

**Response to the DRAFT Maidu Bike Park Project CEQA/NEPA Released on June 2, 2017**

*I/We are among the community members, neighbors, and trail users of the area in which the proposed bike park location resides on Maidu drive in Auburn, California. I/We would like to share some of our concerns with this location choice and concurrently express our support for the bike park project and the ARD board with respect to locating the bike park at another location, such as one of the large acreages of ARD owned property located at Regional Park or Shockley Rd, that is not on the American River canyon rim, does not displace passive recreation, and does not disturb our beloved trails.*

*I/We strongly dispute a Mitigated Negative Declaration and support a "No Action" alternative to the draft CEQA/NEPA Maidu Bike Park Project.*

**1) SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF AN IRREPLACEABLE VIEWSCAPE AND SCENIC VISTAS**

There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

**2) CHANGE IN USE FROM A PASSIVE RECREATION AREA**

The bike park is a complete "change of use" for the area. The current and historical use is a passive recreation area where trail users are drawn here to enjoy the quietness, wildlife, and beautiful scenery. Their experience would be completely altered with bikes moving fast, bikes going airborne, and bare dirt tracks, dirt mounds, and bike skills obstacles such as berms, rollers, pumps, a strider track, and jumps throughout the area replacing the natural serene feel. Other consequences that will alter the quiet, natural area, include damaging plants, removing trees and rock outcroppings, and endangering wildlife. In fact, there will be very little wildlife that will remain as this type of park is not hospitable to the native fauna. What effect will the low level security lighting near the bike park have on area wildlife including potential habitat for nocturnal species such as the Threatened Townsend's Big Eared Bat? These are significant impacts due to the conflict with the current use as a natural area and the change in quality of experience over a large footprint. This loss cannot be mitigated due to the inherent character of a bike park which is more akin to industrial development.

Does the bike park also comply with current by-laws, local ordinances, and written agreements with and between all involved parties and municipalities? For example, is a bike park in line with the CA State Parks mission, "protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources"? Is grading and excavating an area of this size, altering the natural topography, bringing in truckloads of outside soil, creating an environment inhospitable to wildlife, removing shrubs and grasses and many oak trees in line with our CA State Parks mission? It puts bikes on the historical Pioneer Express Trail that runs through the bike park area which is a designated State Parks passive recreational hiker and equestrian only designated trail. There is also clear and obvious conflict of interest created by putting several recreational groups in the same area with opposing goals. A bike park is not compatible within this part of the CA State Parks Gold Fields district.

**3) NO COMPARABLE MITIGATION FOR NATIONALLY DESIGNATED HISTORICAL TRAIL LOSS**

The current proposed bike park bifurcates the existing nationally designated historical Pioneer Express Trail that has been at that location for decades. Moving this historical trail arbitrarily is a significant and avoidable loss. The bike park planning committee has proposed to move the trail to the lower side of the bike park along a bank that drops off onto a paved road for the purpose of mitigation. The rerouted trail view would be of exposed dirt bike park features on one side and obstructed views of the American River canyon through a newly installed chain link fence with the paved road below the berm in the foreground. Additionally, many runners, hikers, and others do not want to recreate in the vicinity of a bike park and inhale the dust that a bike park would generate. This reroute proposal is not equivalent (the trail would still be adjacent to the bike park noise, dust, poor aesthetics, etc.) and is not safe (adding extreme safety issues forcing horse riders along a drop-off or sandwiched between a proposed chain link fence and the jump track with jumps over 8 foot high and airborne bikes on the hill above them) so does not provide for any measure of reasonable mitigation. Furthermore, this section of trail is a major connector trail between FLSRA and ASRA and should remain as such. Mitigation proposals that significantly alter the current use, disassemble major trail connections, and compromise the safety of other persons should not be considered.

The other proposed trail mitigation is utilizing an existing road (closed to vehicular traffic) that winds down overlooking the China bar area. This road is already a designated multi-use trail that everyone can use so it is not anything new that is being provided for trail loss mitigation. Providing a dirt shoulder along a road is in no way similar to the quiet section of single track,



4) **THE COMMUNITY PREVIOUSLY AND PUBLICLY EXPRESSED THEY DO NOT WANT A BIKE PARK AT MAIDU DRIVE**  
Due diligence has not been carried out in canvassing and taking into account the opinions of the community with respect to the location of the bike park. As verified by a standing room only meeting hosted by ARD at the Canyon View Community Center on March 27, 2014, neighbors expressed that they do not want the bike park located at Maidu drive, nor do hikers, runners, seniors, or equestrians. This clearly suggests locating the bike park at Regional or Shockley would be the best compromise to support our entire community. There is only one school in the Maidu Rd area so why not put the park near where more of our kids live in north Auburn? All of the youth that live in north Auburn would benefit more from these optional locations.

5) **COMMUNITY WAS NOT GIVEN THE FULL SCOPE OF THE PROJECT**  
The CEQA/NEPA project description includes an expansive combination of 9 acres of obstacles with over 1.21 acres of disturbed land area including a strider track, directional flow trail, all-mountain trail, naturalized technical trail, jump track and return trail, skills loop, connector trails, and a pump track. The full project scope was not presented to the public until the release of the CEQA/NEPA and should have been communicated to the proximal neighbors and current area trail users so they could have had time to fairly evaluate it.

6) **HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES**  
Health concerns from airborne dust and particulate matter are characteristic of bike parks from spinning bike tires constantly churning the soil. Runners and hikers would be subjected to inhaling airborne particulates when they passed through the area on the trail re-route or on the irrigation canal path above. Many people are allergic to soil molds and the elderly are also more sensitive to dust particles.

There is a concern about asbestos because asbestos was found on the bike park site in a soil sample. The constant churning of soil by bike tires and inefficient dust control could result in a major health hazard.

The adjacent trail system in the American River Canyon is experiencing trail safety issues caused by illegal trail poaching and speeding bicycles (a deadly combination) on single track trails that are not designed for multi-use. Reports on accidents are well documented. Until these problems are under control it makes sense to not unnecessarily add more potential issues.

With an estimated additional 278 vehicle trips per day on weekends when other area trail use is at it's highest, this presents huge safety issues. The current trail users in the area not only cross Maidu Rd in two places but often use Maidu Rd to go between the canal path or the Pioneer Express Trail and the ASRA trails below. Horse trailers also park along the road because their parking lot was paved over and a replacement parking area has not been provided as of yet. Currently this is a very low traffic area which clearly makes any additional traffic a legitimate and significant safety concern.

7) **MANAGEMENT CONCERNS**  
Most of the Management for the bike park is reportedly to be done by volunteers. How will standards, rules, and laws be enforced during times of lean volunteer availability or change in the available volunteer base? Neither the ARD board staff nor the bike park volunteers are equipped or trained to deal with potentially confrontational situations arising from enforcing rules. Concerns with loud music and profanity are valid as they disturb the natural environment, dampen the trail use experience, and will disturb neighbors that live on the outskirts of the area. Policing and supervision is ineffective in remote areas as response times are delayed. This clearly supports a more centrally located bike park. Who is liable with concern to all safety, environmental, noise disturbances, and all other potential issues and how can the public hold them accountable? What if maintenance fails to get done sufficiently? Who will pay for the ongoing maintenance and unplanned expenses? These issues are not adequately covered in the CEQA/NEPA.

**SUMMARY**

I/We feel that multiple user groups should not be displaced for one special interest group that can be accommodated elsewhere. I/We feel that development should not be expanded onto the edge of a beautiful river canyon when mother nature does not have a voice. We are her voice and we don't want a bike park diminishing the quality of the passive recreational use and natural surroundings of this beautiful, treasured area.

Respectfully on this day \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Rojice Stillwagon Signature: [Signature]  
Address: 4350 Riverview Dr

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

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[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)



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Respectfully on this day, \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Kathy Crumberry

Address: 160 So McDANIEL DR

Signature: Kathy Crumberry

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
Name: Debby Waples Signature: Debby Waples  
Address: 270 Riverview Dr,

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Auburn, CA 95603

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The CEQA/NEPA project description includes an expansive combination of 9 acres of obstacles with over 1.21 acres of disturbed land area including a strider track, directional flow trail, all-mountain trail, naturalized technical trail, jump track and return trail, skills loop, connector trails, and a pump track. The full project scope was not presented to the public until the release of the CEQA/NEPA and should have been communicated to the proximal neighbors and current area trail users so they could have had time to fairly evaluate it.

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The adjacent trail system in the American River Canyon is experiencing trail safety issues caused by illegal trail poaching and speeding bicycles (a deadly combination) on single track trails that are not designed for multi-use. Reports on accidents are well documented. Until these problems are under control it makes sense to not unnecessarily add more potential issues.

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Respectfully on this day, \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Joe St. Ilwagon Signature: [Signature]  
Address: 430 Riverview Dr

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)



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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
 Name: NATALIE FARREN Signature: Natalie Farren  
 Address: 305 RIVERVIEW

Additional Comments: We have also objected to past projects in this area because of traffic & noise for pleasure & recreation

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
 Maidu Bike Park Project  
 Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
 Name: MARIEL J. DEL AGOSTINO Signature: Mariel J. Del Agostino  
 Address: 165 RIVER VIEW DR. AUBURN, CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to; Maidu Bike Park Project  
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Respectfully on this day, 6-26-17  
Name: Gerald E. Del Agostino Signature: Gerald E. Del Agostino  
Address: 165 River View Dr Auburn CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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**Response to the DRAFT Maidu Bike Park Project CEQA/NEPA Released on June 2, 2017**

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**3) NO COMPARABLE MITIGATION FOR NATIONALLY DESIGNATED HISTORICAL TRAIL LOSS**

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The CEQA/NEPA project description includes an expansive combination of 9 acres of obstacles with over 1.21 acres of disturbed land area including a strider track, directional flow trail, all-mountain trail, naturalized technical trail, jump track and return trail, skills loop, connector trails, and a pump track. The full project scope was not presented to the public until the release of the CEQA/NEPA and should have been communicated to the proximal neighbors and current area trail users so they could have had time to fairly evaluate it.

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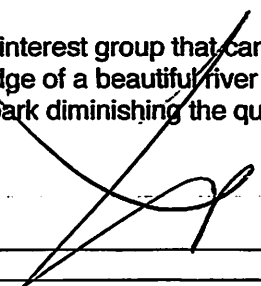
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Respectfully on this day, June 26, 2017  
Name: Eric Wurshower Signature:   
Address: 145 River View Dr

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

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Respectfully on this day June 26, 2017  
 Name: Tehyla Ferrero Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
 Address: 145 River View Dr

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to:  
 Maidu Bike Park Project  
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Respectfully on this day, June 26, 17  
Name: Glenda Gonzalez Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 146 Riverview Dr, Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments: to near the grammar school

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## **Response to the DRAFT Maidu Bike Park Project CEQA/NEPA Released on June 2, 2017**

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*I/We strongly dispute a Mitigated Negative Declaration and support a "No Action" alternative to the draft CEQA/NEPA Maidu Bike Park Project.*

### **1) SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF AN IRREPLACEABLE VIEWSCAPE AND SCENIC VISTAS**

There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

### **2) CHANGE IN USE FROM A PASSIVE RECREATION AREA**

The bike park is a complete "change of use" for the area. The current and historical use is a passive recreation area where trail users are drawn here to enjoy the quietness, wildlife, and beautiful scenery. Their experience would be completely altered with bikes moving fast, bikes going airborne, and bare dirt tracks, dirt mounds, and bike skills obstacles such as berms, rollers, pumps, a strider track, and jumps throughout the area replacing the natural serene feel. Other consequences that will alter the quiet, natural area, include damaging plants, removing trees and rock outcroppings, and endangering wildlife. In fact, there will be very little wildlife that will remain as this type of park is not hospitable to the native fauna. What effect will the low level security lighting near the bike park have on area wildlife including potential habitat for nocturnal species such as the Threatened Townsend's Big Eared Bat? These are significant impacts due to the conflict with the current use as a natural area and the change in quality of experience over a large footprint. This loss cannot be mitigated due to the inherent character of a bike park which is more akin to industrial development.

Does the bike park also comply with current by-laws, local ordinances, and written agreements with and between all involved parties and municipalities? For example, is a bike park in line with the CA State Parks mission, "protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources"? Is grading and excavating an area of this size, altering the natural topography, bringing in truckloads of outside soil, creating an environment inhospitable to wildlife, removing shrubs and grasses and many oak trees in line with our CA State Parks mission? It puts bikes on the historical Pioneer Express Trail that runs through the bike park area which is a designated State Parks passive recreational hiker and equestrian only designated trail. There is also clear and obvious conflict of interest created by putting several recreational groups in the same area with opposing goals. A bike park is not compatible within this part of the CA State Parks Gold Fields district.

### **3) NO COMPARABLE MITIGATION FOR NATIONALLY DESIGNATED HISTORICAL TRAIL LOSS**

The current proposed bike park bifurcates the existing nationally designated historical Pioneer Express Trail that has been at that location for decades. Moving this historical trail arbitrarily is a significant and avoidable loss. The bike park planning committee has proposed to move the trail to the lower side of the bike park along a bank that drops off onto a paved road for the purpose of mitigation. The rerouted trail view would be of exposed dirt bike park features on one side and obstructed views of the American River canyon through a newly installed chain link fence with the paved road below the berm in the foreground. Additionally, many runners, hikers, and others do not want to recreate in the vicinity of a bike park and inhale the dust that a bike park would generate. This reroute proposal is not equivalent (the trail would still be adjacent to the bike park noise, dust, poor aesthetics, etc.) and is not safe (adding extreme safety issues forcing horse riders along a drop-off or sandwiched between a proposed chain link fence and the jump track with jumps over 8 foot high and airborne bikes on the hill above them) so does not provide for any measure of reasonable mitigation. Furthermore, this section of trail is a major connector trail between FLSRA and ASRA and should remain as such. Mitigation proposals that significantly alter the current use, disassemble major trail connections, and compromise the safety of other persons should not be considered.

The other proposed trail mitigation is utilizing an existing road (closed to vehicular traffic) that winds down overlooking the China bar area. This road is already a designated multi-use trail that everyone can use so it is not anything new that is being provided for trail loss mitigation. Providing a dirt shoulder along a road is in no way similar to the quiet section of single track,

4) **THE COMMUNITY PREVIOUSLY AND PUBLICLY EXPRESSED THEY DO NOT WANT A BIKE PARK AT MAIDU DRIVE**  
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5) **COMMUNITY WAS NOT GIVEN THE FULL SCOPE OF THE PROJECT**  
The CEQA/NEPA project description includes an expansive combination of 9 acres of obstacles with over 1.21 acres of disturbed land area including a strider track, directional flow trail, all-mountain trail, naturalized technical trail, jump track and return trail, skills loop, connector trails, and a pump track. The full project scope was not presented to the public until the release of the CEQA/NEPA and should have been communicated to the proximal neighbors and current area trail users so they could have had time to fairly evaluate it.

6) **HEATH AND SAFETY ISSUES**  
Health concerns from airborne dust and particulate matter are characteristic of bike parks from spinning bike tires constantly churning the soil. Runners and hikers would be subjected to inhaling airborne particulates when they passed through the area on the trail re-route or on the irrigation canal path above. Many people are allergic to soil molds and the elderly are also more sensitive to dust particles.

There is a concern about asbestos because asbestos was found on the bike park site in a soil sample. The constant churning of soil by bike tires and inefficient dust control could result in a major health hazard.

The adjacent trail system in the American River Canyon is experiencing trail safety issues caused by illegal trail poaching and speeding bicycles (a deadly combination) on single track trails that are not designed for multi-use. Reports on accidents are well documented. Until these problems are under control it makes sense to not unnecessarily add more potential issues.

With an estimated additional 278 vehicle trips per day on weekends when other area trail use is at it's highest, this presents huge safety issues. The current trail users in the area not only cross Maidu Rd in two places but often use Maidu Rd to go between the canal path or the Pioneer Express Trail and the ASRA trails below. Horse trailers also park along the road because their parking lot was paved over and a replacement parking area has not been provided as of yet. Currently this is a very low traffic area which clearly makes any additional traffic a legitimate and significant safety concern.

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Most of the Management for the bike park is reportedly to be done by volunteers. How will standards, rules, and laws be enforced during times of lean volunteer availability or change in the available volunteer base? Neither the ARD board staff nor the bike park volunteers are equipped or trained to deal with potentially confrontational situations arising from enforcing rules. Concerns with loud music and profanity are valid as they disturb the natural environment, dampen the trail use experience, and will disturb neighbors that live on the outskirts of the area. Policing and supervision is ineffective in remote areas as response times are delayed. This clearly supports a more centrally located bike park. Who is liable with concern to all safety, environmental, noise disturbances, and all other potential issues and how can the public hold them accountable? What if maintenance fails to get done sufficiently? Who will pay for the ongoing maintenance and unplanned expenses? These issues are not adequately covered in the CEQA/NEPA.

**SUMMARY**

I/We feel that multiple user groups should not be displaced for one special interest group that can be accommodated elsewhere. I/We feel that development should not be expanded onto the edge of a beautiful river canyon when mother nature does not have a voice. We are her voice and we don't want a bike park diminishing the quality of the passive recreational use and natural surroundings of this beautiful, treasured area.

Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
Name: Peggy Egl Signature: Margaret A. Shi  
Address: 313 RiverView Dr

Additional Comments: I will submit add'l statements, first concern is noise, also canal impact

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
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Respectfully on this day, 7-26-2017  
 Name: David Hoising Signature: [Signature]  
 Address: 205 River View Drive Auburn CA 95603  
 Additional Comments: who is going to police it

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
 Maidu Bike Park Project  
 Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
 123 Recreation Drive  
 Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
 Name: Girsten Garrard Signature: [Signature]  
 Address: 205 River View Drive Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments: I am very concerned about the increase in traffic and the policing issue because the small section of Maidu Drive from the Community Center down past PCWA up almost to River View/Maidu is unincorp. County not patrolled by Auburn police or anyone else - a no mans land where illegal

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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
Name: Coloria Simmons  
Address: 150 River View Drive

Signature: *Coloria Simmons*

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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Respectfully on this day, 6/25/17  
Name: DAVID HALBROOK Signature: David Halbrook  
Address: 401 MAIDU DR, AUBURN, CA 95603

Additional Comments: I am very much opposed to the bike park planned for Maidu Dr

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

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Respectfully on this day, \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: Anne Johnson Signature: Anne Johnson  
Address: 411 Maidu Drive

Additional Comments: Too much traffic, for quiet neighborhood, too much dust, too much noise, uncertain road responsibility

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
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There is a concern about asbestos because asbestos was found on the bike park site in a soil sample. The constant churning of soil by bike tires and inefficient dust control could result in a major health hazard.

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Respectfully on this day, 6/28/2017  
Name: JEANNE K Alexander Signature: Jeanne K Alexander  
Address: 355 Riverview Dr

Additional Comments: This has been a quiet neighborhood. I do not want all that traffic going by my house!

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603  
Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

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There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

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Respectfully on this day, Jun 25, 17  
Name: Roland T Alexander Signature: Roland T Alexander  
Address: 355 Riverview Dr, Auburn CA 95603

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
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Respectfully on this day, June 25, 2017  
Name: Linda Brown Signature: Linda Lou Brown  
Address: 401 Maidu Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
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 The CEQA/NEPA project description includes an expansive combination of 9 acres of obstacles with over 1.21 acres of disturbed land area including a strider track, directional flow trail, all-mountain trail, naturalized technical trail, jump track and return trail, skills loop, connector trails, and a pump track. The full project scope was not presented to the public until the release of the CEQA/NEPA and should have been communicated to the proximal neighbors and current area trail users so they could have had time to fairly evaluate it.

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There is a concern about asbestos because asbestos was found on the bike park site in a soil sample. The constant churning of soil by bike tires and inefficient dust control could result in a major health hazard.

The adjacent trail system in the American River Canyon is experiencing trail safety issues caused by illegal trail poaching and speeding bicycles (a deadly combination) on single track trails that are not designed for multi-use. Reports on accidents are well documented. Until these problems are under control it makes sense to not unnecessarily add more potential issues.

With an estimated additional 278 vehicle trips per day on weekends when other area trail use is at it's highest, this presents huge safety issues. The current trail users in the area not only cross Maidu Rd in two places but often use Maidu Rd to go between the canal path or the Pioneer Express Trail and the ASRA trails below. Horse trailers also park along the road because their parking lot was paved over and a replacement parking area has not been provided as of yet. Currently this is a very low traffic area which clearly makes any additional traffic a legitimate and significant safety concern.

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Respectfully on this day,  
 Name: Michelle Verdier-Fortes Signature: Michelle Verdier Fortes  
 Address: 401 Riverview Dr Auburn 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to:  
 Maidu Bike Park Project  
 Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
 123 Recreation Drive  
 Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
 Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

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*I/We strongly dispute a Mitigated Negative Declaration and support a "No Action" alternative to the draft CEQA/NEPA Maidu Bike Park Project.*

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There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

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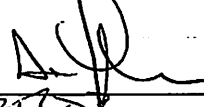
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Respectfully on this day, 6/25/17  
 Name: ADL BARKS Signature:   
 Address: 407 MAIDU DR AUBURN CA 95603

Additional Comments: TRAFFIC, ROAD MAINTENANCE, SAFETY, SUPERVISION

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to:  
 Maidu Bike Park Project  
 Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
 123 Recreation Drive  
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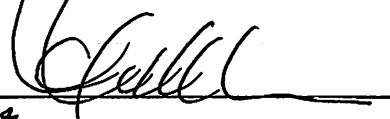
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Respectfully on this day, 6/25/2017  
Name: Dinah C. Alexander Gibbs Signature:   
Address: 407 Maidu Drive Auburn CA

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
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The current proposed bike park bifurcates the existing nationally designated historical Pioneer Express Trail that has been at that location for decades. Moving this historical trail arbitrarily is a significant and avoidable loss. The bike park planning committee has proposed to move the trail to the lower side of the bike park along a bank that drops off onto a paved road for the purpose of mitigation. The rerouted trail view would be of exposed dirt bike park features on one side and obstructed views of the American River canyon through a newly installed chain link fence with the paved road below the berm in the foreground. Additionally, many runners, hikers, and others do not want to recreate in the vicinity of a bike park and inhale the dust that a bike park would generate. This reroute proposal is not equivalent (the trail would still be adjacent to the bike park noise, dust, poor aesthetics, etc.) and is not safe (adding extreme safety issues forcing horse riders along a drop-off or sandwiched between a proposed chain link fence and the jump track with jumps over 8 foot high and airborne bikes on the hill above them) so does not provide for any measure of reasonable mitigation. Furthermore, this section of trail is a major connector trail between FLSRA and ASRA and should remain as such. Mitigation proposals that significantly alter the current use, disassemble major trail connections, and compromise the safety of other persons should not be considered.

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The CEQA/NEPA project description includes an expansive combination of 9 acres of obstacles with over 1.21 acres of disturbed land area including a strider track, directional flow trail, all-mountain trail, naturalized technical trail, jump track and return trail, skills loop, connector trails, and a pump track. The full project scope was not presented to the public until the release of the CEQA/NEPA and should have been communicated to the proximal neighbors and current area trail users so they could have had time to fairly evaluate it.

6) **HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES**  
Health concerns from airborne dust and particulate matter are characteristic of bike parks from spinning bike tires constantly churning the soil. Runners and hikers would be subjected to inhaling airborne particulates when they passed through the area on the trail re-route or on the irrigation canal path above. Many people are allergic to soil molds and the elderly are also more sensitive to dust particles.

There is a concern about asbestos because asbestos was found on the bike park site in a soil sample. The constant churning of soil by bike tires and inefficient dust control could result in a major health hazard.

The adjacent trail system in the American River Canyon is experiencing trail safety issues caused by illegal trail poaching and speeding bicycles (a deadly combination) on single track trails that are not designed for multi-use. Reports on accidents are well documented. Until these problems are under control it makes sense to not unnecessarily add more potential issues.

With an estimated additional 278 vehicle trips per day on weekends when other area trail use is at it's highest, this presents huge safety issues. The current trail users in the area not only cross Maidu Rd in two places but often use Maidu Rd to go between the canal path or the Pioneer Express Trail and the ASRA trails below. Horse trailers also park along the road because their parking lot was paved over and a replacement parking area has not been provided as of yet. Currently this is a very low traffic area which clearly makes any additional traffic a legitimate and significant safety concern.

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Most of the Management for the bike park is reportedly to be done by volunteers. How will standards, rules, and laws be enforced during times of lean volunteer availability or change in the available volunteer base? Neither the ARD board staff nor the bike park volunteers are equipped or trained to deal with potentially confrontational situations arising from enforcing rules. Concerns with loud music and profanity are valid as they disturb the natural environment, dampen the trail use experience, and will disturb neighbors that live on the outskirts of the area. Policing and supervision is ineffective in remote areas as response times are delayed. This clearly supports a more centrally located bike park. Who is liable with concern to all safety, environmental, noise disturbances, and all other potential issues and how can the public hold them accountable? What if maintenance fails to get done sufficiently? Who will pay for the ongoing maintenance and unplanned expenses? These issues are not adequately covered in the CEQA/NEPA.

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Respectfully on this day, June 25, 2017  
Name: James G. Nieto Signature: James G. Nieto  
Address: 350 RIVERVIEW DR  
Auburn, CA  
Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

**Response to the DRAFT Maidu Bike Park Project CEQA/NEPA Released on June 2, 2017**

*I/We are among the community members, neighbors, and trail users of the area in which the proposed bike park location resides on Maidu drive in Auburn, California. I/We would like to share some of our concerns with this location choice and concurrently express our support for the bike park project and the ARD board with respect to locating the bike park at another location, such as one of the large acreages of ARD owned property located at Regional Park or Shockley Rd, that is not on the American River canyon rim, does not displace passive recreation, and does not disturb our beloved trails.*

*I/We strongly dispute a Mitigated Negative Declaration and support a "No Action" alternative to the draft CEQA/NEPA Maidu Bike Park Project.*

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There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

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The bike park is a complete "change of use" for the area. The current and historical use is a passive recreation area where trail users are drawn here to enjoy the quietness, wildlife, and beautiful scenery. Their experience would be completely altered with bikes moving fast, bikes going airborne, and bare dirt tracks, dirt mounds, and bike skills obstacles such as berms, rollers, pumps, a strider track, and jumps throughout the area replacing the natural serene feel. Other consequences that will alter the quiet, natural area, include damaging plants, removing trees and rock outcroppings, and endangering wildlife. In fact, there will be very little wildlife that will remain as this type of park is not hospitable to the native fauna. What effect will the low level security lighting near the bike park have on area wildlife including potential habitat for nocturnal species such as the Threatened Townsend's Big Eared Bat? These are significant impacts due to the conflict with the current use as a natural area and the change in quality of experience over a large footprint. This loss cannot be mitigated due to the inherent character of a bike park which is more akin to industrial development.

Does the bike park also comply with current by-laws, local ordinances, and written agreements with and between all involved parties and municipalities? For example, is a bike park in line with the CA State Parks mission, "protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources"? Is grading and excavating an area of this size, altering the natural topography, bringing in truckloads of outside soil, creating an environment inhospitable to wildlife, removing shrubs and grasses and many oak trees in line with our CA State Parks mission? It puts bikes on the historical Pioneer Express Trail that runs through the bike park area which is a designated State Parks passive recreational hiker and equestrian only designated trail. There is also clear and obvious conflict of interest created by putting several recreational groups in the same area with opposing goals. A bike park is not compatible within this part of the CA State Parks Gold Fields district.

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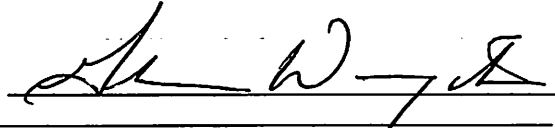
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Respectfully on this day, 6-25-17  
Name: GLEN WINGATE Signature:   
Address: 400 RIVERVIEW DR -

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

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Respectfully on this day, 6-28-17  
Name: Charles S. Anderson Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 399 Riverview Dr Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
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Health concerns from airborne dust and particulate matter are characteristic of bike parks from spinning bike tires constantly churning the soil. Runners and hikers would be subjected to inhaling airborne particulates when they passed through the area on the trail re-route or on the irrigation canal path above. Many people are allergic to soil molds and the elderly are also more sensitive to dust particles.

There is a concern about asbestos because asbestos was found on the bike park site in a soil sample. The constant churning of soil by bike tires and inefficient dust control could result in a major health hazard.

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Respectfully on this day, July 27, 2017  
Name: Jeane S. Anderson Signature: Jeane S. Anderson  
Address: 379 American Dr Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

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There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
Name: Cheryl Bryant Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 341 Riverview, Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
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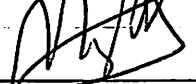
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Respectfully on this day, 6-26-17  
Name: MARK BRYANT Signature:   
Address: 341 RIVERVIEW DR., AUBURN, CA 95603

Additional Comments: THIS PROJECT HAS BALLOONED SINCE THE LAST BOARD MEETING/HEARING!

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
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Health concerns from airborne dust and particulate matter are characteristic of bike parks from spinning bike tires constantly churning the soil. Runners and hikers would be subjected to inhaling airborne particulates when they passed through the area on the trail re-route or on the irrigation canal path above. Many people are allergic to soil molds and the elderly are also more sensitive to dust particles.

There is a concern about asbestos because asbestos was found on the bike park site in a soil sample. The constant churning of soil by bike tires and inefficient dust control could result in a major health hazard.

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Respectfully on this day, 6-26-17  
Name: Eric Egli Signature: [Signature]  
Address: 312 Riverbank Dr - Auburn CA 95602

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

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There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
Name: Kirsten Babeltscher Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 316 Riverview Dr Auburn 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
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Respectfully on this day, 6-29-17  
Name: Marsha von Dassanek Signature: [Signature]  
Address: 324 Riverview Dr. Auburn CA 95603

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
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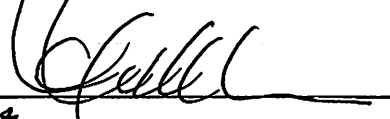
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Respectfully on this day, 6/25/2017  
 Name: Dinah C. Alexander Gibbs Signature:   
 Address: 407 Maidu Drive Auburn CA

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
 Maidu Bike Park Project  
 Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
 123 Recreation Drive  
 Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
 Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

**Response to the DRAFT Maidu Bike Park Project CEQA/NEPA Released on June 2, 2017**

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There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

**2) CHANGE IN USE FROM A PASSIVE RECREATION AREA**

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Does the bike park also comply with current by-laws, local ordinances, and written agreements with and between all involved parties and municipalities? For example, is a bike park in line with the CA State Parks mission, "protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources"? Is grading and excavating an area of this size, altering the natural topography, bringing in truckloads of outside soil, creating an environment inhospitable to wildlife, removing shrubs and grasses and many oak trees in line with our CA State Parks mission? It puts bikes on the historical Pioneer Express Trail that runs through the bike park area which is a designated State Parks passive recreational hiker and equestrian only designated trail. There is also clear and obvious conflict of interest created by putting several recreational groups in the same area with opposing goals. A bike park is not compatible within this part of the CA State Parks Gold Fields district.

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Respectfully on this day, June 25, 2017  
 Name: James G. Nieto Signature: James G. Nieto  
 Address: 350 RIVERVIEW DR  
Auburn, CA  
 Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
 Maidu Bike Park Project  
 Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
 123 Recreation Drive  
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Respectfully on this day, 6-25-17  
Name: GLEN WINGATE Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 400 RIVERVIEW DR -

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
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There is a concern about asbestos because asbestos was found on the bike park site in a soil sample. The constant churning of soil by bike tires and inefficient dust control could result in a major health hazard.

The adjacent trail system in the American River Canyon is experiencing trail safety issues caused by illegal trail poaching and speeding bicycles (a deadly combination) on single track trails that are not designed for multi-use. Reports on accidents are well documented. Until these problems are under control it makes sense to not unnecessarily add more potential issues.

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Respectfully on this day, 6-28-17  
Name: Charles S. Anderson Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 399 Riverview Dr Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)



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*I/We strongly dispute a Mitigated Negative Declaration and support a "No Action" alternative to the draft CEQA/NEPA Maidu Bike Park Project.*

### 1) SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF AN IRREPLACEABLE VIEWSCAPE AND SCENIC VISTAS

There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

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Does the bike park also comply with current by-laws, local ordinances, and written agreements with and between all involved parties and municipalities? For example, is a bike park in line with the CA State Parks mission, "protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources"? Is grading and excavating an area of this size, altering the natural topography, bringing in truckloads of outside soil, creating an environment inhospitable to wildlife, removing shrubs and grasses and many oak trees in line with our CA State Parks mission? It puts bikes on the historical Pioneer Express Trail that runs through the bike park area which is a designated State Parks passive recreational hiker and equestrian only designated trail. There is also clear and obvious conflict of interest created by putting several recreational groups in the same area with opposing goals. A bike park is not compatible within this part of the CA State Parks Gold Fields district.

### 3) NO COMPARABLE MITIGATION FOR NATIONALLY DESIGNATED HISTORICAL TRAIL LOSS

The current proposed bike park bifurcates the existing nationally designated historical Pioneer Express Trail that has been at that location for decades. Moving this historical trail arbitrarily is a significant and avoidable loss. The bike park planning committee has proposed to move the trail to the lower side of the bike park along a bank that drops off onto a paved road for the purpose of mitigation. The rerouted trail view would be of exposed dirt bike park features on one side and obstructed views of the American River canyon through a newly installed chain link fence with the paved road below the berm in the foreground. Additionally, many runners, hikers, and others do not want to recreate in the vicinity of a bike park and inhale the dust that a bike park would generate. This reroute proposal is not equivalent (the trail would still be adjacent to the bike park noise, dust, poor aesthetics, etc.) and is not safe (adding extreme safety issues forcing horse riders along a drop-off or sandwiched between a proposed chain link fence and the jump track with jumps over 8 foot high and airborne bikes on the hill above them) so does not provide for any measure of reasonable mitigation. Furthermore, this section of trail is a major connector trail between FLSRA and ASRA and should remain as such. Mitigation proposals that significantly alter the current use, disassemble major trail connections, and compromise the safety of other persons should not be considered.

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Respectfully on this day, July 27, 2017  
Name: Jeane S. Anderson Signature: Jeane S. Anderson  
Address: 379 American Dr Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
Name: Cheryl Bryant Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 341 Riverview, Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
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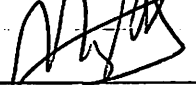
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Respectfully on this day, 6-26-17  
Name: MARK BRYANT Signature:   
Address: 341 RIVERVIEW DR., AUBURN, CA 95603

Additional Comments: THIS PROJECT HAS BALLOONED SINCE THE LAST BOARD MEETING/HEARING!

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

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*I/We strongly dispute a Mitigated Negative Declaration and support a "No Action" alternative to the draft CEQA/NEPA Maidu Bike Park Project.*

### 1) SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF AN IRREPLACEABLE VIEWSCAPE AND SCENIC VISTAS

There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

### 2) CHANGE IN USE FROM A PASSIVE RECREATION AREA

The bike park is a complete "change of use" for the area. The current and historical use is a passive recreation area where trail users are drawn here to enjoy the quietness, wildlife, and beautiful scenery. Their experience would be completely altered with bikes moving fast, bikes going airborne, and bare dirt tracks, dirt mounds, and bike skills obstacles such as berms, rollers, pumps, a strider track, and jumps throughout the area replacing the natural serene feel. Other consequences that will alter the quiet, natural area, include damaging plants, removing trees and rock outcroppings, and endangering wildlife. In fact, there will be very little wildlife that will remain as this type of park is not hospitable to the native fauna. What effect will the low level security lighting near the bike park have on area wildlife including potential habitat for nocturnal species such as the Threatened Townsend's Big Eared Bat? These are significant impacts due to the conflict with the current use as a natural area and the change in quality of experience over a large footprint. This loss cannot be mitigated due to the inherent character of a bike park which is more akin to industrial development.

Does the bike park also comply with current by-laws, local ordinances, and written agreements with and between all involved parties and municipalities? For example, is a bike park in line with the CA State Parks mission, "protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources"? Is grading and excavating an area of this size, altering the natural topography, bringing in truckloads of outside soil, creating an environment inhospitable to wildlife, removing shrubs and grasses and many oak trees in line with our CA State Parks mission? It puts bikes on the historical Pioneer Express Trail that runs through the bike park area which is a designated State Parks passive recreational hiker and equestrian only designated trail. There is also clear and obvious conflict of interest created by putting several recreational groups in the same area with opposing goals. A bike park is not compatible within this part of the CA State Parks Gold Fields district.

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The current proposed bike park bifurcates the existing nationally designated historical Pioneer Express Trail that has been at that location for decades. Moving this historical trail arbitrarily is a significant and avoidable loss. The bike park planning committee has proposed to move the trail to the lower side of the bike park along a bank that drops off onto a paved road for the purpose of mitigation. The rerouted trail view would be of exposed dirt bike park features on one side and obstructed views of the American River canyon through a newly installed chain link fence with the paved road below the berm in the foreground. Additionally, many runners, hikers, and others do not want to recreate in the vicinity of a bike park and inhale the dust that a bike park would generate. This reroute proposal is not equivalent (the trail would still be adjacent to the bike park noise, dust, poor aesthetics, etc.) and is not safe (adding extreme safety issues forcing horse riders along a drop-off or sandwiched between a proposed chain link fence and the jump track with jumps over 8 foot high and airborne bikes on the hill above them) so does not provide for any measure of reasonable mitigation. Furthermore, this section of trail is a major connector trail between FLSRA and ASRA and should remain as such. Mitigation proposals that significantly alter the current use, disassemble major trail connections, and compromise the safety of other persons should not be considered.

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Respectfully on this day, 6-26-17  
Name: Eric Egli Signature: [Signature]  
Address: 312 Riverbank Dr - Auburn CA 95602

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
Name: Kirsten Babeltscher Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 316 Riverview Dr Auburn 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
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I/We feel that multiple user groups should not be displaced for one special interest group that can be accommodated elsewhere. I/We feel that development should not be expanded onto the edge of a beautiful river canyon when mother nature does not have a voice. We are her voice and we don't want a bike park diminishing the quality of the passive recreational use and natural surroundings of this beautiful, treasured area.

Respectfully on this day, 6-29-17  
Name: Marsha von Dassanek Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 324 Riverview Dr. Auburn CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

4) **THE COMMUNITY PREVIOUSLY AND PUBLICLY EXPRESSED THEY DO NOT WANT A BIKE PARK AT MAIDU DRIVE**  
Due diligence has not been carried out in canvassing and taking into account the opinions of the community with respect to the location of the bike park. As verified by a standing room only meeting hosted by ARD at the Canyon View Community Center on March 27, 2014, neighbors expressed that they do not want the bike park located at Maidu drive, nor do hikers, runners, seniors, or equestrians. This clearly suggests locating the bike park at Regional or Shockley would be the best compromise to support our entire community. There is only one school in the Maidu Rd area so why not put the park near where more of our kids live in north Auburn? All of the youth that live in north Auburn would benefit more from these optional locations.

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The CEQA/NEPA project description includes an expansive combination of 9 acres of obstacles with over 1.21 acres of disturbed land area including a strider track, directional flow trail, all-mountain trail, naturalized technical trail, jump track and return trail, skills loop, connector trails, and a pump track. The full project scope was not presented to the public until the release of the CEQA/NEPA and should have been communicated to the proximal neighbors and current area trail users so they could have had time to fairly evaluate it.

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Respectfully on this day, 6-27-17  
Name: JANE E HAPROFF Signature: Jane E Haproff  
Address: 470 RIVERVIEW DR

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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*I/We strongly dispute a Mitigated Negative Declaration and support a "No Action" alternative to the draft CEQA/NEPA Maidu Bike Park Project.*

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There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

**2) CHANGE IN USE FROM A PASSIVE RECREATION AREA**

The bike park is a complete "change of use" for the area. The current and historical use is a passive recreation area where trail users are drawn here to enjoy the quietness, wildlife, and beautiful scenery. Their experience would be completely altered with bikes moving fast, bikes going airborne, and bare dirt tracks, dirt mounds, and bike skills obstacles such as berms, rollers, pumps, a strider track, and jumps throughout the area replacing the natural serene feel. Other consequences that will alter the quiet, natural area, include damaging plants, removing trees and rock outcroppings, and endangering wildlife. In fact, there will be very little wildlife that will remain as this type of park is not hospitable to the native fauna. What effect will the low level security lighting near the bike park have on area wildlife including potential habitat for nocturnal species such as the Threatened Townsend's Big Eared Bat? These are significant impacts due to the conflict with the current use as a natural area and the change in quality of experience over a large footprint. This loss cannot be mitigated due to the inherent character of a bike park which is more akin to industrial development.

Does the bike park also comply with current by-laws, local ordinances, and written agreements with and between all involved parties and municipalities? For example, is a bike park in line with the CA State Parks mission, "protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources"? Is grading and excavating an area of this size, altering the natural topography, bringing in truckloads of outside soil, creating an environment inhospitable to wildlife, removing shrubs and grasses and many oak trees in line with our CA State Parks mission? It puts bikes on the historical Pioneer Express Trail that runs through the bike park area which is a designated State Parks passive recreational hiker and equestrian only designated trail. There is also clear and obvious conflict of interest created by putting several recreational groups in the same area with opposing goals. A bike park is not compatible within this part of the CA State Parks Gold Fields district.

**3) NO COMPARABLE MITIGATION FOR NATIONALLY DESIGNATED HISTORICAL TRAIL LOSS**

The current proposed bike park bifurcates the existing nationally designated historical Pioneer Express Trail that has been at that location for decades. Moving this historical trail arbitrarily is a significant and avoidable loss. The bike park planning committee has proposed to move the trail to the lower side of the bike park along a bank that drops off onto a paved road for the purpose of mitigation. The rerouted trail view would be of exposed dirt bike park features on one side and obstructed views of the American River canyon through a newly installed chain link fence with the paved road below the berm in the foreground. Additionally, many runners, hikers, and others do not want to recreate in the vicinity of a bike park and inhale the dust that a bike park would generate. This reroute proposal is not equivalent (the trail would still be adjacent to the bike park noise, dust, poor aesthetics, etc.) and is not safe (adding extreme safety issues forcing horse riders along a drop-off or sandwiched between a proposed chain link fence and the jump track with jumps over 8 foot high and airborne bikes on the hill above them) so does not provide for any measure of reasonable mitigation. Furthermore, this section of trail is a major connector trail between FLSRA and ASRA and should remain as such. Mitigation proposals that significantly alter the current use, disassemble major trail connections, and compromise the safety of other persons should not be considered.

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Respectfully on this day, JUNE 27 2017  
 Name: KATHY JEFF Signature: [Signature]  
 Address: 499 KUBARK RD. AUBURN, CA, 95603

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
 Maidu Bike Park Project  
 Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)



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Respectfully on this day, 6-27-17  
Name: Carm Fucuma Signature: Carm Fucuma  
Address: 485 RIVENVIEW DR.

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
100 Recreation Drive

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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Respectfully on this day, \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: John Ebert Signature: [Signature]  
Address: 405 River View Drive, Auburn, CA

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

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[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

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Does the bike park also comply with current by-laws, local ordinances, and written agreements with and between all involved parties and municipalities? For example, is a bike park in line with the CA State Parks mission, "protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources"? Is grading and excavating an area of this size, altering the natural topography, bringing in truckloads of outside soil, creating an environment inhospitable to wildlife, removing shrubs and grasses and many oak trees in line with our CA State Parks mission? It puts bikes on the historical Pioneer Express Trail that runs through the bike park area which is a designated State Parks passive recreational hiker and equestrian only designated trail. There is also clear and obvious conflict of interest created by putting several recreational groups in the same area with opposing goals. A bike park is not compatible within this part of the CA State Parks Gold Fields district.

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Respectfully on this day, 6/27/17  
 Name: Ailan Bliss Signature: Ailan J Bliss  
 Address: 445 R. Verdier Dr Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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Respectfully on this day, 27 June 17  
Name: CAROL A. TAYLOR Signature: Carol A Taylor  
Address: 706 Riverbend DR Auburn CA

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Respectfully on this day, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: Judy Dugan Signature: Judy Dugan  
 Address: 4392 ROBERTSON DR, Auburn, CA

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to; Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
 Maidu Bike Park Project Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
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Respectfully on this day, Jul 12 2017  
Name: Ann S. Hall Signature: [Signature]  
Address: 385 ROBIE DRIVE Auburn  
460 Riverview Drive

Additional Comments: Scaping ferraine ugly maintenance is an issue  
very unsightly in not maintained. Biker on  
canal is disturbing - lots of hikers - bike

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
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use existing roads!!! 92

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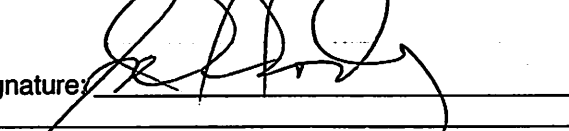
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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/2017  
Name: 342 FURNACE DR Signature:   
Address: Auburn 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Respectfully on this day, 4-22-2017  
Name: Joyce J. Wood Signature: Joyce J. Wood  
Address: 366 Riverview Dr.

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
[KMuscott@auburnrec.com](mailto:KMuscott@auburnrec.com)

**Response to the DRAFT Maidu Bike Park Project CEQA/NEPA Released on June 2, 2017**

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There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering it's way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for it's loss.

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Respectfully on this day, June 26, 2017  
Name: Ellen MacTavies Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 347 Riverview Drive, Auburn, CA 95603

Additional Comments: I am 100% opposed to this project moving forward, for the reasons mentioned above.

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to:  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
123 Recreation Drive  
Auburn, CA 95603

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Respectfully on this day, 6/26/17  
Name: KATHLEEN BOGGS Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 333 REGIONAL

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)  
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The other proposed trail mitigation is utilizing an existing road (closed to vehicular traffic) that winds down overlooking the China bar area. This road is already a designated multi-use trail that everyone can use so it is not anything new that is being provided for trail loss mitigation. Providing a dirt shoulder along a road is in no way similar to the quiet section of single track, shady, and scenic Pioneer Express Trail that would be lost.

4) **THE COMMUNITY PREVIOUSLY AND PUBLICLY EXPRESSED THEY DO NOT WANT A BIKE PARK AT MAIDU DRIVE.**  
Due diligence has not been carried out in canvassing and taking into account the opinions of the community with respect to the location of the bike park. As verified by a standing room only meeting hosted by ARD at the Canyon View Community Center on March 27, 2014, neighbors expressed that they do not want the bike park located at Maidu drive, nor do hikers, runners, seniors, or equestrians. This clearly suggests locating the bike park at Regional or Shockley would be the best compromise to support our entire community. There is only one school in the Maidu Rd area so why not put the park near where more of our kids live in north Auburn? All of the youth that live in north Auburn would benefit more from these optional locations.

5) **COMMUNITY WAS NOT GIVEN THE FULL SCOPE OF THE PROJECT**  
The CEQA/NEPA project description includes an expansive combination of 9 acres of obstacles with over 1.21 acres of disturbed land area including a strider track, directional flow trail, all-mountain trail, naturalized technical trail, jump track and return trail, skills loop, connector trails, and a pump track. The full project scope was not presented to the public until the release of the CEQA/NEPA and should have been communicated to the proximal neighbors and current area trail users so they could have had time to fairly evaluate it.

6) **HEATH AND SAFETY ISSUES**  
Health concerns from airborne dust and particulate matter are characteristic of bike parks from spinning bike tires constantly churning the soil. Runners and hikers would be subjected to inhaling airborne particulates when they passed through the area on the trail re-route or on the irrigation canal path above. Many people are allergic to soil molds and the elderly are also more sensitive to dust particles.

There is a concern about asbestos because asbestos was found on the bike park site in a soil sample. The constant churning of soil by bike tires and inefficient dust control could result in a major health hazard.

The adjacent trail system in the American River Canyon is experiencing trail safety issues caused by illegal trail poaching and speeding bicycles (a deadly combination) on single track trails that are not designed for multi-use. Reports on accidents are well documented. Until these problems are under control it makes sense to not unnecessarily add more potential issues.

With an estimated additional 278 vehicle trips per day on weekends when other area trail use is at it's highest, this presents huge safety issues. The current trail users in the area not only cross Maidu Rd in two places but often use Maidu Rd to go between the canal path or the Pioneer Express Trail and the ASRA trails below. Horse trailers also park along the road because their parking lot was paved over and a replacement parking area has not been provided as of yet. Currently this is a very low traffic area which clearly makes any additional traffic a legitimate and significant safety concern.

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Most of the Management for the bike park is reportedly to be done by volunteers. How will standards, rules, and laws be enforced during times of lean volunteer availability or change in the available volunteer base? Neither the ARD board staff nor the bike park volunteers are equipped or trained to deal with potentially confrontational situations arising from enforcing rules. Concerns with loud music and profanity are valid as they disturb the natural environment, dampen the trail use experience, and will disturb neighbors that live on the outskirts of the area. Policing and supervision is ineffective in remote areas as response times are delayed. This clearly supports a more centrally located bike park. Who is liable with concern to all safety, environmental, noise disturbances, and all other potential issues and how can the public hold them accountable? What if maintenance fails to get done sufficiently? Who will pay for the ongoing maintenance and unplanned expenses? These issues are not adequately covered in the CEQA/NEPA.

**SUMMARY**

I/We feel that multiple user groups should not be displaced for one special interest group that can be accommodated elsewhere. I/We feel that development should not be expanded onto the edge of a beautiful river canyon when mother nature does not have a voice. We are her voice and we don't want a bike park diminishing the quality of the passive recreational use and natural surroundings of this beautiful, treasured area.

Respectfully on this day, 6/27/17  
Name: Jennifer Murphy Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Address: 402 Riverview Drive Auburn CA 95603

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

Email your response by July 3, 2017 to  
Kahl Muscott, District Administrator at;  
KMuscott@auburnrec.com

**Response to the DRAFT Maidu Bike Park Project CEQA/NEPA Released on June 2, 2017**

*I/We are among the community members, neighbors, and trail users of the area in which the proposed bike park location resides on Maidu drive in Auburn, California. I/We would like to share some of our concerns with this location choice and concurrently express our support for the bike park project and the ARD board with respect to locating the bike park at another location, such as one of the large acreages of ARD owned property located at Regional Park or Shockley Rd, that is not on the American River canyon rim, does not displace passive recreation, and does not disturb our beloved trails.*

*I/We strongly dispute a Mitigated Negative Declaration and support a "No Action" alternative to the draft CEQA/NEPA Maidu Bike Park Project.*

**1) SIGNIFICANT LOSS OF AN IRREPLACEABLE VIEWSCAPE AND SCENIC VISTAS**

There is widespread consensus that our American River Canyon is a beautiful, unique local treasure; an irreplaceable natural asset. The proposed Maidu Rd bike park location is historically and currently used as a quiet trail passage along the American River Canyon rim through an extremely beautiful area of mixed grasslands and oak woodlands with a stunning view of both the canyon and high peaks of the Sierras beyond. The American River can be seen meandering its way towards Oregon Bar at the bottom of the canyon. Building a bike park at this location would permanently change this irreplaceable view, the natural experience that is currently enjoyed here, and the entire feel of this quiet area. The entire foreground of the viewscape would be altered with shrubs and trees removed and replaced with large mounds (over 8 feet tall per plan) of dirt formed into multiple dirt obstacles. Clearly this project would have a substantially adverse affect on scenic value and degrade the existing quality and ambiance of the site and surrounding. Views of the American River and Sierras from the proposed Pioneer Express Trail reroute at the bottom of the jump track would be through a chain link fence with the paved road in the foreground below the berm and not the same as the expansive views seen from the current location up near the irrigation canal path. Snap a photo of the River Canyon and Sierras and compare it to photos of bare dirt bike parks and the significant aesthetic loss is easily evident. The draft CEQA/NEPA does not adequately acknowledge this significant environmental impact and there is no suitable mitigation for its loss.

**2) CHANGE IN USE FROM A PASSIVE RECREATION AREA**

The bike park is a complete "change of use" for the area. The current and historical use is a passive recreation area where trail users are drawn here to enjoy the quietness, wildlife, and beautiful scenery. Their experience would be completely altered with bikes moving fast, bikes going airborne, and bare dirt tracks, dirt mounds, and bike skills obstacles such as berms, rollers, pumps, a strider track, and jumps throughout the area replacing the natural serene feel. Other consequences that will alter the quiet, natural area, include damaging plants, removing trees and rock outcroppings, and endangering wildlife. In fact, there will be very little wildlife that will remain as this type of park is not hospitable to the native fauna. What effect will the low level security lighting near the bike park have on area wildlife including potential habitat for nocturnal species such as the Threatened Townsend's Big Eared Bat? These are significant impacts due to the conflict with the current use as a natural area and the change in quality of experience over a large footprint. This loss cannot be mitigated due to the inherent character of a bike park which is more akin to industrial development.

Does the bike park also comply with current by-laws, local ordinances, and written agreements with and between all involved parties and municipalities? For example, is a bike park in line with the CA State Parks mission, "protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources"? Is grading and excavating an area of this size, altering the natural topography, bringing in truckloads of outside soil, creating an environment inhospitable to wildlife, removing shrubs and grasses and many oak trees in line with our CA State Parks mission? It puts bikes on the historical Pioneer Express Trail that runs through the bike park area which is a designated State Parks passive recreational hiker and equestrian only designated trail. There is also clear and obvious conflict of interest created by putting several recreational groups in the same area with opposing goals. A bike park is not compatible within this part of the CA State Parks Gold Fields district.

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Respectfully on this day, \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: 304 SkyRidge Dr

Signature: Kathy Edmondson

Additional Comments; \_\_\_\_\_

Return your response post marked before July 3, 2017 to;  
Maidu Bike Park Project  
Auburn Area Recreation and Park District (ARD)

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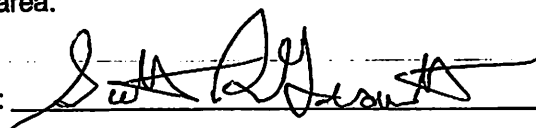
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Respectfully on this day, \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: SCOTT GRAVATT  
Address: 498 Riverview Dr.

Signature: 

Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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