



## Cupertino: McClellan Ranch Park now officially McClellan Ranch Preserve

By Matt Wilson  
[mwilson@community-newspapers.com](mailto:mwilson@community-newspapers.com)  
Posted: 05/10/2012 08:03:47 PM PDT  
Updated: 05/10/2012 08:03:47 PM PDT

McClellan Ranch Park is now McClellan Ranch Preserve.

The Cupertino City Council made it official with a 3-2 vote on May 2. Mayor Mark Santoro and Councilman Gilbert Wong dissented.

The name change is part of a thorough master plan update for the 18-acre park. The designation was a move by the city and council to remind residents and visitors that the park is more about enjoying nature than recreation. The park, however, has not yet been designated a nature preserve, according to city staff.

The council took an informal "straw vote" on the name change and master plan in early April.

Residents were pleased that the city took such time and care discussing the nature preserve.

"If you haven't been there, I invite you to go out," said Keith Wandry, a resident and frequent McClellan Ranch visitor. "Bring your family, bring your kids. It's an ecosystem that is small enough that kids can grasp it. They can walk around it and can learn the residents that live there—the animals, the birds—and watch them interact."

For more than a year, the city and interested residents took time to consider what lies ahead for the nature preserve near Blackberry Farm. A primary goal has been to determine the main priority projects for the park from now until 2017.

New structures that could come to the ranch include an environmental education center and an outdoor gathering shelter. The barn and other aging structures such as the Baer's Blacksmith Shop could be renovated or relocated elsewhere in the city.

There may also be additional signs, restoration of the creek and habitat and repairs to the creek banks. Additional plans include renovating bleachers, better managing parking, updating restroom facilities and finding a way to extend trail access to the Linda Vista neighborhood.

The new master plan was based on a 1993 iteration, which was used as a planning guide. Funding to develop a master plan was approved during last year's budget creation.

Other parcels will be dealt with in the future as well. The former Simms property will be renamed McClellan Ranch West.

At the meeting, Santoro casually suggested the council consider naming the area Dave Knapp Park to honor the city's outgoing city manager.

### Styrofoam ban?

Also at the meeting, Councilmen Rod Sinks and Barry Chang requested that the council discuss banning Styrofoam in the city at a summer council meeting.

The council voted in April to join other South Bay cities in an environmental impact report that will evaluate the effect of banning single-use plastic bags in the city. The move would help the city meet a mandate by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board to cut down on the amount of garbage that makes it into local waterways.

Sinks and Chang suggested that a Styrofoam ban could further help the city meet these new mandates. The councilmen took up the cause after hearing a presentation from three Homestead High School students who are part of a club called the Anti Styrofoam Initiative. The students spoke before the council during the meeting and stated they are looking at a permanent ban on Styrofoam in the city.

Wong suggested the council wait until summer to hear the issue so that there is adequate time to reach out to the business and restaurant community and gather information on the issue. Despite the issue not being on the agenda, Chang boldly proclaimed he was ready for a discussion on the ban as soon as possible.

"I am not going to change my opinion, sorry," he said to Santoro.

### Mandatory recycling

The council also updated a city ordinance to pave the way for state legislation requiring recycling for multi-family housing units. AB 341 was passed in 2011 and requires all businesses generating greater than or equal to 4 cubic yards per week of solid waste and all multi-family residential dwellings of five units or more to arrange for recycling



## Cupertino

### Latest headlines

- San Jose's East Side district names former teacher as superintendent
- City council approves Main Street Cupertino project modifications
- Cupertino City Council denies appeal of restaurant's late-night hours
- 2 Greenpeace members arrested at Apple HQ after protest featuring iPhone costumes

### Weekly crime blotter

- Blotter: Scam nets \$10,000 from Cupertino grandmother

### Related features

- Cupertino crime map
- News: Los Gatos | Sunnyvale | Apple

### Most Viewed Most E-Mailed

(From the last 12 hours)



- 'American Idol' Top 3: Who won the night?
- Annular solar eclipse -- a 'ring of fire' -- visible in Northern...
- 911 tape: Confusion at home where mom shot kids
- From the Archives: Sharks rout Avalanche, take 3-2 series lead
- 'American Idol': The problem with Phillip Phillips
- Man, 18, dies after shooting in San Jose

## Top Classifieds

RENTALS JOBS REAL ESTATE AUTOS

- Mechanic
- Engineer: Apache...
- FINANCE Silicon...
- Accountants &...
- Hotel Director of Finance
- Engineer: Apache...
- Senior Software Engineer III
- Dispatcher

ALL LISTINGS

services by July 1.

AB 341 also sets a statewide policy goal of diverting at least 75 percent of generated solid waste from landfills by 2020. Implementation of AB 341 will require one additional multi-family complex and 32 commercial businesses in the city to subscribe to recycling services.

Recology will contact the commercial businesses that do not have recycling services, arrange for recycling and deliver recycling containers to the properties before July 1, according to city staff. Tenants at each of these properties will be encouraged to participate in the citywide composting service offered by Recology at no additional cost to the city or to the property owner.

### Block grants

The council also voted to set aside \$324,730 in federal Community Development Block Grants to community agencies that help low- income individuals and families. The city is expecting to receive \$310,000 for 2011-12, plus a reallocation of \$14,730 in projected program income from rehabilitation loan payoffs.


The Affordable Housing Fund receives revenue from below-market-rate fees paid by developers of residential, office, commercial or hotel space. Groups receiving funds are regular recipients, including Maitri and West Valley Community Services.

 Reprint  BOOKMARK   Print  Email  Font Resize  Return to Top



• FAQ: [Article commenting how-tos and tips](#)

### Local News

Herhold Pizarro Obituaries

- Dark days for California's courts
- The CW's fall plans: New nights for 'Supernatural,' 'Top Model'
- Apparent carjacking victim falls from freeway on Peninsula
- Martinez puts the brakes on plan to get rid of one-way streets downtown
- Review: Brad Mehldau Trio at Kuumbwa Jazz Center was a lesson in jazz mastery 
- Despite Bay Area efforts, the USS Iowa is heading to L.A. as a military museum 
- Ross Stores profit up sharply from strong sales
- Singer Donna Summer dies of cancer at age 63 

Copyright © 2012 - San Jose Mercury News

Place an Ad | About Our Ads | Help/Contact | Site Map | Advertise | Home Delivery | Copyright | Privacy Policy and Terms of Use | About MediaNews Group | RSS | Find San Jose jobs | Ethics Policy | About Bay Area News Group |  

A  MediaNews Group WEBSITE  
MediaNews Group - Bay Area News Group