

June 4, 2021

Dear members of the City of Hollister 2040 General Update Planning Committee,

On behalf of REACH San Benito Parks Foundation, this letter serves as support for the Parks and Recreation General Plan polices as written for the City of Hollister's 2040 General Plan Update. As an organization, our mission is to facilitate a healthy community through the perseveration and enhancement of parks, facilities, and recreation programs throughout San Benito County. We would like to echo the community's desire to increase public access to a network of quality parks that are distributed throughout the City of Hollister. We strongly agree that any private park and open space that is counted toward the City's park and open space requirement be accessible to the public. We also concur that the standard for the parkland provision by new development should be increased from 4 acres of park space per 1,000 persons to a minimum of 5 acres of park space per 1,000 persons. Having parks, trails, open space, recreation amenities/programs is important because it promotes healthily living, fosters physical health improvements through increased activity levels and mental health improvements through recreation and relaxation opportunities.

In drafting the policies and implementation actions for the General Plan, we would encourage the City to prioritize the implementing the recommendations from the 2018 Draft Hollister Parks Master Plan and to develop a Trail Master plan. We support the inclusion of a gap-analysis study of existing trails and open spaces to help ensure that future improvements prioritize access and equity.

Thank you for the opportunity to feedback,

REACH San Benito Parks Foundation



SAN BENITO PARKS FOUNDATION

A nonprofit 501 (c)3 Since 2014

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