

Meeting Minutes: LARPD/EBRPD Liaison Meeting

April 27, 2026 | 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Attendees

East Bay Regional Park District

Dennis Waespi, Board Director

Olivia Sanwong, Board President

Max Korten, Acting General Manager

Allison Brooks, Assistant General Manager of External Affairs

Erich Pfuehler, Division Lead of Government and Legislative Affairs

Brian Holt, Division Lead of Acquisition, Stewardship, and Planning

Elsa Grandvoinet-Pellegrini, Legislative Assistant

Livermore Area Recreation and Park District

Philip Pierpont, Board Chair

Maryalice Faltings, Board Vice Chair

Matthew Fuzie, General Manager

Fred Haldeman, Parks and Facilities Manager

Marc Roberts, Land Agent/Planner, LARPD Foundation Board Trustee

David Weisgerber, Community Outreach Supervisor

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes of the October 25, 2025 meeting of the Livermore Area Recreation and Park District (LARPD)/ East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) Liaison Committee were approved by all attendees.

Doolan Canyon Regional Preserve: Public Access and Conservation Next Steps

- Division Lead of Acquisition, Stewardship, and Planning Brian Holt provided an update on Doolan Canyon Regional Preserve.
- Looking at the map of the Doolan Canyon property, Holt shared staff have brought various options for future development plans forward to the EBRPD Board of Directors. In these discussions, EBRPD Directors recommended moving forward on options involving some form of guided access. Regional partnership on this initiative is yet to be determined. In the near term, the Park District is striving to provide some form of public access while completing additional steps on natural and cultural resource studies, land use planning, necessary designs, and more.
- Acting General Manager Max Korten shared the area surrounding the property is constrained by a collection of conservation easements. This consideration will play into future plans for opening the park to the public. He also shared EBRPD recently acquired a small property just outside the parkland which could serve as a staging area.
- EBRPD Director Olivia Sanwong emphasized how she has been a consistent proponent of opening the parkland for public use as a key addition to EBRPD service in the Livermore area. Director Sanwong also shared interest in providing more opportunities for the public to visit the park before a full opening. One such visit occurred on May 30, 2025.

- Land Agent/Planner, LARPD Foundation Board Trustee Marc Roberts voiced support for the idea of opening the park. He also shared the public road entering the park could serve as a walking trail. Korten agreed to explore this suggestion.
- Director Sanwong mentioned concern for potential offroad bicycle use and other off trail walking which could impact habitat health. This is something EBRPD takes seriously and hopes to manage with limited or guided public access.
- Roberts shared LARPD has been doing a lot of public education on the consequences of going off trail and has seen impressive results, including a successful collaboration with Zone 7.
- Holt mentioned dogs would be the primary concern in terms of habitat protection.
- LARPD Board Chair Philip Pierpoint noted this is a very remote property, so it may attract more off trail use than say a park in a heavily urbanized area where there are more people around, meaning more eyes watching how other trail users respect established boundaries.
- Roberts proposed early monitoring and enforcement to set a precedent for managing off trail use. He also suggested installing fencing to guide people along trails and make it clear where it may be permissible to recreate versus not.
- Director Sanwong mentioned the Dublin Boulevard connection. She stated there is an unincorporated area and the Dublin city limit does not directly connect with the Doolan Canyon property.
- Director Sanwong mentioned there is also public concern about habitat protection as more access is provided to the property. Roberts referred to the original intent the City of Livermore had in protecting the property's habitat as part of development mitigation. There are clear competing interests coalescing on this property, but limited public access to a small portion of the park should not impact overall habitat health. It is important to note the Park District strives to provide services equitably, across geography, demographics, and socioeconomic zones, all while maintaining the health of habitats present in East Bay parks.
- LARPD Board Vice Chair Philip Pierpoint noted the difficulty for EBRPD to serve such a widespread geography and set of demographics. He argued the main purpose and goal of EBRPD is conserving parkland for public use, while also managing access. Some organizations such as the Nature Conservancy are set to conserve land for natural purposes, while the EBRPD must balance both goals, preserving natural landscapes for people and nature. Korten agreed, noting this is the ongoing challenge and work of EBRPD.
- In responding to Director Sanwong's point that the 2020 census may have undercounted agricultural workers in the Livermore area, Roberts noted LARPD has done work to document the population growth, including impacts of housing developments, homelessness, and more so the agency can maintain an understanding of the need for future services.

Public Access Opportunities in the LARPD Area

- Roberts noted there is City support for acquiring the Kurtzer property and a potential trail easement nearby which could unlock development of the area. Roberts also mentioned the owner of Kurtzer has considered annexation.
- Korten shared support and offered any assistance EBRPD can provide on the project.
- Director Sanwong noted Shadow Cliffs also sits on the Iron Horse Trail. If this area were acquired, Shadow Cliffs would be a trail hub as many properties would connect to it.
- Holt provided an update about the Brushy Peak Reserve. He noted there is opportunity to expand access closer to the City of Livermore. EBRPD has begun studies on a small staging area and trail

access through the property. This work has begun at a staff level and an update will be provided to LARPD as work continues.

- Roberts noted the Tri-Valley Conservancy and LARPD are working on an acquisition of a conservation property near Altamont Pass Road next to Brushy Peak. There is an issue with access to the property and LARPD is moving through legal procedures to resolve the issue. There are also plans for a wildlife crossing adjacent to this new property, across Interstate-580. With Brushy Peak, the area would become a wonderful wildlife corridor. Sanwong mentioned Valley Link is a proposal to connect the Dublin BART station to San Joaquin County. This project would support the initiative. There may also be potential to connect the adjacent California aqueduct.
- Roberts asked if trail expansion would be possible in the Southeast portion of Brushy Peak. Holt answered it is certainly possible and something to consider for inclusion in future park planning designs. EBRPD will continue to prioritize public access opportunities wherever possible.

South Bay Aqueduct Trail

- Roberts noted conversations with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) resulted in a clear need for regional collaboration to push the agency to include trail access in their workplan. EBRPD, LARPD, the City of Livermore, and Alameda County are all in support and could work together to push this initiative.
- Director Sanwong noted the South Bay Aqueduct Trail could be added to the agenda of other discussions with DWR to advance the project and demonstrate support.

Altamont Hills Acquisition

- See above as part of the discussion on *Item 2. Public Access Opportunities in the LARPD Area.*

Quint Property Acquisition

- It was shared the City of Livermore has acquired the Quint property and is in the process of transferring the property to LARPD. Both agencies are working to develop a co-management agreement.

Adjourned at 11:03 a.m.