

TO: PARKS RECREATION & OPEN SPACE COMMISSION

FROM: Margot Cunningham, Natural Areas Coordinator

SUBJECT: Albany Hill Forest Mgmt. and Habitat Restoration Plan

AGENDA DATE: February 13, 2025

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

1. Receive a presentation about the Albany Hill Forest Management and Habitat Restoration Plan.

2. Provide final feedback before the Plan goes to City Council for approval.

BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY

The City of Albany's Albany Hill Eucalyptus Project (CIP No. 41015) was established on October 18, 2021. On June 20, 2023 <u>City Council awarded</u> Contract No. C23-40 to Restoration Design Group (RDG) for development of the Albany Hill Forest Management and Habitat Restoration Plan.

RDG has subcontracted ecologists from Nomad Ecology to help with plan development. Additionally, the City entered into a contract with Creekside Science to bring on board Stu Weiss, the foremost expert on overwintering monarchs in coastal California.

Staff and consultants solicited initial input from City Council at a <u>Study Session</u> on September 5, 2023, and in November and December of 2023 they conducted an <u>educational session</u> and <u>site walk</u> to educate the community and stakeholders about the project and receive their input.

At the March 14, 2024 Parks Recreation & Open Space Commission meeting project consultants and staff <u>presented draft concepts for the plan</u> and solicited feedback from commissioners and the public. An online survey was also launched March 14 and ran through April 30, 2024.

PROS Commission received a <u>presentation</u> on a <u>65% draft plan</u> at the September 12, 2024 meeting and provided feedback.

ATTACHMENTS

- <u>1.</u> Implementation Plan for Albany Hill Forest Management and Habitat Restoration Plan (text)
- **<u>2.</u>** Removals Phases Diagrams
- **3.** Restoration Phases Diagrams
- 4. Plan Design Set
- <u>5.</u> Cost Estimate