bicycle Pedestrian and Traffic Safety: Pat Baenen
- Parks and Rec: Karen Askey



**PRESERVE
PROTECT
RESTORE
EDUCATE
ENJOY**



US Feet
0 125 250



Hawthorns Conceptual Trail Diagram

- Hawthorns area property line
- Alpine Trail proposed realignment
- Conceptual Hawthorns Loop Trail
- Town trail
- 8/26 Tour Parking Areas
- District Vehicles Only

Hawthorns PAWG Meeting #2 Site Tour
August 26, 2023 9 a.m.

Hawthorns Design Concerns

- Parking - Location(s), Number of Spaces, and Overflow
- Ingress/Egress
- Trail Placement (place PV Alpine Road trail further from road, inside fence)
- Number of Trails & Length
- Placement of Benches, if any
- Connections to other PV Town Trails
- Usage Issues
 - Dog access - leash and/or unleashed
 - Mountain bike use
 - Equestrian Use
 - inclusive access (i.e., trail that can be accessed easily and used by disabled, seniors, and young children)

MidPen Dog Access Guidelines

On Leash

- Visitors may have no more than three (3) dogs per person.
- Dogs are not allowed in any Midpen water areas, including streams or ponds.
- Dogs must be on a leash 6' long or less. Self-retracting leashes are allowed with a maximum extended length of 25 feet. Extended leashes must be locked at 6' when in the presence of other visitors.
- Do not allow dogs to harass wildlife or other visitors.
- Bag and remove dog waste from the preserve by packing it out. Do NOT leave bagged waste at the preserve or outside preserve restrooms.

Off Leash - Pulgas Ridge Open Space Preserve Trail

- Visitors can let their dogs off-leash in the 17.5-acre area located in the center of the preserve, accessible from the Cordilleras Trail, Polly Geraci/Hassler Trails and the Blue Oak Trail. While in this area, visitors must have a leash in their possession and their dog must be under voice control.
- **Note:** Area is fenced and signed at entrances, but there is no fencing around the off-leash area. **Dogs must be on a leash when outside of the off-leash area.**

Next Steps/Action Plan

- Karen Vahtra from PAWG to share additional comments.
- Committee discussion tonight on Concept and Concerns, lens on Parks & Rec issues
- Review the PAWG meeting agenda packets from 7/27/23 and 8/26/23
- https://www.openspace.org/sites/default/files/20230727_PAWG_PACKET.pdf
- <https://www.openspace.org/sites/default/files/PAWG%20Mtg%20%20-%20Packet.pdf>
- Spread the word! Educate and engage the PV Community.
- Attend the 10/26 and future PAWG meetings. Submit comments, be vocal.
- Liaisons/Town Ad Hoc Committee members are working to set up meetings and utilize other channels to gather, centralize and submit feedback to Midpen to best represent PV
- Stay involved!