



**MCL NEWS BRIEFS
ACTION ON ISSUES THAT AFFECT YOU**

Spending Measure A Funds

The Transportation Authority of Marin (TAM) is considering a Draft Strategic Plan that provides a 20-year outlook for spending Marin's 1/2-cent transportation sales tax, which was approved as Measure A in November 2004. TAM will hold a public meeting on May 25th at 7:30 p.m. in the Civic Center to receive public comments on the draft plan. Written comments are due by June 16th. Detailed information can be found at <http://marintraffic.org/>

Lawson's Landing Needs New Permit

Owners of Lawson's Landing must seek a California Coastal Commission permit in order to legalize any unpermitted developments that may be violating the Coastal Act, including a trailer park, campground, mobile homes, roads, restrooms, water lines and water tanks, sewage lines and leach fields, sheds, garages, parking lots, boatyard, and other structures on the site. Both the County and the Commission are required to identify and evaluate alternatives that would allow for continued public recreational use at Lawson's Landing while protecting wetlands and other sensitive habitat areas and water quality. Additional surveys and a delineation of wetlands must be provided by July 11 to further identify site constraints so that existing and proposed uses on the site can be evaluated.

NPS is Updating Management Plan

The future of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the Muir Woods National Monument is under review as the National Park Service (NPS) begins to update its general management plan. Call (415) 561-4965 for information. For a comment form and additional details, go to <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/documentsAndLinks.cfm?projectId=15075>

MCL Launches Campaign to Protect Marin's Forgotten Lands

This month, MCL initiated a new multiyear campaign to protect and preserve important Marin County open spaces that have been overlooked. Called *Lands in Between*, the campaign aims to secure for the benefit of future generations land that will augment Marin's parks and open spaces, create wildlife corridors, and provide neighborhood greenbelts.

The general approach of the initiative is to **identify** environmentally sensitive lands that warrant protection; to **join** with communities, citizen groups, and other grassroots organizations to save these critical open spaces; and to **collaborate** with the County, communities, and elected officials to develop stable funding for the acquisition and stewardship of open space.

By uniting individuals, neighborhood associations, civic groups, citizen activists, and communities around a shared vision of preserving open spaces, the *Lands in Between* campaign will ensure its goal of protecting Marin's forgotten lands. Its grassroots origins will enable us to bring into play the collective wisdom, energy and passion of those who best understand the open space needs of their own communities.

During 2006, *Lands in Between* will focus its efforts in the following activities:

Facilitate a continuous exchange of information between open space activists and local government. MCL will act as a community commons for issues important to grassroots organizations. MCL's *Open Space Resource Directory*, soon to be published, exemplifies the kind of service we will provide to community efforts to conserve open space.

Support the efforts of communities, organizations, citizens groups, and others in their efforts to preserve and protect open spaces. This support can take various forms, such as acting as fiscal sponsor for open space committees, facilitating local open space funding initiatives, and joining forces with open space advocates to protect Marin's "crown jewels."

Provide technical assistance for real estate transactions. MCL will assist in securing professional *pro bono* services such as surveys, appraisals, letters of agreement, title research, closing, donations, and opportunity sales, in support of community land protection.

Ally with County efforts on critical open space initiatives, including implementation of the Parks & Open Space Department's strategic plan, developing a funding mechanism for open space acquisition and management, and pursuing priority land purchase.

To learn more about MCL's *Lands in Between* campaign or to become part of this exciting conservation initiative, contact the MCL office by phone at (415) 485-6257, by fax at (415) 485-6259, or by e-mail at mcl@marinconservationleague.org

Marin Conservation League

1623A Fifth Avenue
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Marin Conservation League was founded in 1934 to preserve, protect and enhance Marin County's natural assets.

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NEWS

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SAVE THE DATE!

June 8th, 7:30 to 9:00 am

MCL Business Breakfast with Slim Shekar,

Executive Vice President for Business Development, PAX Scientific, on the benefits of growing a biomimicry-based business. Call MCL at 485-6257 to make your reservation now.

Take a look: The list on the left shows MCL's new officers and includes five new directors elected at our annual membership meeting on April 21st.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Geographic Stories of West Marin - An Unusual Map Exhibit

On Saturday, June 10 (Tomales Watershed Day), a selection of cartographic views of West Marin will open at the Red Barn Classroom, 1 Bear Valley Road, Point Reyes Station. The exhibit will be open from 9 am to 5 pm, with the show's curator on hand to answer questions. This opening is free to the public. The exhibit will run until June 30, 2006.

These local maps, most of which are seldom seen by the public, summarize a tremendous amount of information about West Marin. Reference maps show roads, trails, watersheds and geology; thematic maps show historic land ownership and use; analytic maps show predicted owl habitat, sea level change and grazing patterns.

For additional information, contact Joseph Kinyon, Pacific Coast Science and Learning Center: Joseph_kinyon@partner.nps.gov; (415) 464-5249.

Will You Help Us With MCL's Lands in Between Campaign?

The Marin Conservation League is looking for volunteers to help with our *Lands in Between* campaign, launched last month and described on page one of this newsletter.

Can you do writing, graphic design, website updates and management, or special events planning and promotion?

Let us know if you have the talent and energy to pitch in on these important areas. We can also use your help on press releases, opinion pieces, emails, letters, posters and flyers, web site features, making media contacts, and organizing member activities!

If you are willing and able to help us, then please send e-mail describing your interest and expertise to president@marinconservationleague.org, or write to MCL at 1625A Fifth Avenue, San Rafael CA 94901, or call us at (415) 485-6257.

Bay Area Open Space Council - 8th Annual Regional Conference June 2

To be held at the Presidio, this event offers a comprehensive view of land conservation, focusing on these timely and compelling topics:

- What is a Whole Community and Why Should We Care?
- Building Community through Dialogue
- Designing and Growing Healthier Communities
- From Farm to Table: Knowing, Tasting and Honoring the Land
- Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder
- Preserving a Sense of Place: Protecting the Land and Relationships
- Regional Challenges and Opportunities: Sharing Our Story
- Next Steps for the Bay Area

For more information and registration details, contact Cecily@OpenSpaceCouncil.org or call Cecily Harris at 650-593-3281.