



PRESS RELEASE

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HAYWARD AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT COMPLETES THE ACQUISITION OF A FORMER COCA-COLA BOTTLING SITE TO EXPAND PARKLAND AND RECREATIONAL AMENITIES

HAYWARD, CALIFORNIA, October 11, 2019 - Board President Rick Hatcher today announced the Hayward Area Recreation and Park District (HARD) completed the acquisition of a 2.6-acre industrial parcel located at the northeast corner of Mission Boulevard and Mattox Road in unincorporated Alameda County. The acquisition of the property was unanimously approved by the Board of Directors on July 15, 2019, and the escrow closed today.

"I am delighted to announce we are committing to enhancing greenspace and recreation amenities in Ashland, Cherryland and the greater Hayward area that will provide residents, families and visitors with access to healthy recreational opportunities." said Board President Rick Hatcher. "This key acquisition by the District of the former Coca-Cola bottling site represents a transformative moment for the community that will have positive impacts for decades to come. The opportunities for this urban oasis are boundless. We look forward to working with our residents and community partners to ensure this long-vacant property is reborn into a unique urban park."

The parcel is centrally located and is easily accessible to residents of Ashland, Castro Valley, Cherryland and north Hayward. The District purchased the site for \$3,995,000 with the funds coming from the Measure F1 \$250 million General Obligation Bond that was overwhelmingly approved by voters in November 2016.

"The District recently updated its Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which is based on the principles of equity, collaboration, diverse resident participation, and the development of local assets and resources that support the community's vision of health, wellness and resiliency." said District General Manager, Paul McCreary. "The Ashland area has a significant deficit of parkland and it is difficult to expand a park system in a built-out environment, which makes this acquisition even more noteworthy."

During 2020 the District will conduct a community outreach process to create a master plan for development of the property with park and recreation amenities. The site contains industrial structures that will require study to determine suitability for reuse as part of the development or demolition.

For more information about other District capital improvement projects, visit <https://hard.citywork.com/>.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please call the General Manager's Office at 510-881-6710 or email diaj@haywardrec.org