















Felton Covered Bridge Park

 Nathan Goodman <nathan.m.goodman@gmail.com>
To  Annie Murphy
Cc  Bruce McPherson;  JM Brown;  Zach Friend;  First District;  Felipe Hernandez;  Justin Cummings;  Jeff Gaffney;
 Rebecca Hurley;  Monica Martinez;  Santa Cruz County Parks;  Frankie Farr;  VWC Board

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Hello Annie,

I am writing regarding the proposed pump track in the Felton Covered Bridge park.

While I am not opposed to a pump track located in the San Lorenzo Valley, I am opposed to the proposed location in the Felton Covered Bridge park.

As a State and National Historic Landmark, as well as a County Historic Resource, I am surprised that County Parks would even consider defacing the first view of the bridge for visitors and residents entering Felton from Graham Hill Rd.

The approach into Felton from Graham Hill Road has been the main route for non-rail traffic into the San Lorenzo Valley even before the current bridge was built in 1892. This is an historic viewshed that is important to preserve the context of the bridge as the original route into downtown Felton.

Indeed, this viewshed is identified as Scenic View Corridor #2 in the Felton Town Plan, in which *“New or renovated physical improvements or landscaping shall not block, or limit views or visually distract from, or compete with, views of the historic Felton Covered Bridge, as seen from Graham Hill Road or from Mount Hermon Road...”*

The location as proposed certainly does not align with the intent of this planning document.

My concerns from an historic preservation perspective are compounded by other concerns. Aside from the seemingly obvious flooding, parking, restroom access and environmental issues, there has been little input about this proposal from those of us who live in this community. Residents are just becoming aware of the plan due to a seeming lack of publicity and public process for this proposal (aside from the single-sided support and outreach done by the very organization County Parks evidently plans on partnering with to build the pump track).

This project location will dramatically deface the SLV’s crown historic jewel and I believe our history deserves better stewardship than this.

There are other less problematic county-owned properties even within Felton which would be more appropriate for such uses. I urge all involved to consider these locations rather than developing this project in conflict with the existing planning documents which were created in partnership with, and are trusted by the community.

Please pass this along to Lynda Phillips who I understand represents District 5.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nathan Goodman
Felton Resident, Historian