

# MALIBU PARKS PUBLIC ACCESS ENHANCEMENT PLAN—PUBLIC WORKS PLAN

## PROPOSED BY:

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy  
Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority

October 2010

California Coastal Commission Meeting



## PROVIDING PUBLIC ACCESS TO COASTAL PARKS IN MALIBU



State of California, Arnold Schwarzenegger, *Governor*  
California Natural Resources Agency, Lester A. Snow, *Secretary*  
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy



Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority





Lower Corral Canyon



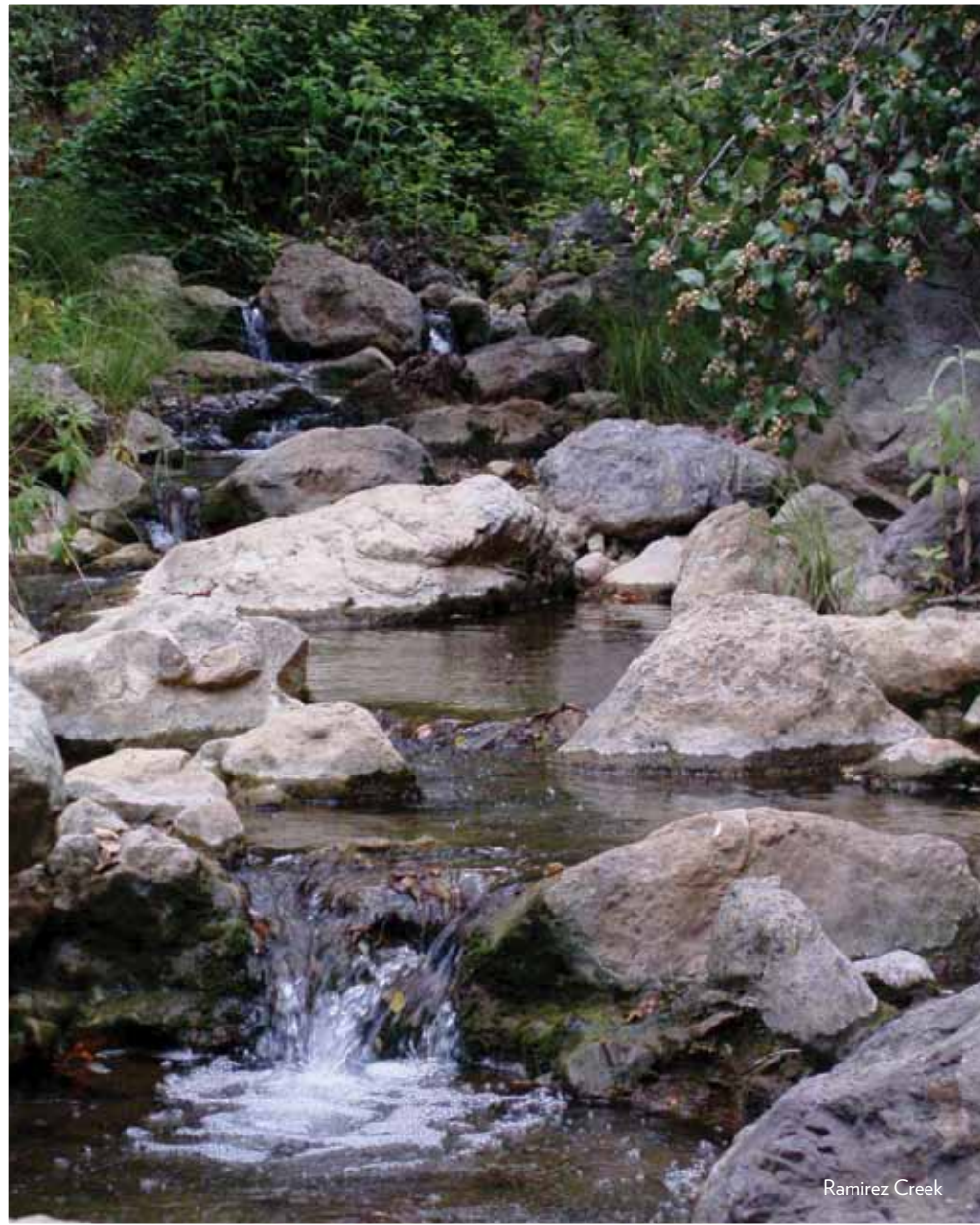
Upper Corral Canyon



Escondido Canyon Park



Latigo Canyon



Ramirez Creek



Escondido Canyon Park



Malibu Bluffs



Ramirez Special Programs



## OVERVIEW

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (Conservancy) and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) have submitted the Malibu Parks Public Access Enhancement Plan Public Works Plan (PWP), following certification of a full Environmental Impact Report, which is consistent with the LCPA “Override” certified by the Commission in June 2009.

## PURPOSE OF PWP

To maximize public access to coastal parks in Malibu, to implement and connect years of trail dedications required by the Commission, and to manage the natural, scenic, cultural, recreational, and manmade resources of the Conservancy and MRCA public parkland in the Malibu coastal zone for all people.

## REQUESTED ACTION

**SMMC and MRCA request:**

Approve the PWP



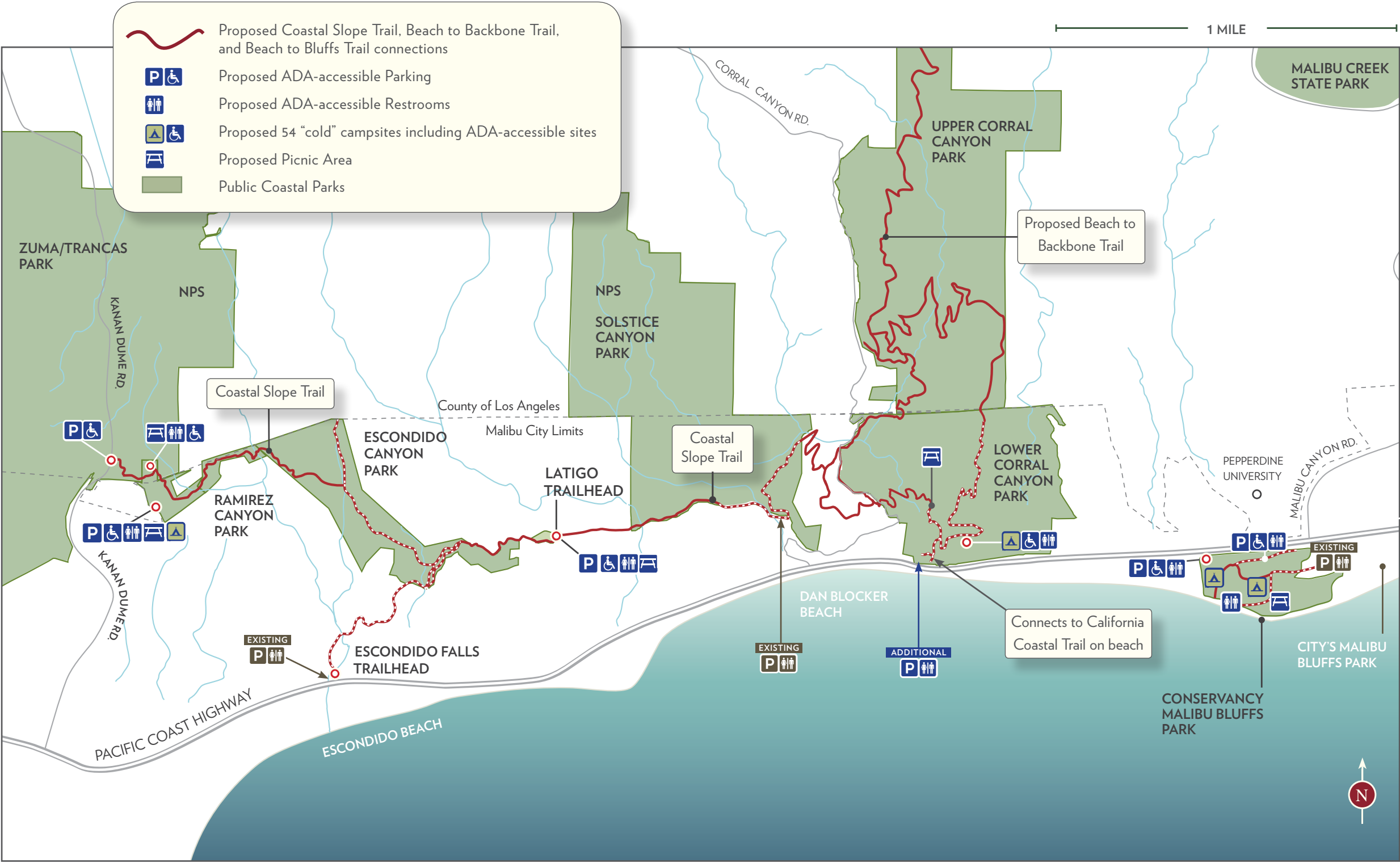
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# SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY/ MRCA

## PROPOSED MALIBU PARKS PUBLIC ACCESS ENHANCEMENT PLAN-PUBLIC WORKS PLAN



# WHY SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY MALIBU PARKS PUBLIC ACCESS ENHANCEMENT PLAN—PUBLIC WORKS PLAN IS ESSENTIAL

- Connects five coastal parks with regionally significant Coastal Slope Trail
- Provides low-impact, low-cost coastal camping areas
- Provides public access to and promotes use of coastal parks and trails by visitors outside of Malibu
- Implements long-standing Coastal Commission goal to link trail dedications and make them accessible to the public
- Provides facilities and public access while protecting the quality of the coastal environment
- Integrates unprecedented park-specific Fire Protection Plans
- Supports existing Malibu LCP goal to promote fair treatment of people of all races, cultures and incomes
- Implements Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights
- Improves access for disadvantaged youth, differently-abled persons, and other groups



View from Corral Canyon Trail



Public trail access



Ramirez Canyon Park  
ADA-accessible picnic area



Nature enthusiast



Heart of Corral Canyon



Escondido Trail Creek crossing



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Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority



# PUBLIC WORKS PLAN KEY FEATURES

## FULL CONSISTENCY WITH LCP

### PLAN COMPONENTS

- 54 campsites clustered at two sites near Pacific Coast Highway
- 71 new parking spaces (net)
- 12 new day use/picnic areas
- Implements Coastal Slope Trail and Beach-to-Backbone Trail
- 17.5 miles of new and improved trail

### RESPONSE TO PUBLIC AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT INPUT

- One year Environmental Impact Report (EIR) review process with unprecedented public notification
- No open flames at campsites—only electric devices for cooking and lighting
- Three permanent support staff structures at camping locations to provide 24-hour coverage
- Focused Fire Protection Plans for individual parks
- Phased Ramirez Canyon Park improvements—potential emergency access as precursor to any large events or camping



# SMMC/MRCA PWP FIRE PROTECTION PLAN (FPP)

## FIRE PROTECTION PLAN CONFORMS TO LCP, ADDRESSES RESIDENTS' CONCERNS, AND RESPONDS TO FIRE AGENCY INPUT

**COMPREHENSIVE FIRE PROTECTION AT ALL PARKS.** Clustering camping near Pacific Coast Highway. Focused Fire Protection Plans prepared for Ramirez Canyon Park, Escondido Canyon Park and Latigo Trailhead, Corral Canyon Park, and Conservancy Malibu Bluffs Park

**NO CAMPFIRE/ COLD CAMPING POLICY.** No open flame allowed. To address residents concerns, no liquid fuel, or propane stoves or lighting. Electric cooking devices only at designated cook stations.

**NO OPEN FLAME POLICY STRICTLY ENFORCED.** Violation of No Campfire/Cold Camp Policy punishable by fines up to \$1,000.

**MAXIMUM ENFORCEMENT PRESENCE AT ALL PARKS WHEN CAMPING IS PERMITTED.** Camp hosts who are public officers shall be onsite 24 hours a day when camping is permitted. Rangers will patrol when camping is not permitted.

**NEW WATER TANKS AND FIRE HYDRANTS.** One new water tank at Corral Canyon Park, two new water tanks at Malibu Bluffs. New hydrants at all parks except Escondido Park. Wildland fire hydrants within all camp areas. Extinguishers, portable and air-powered quick-attack system, water storage tank or water delivery system at all camp facilities.

**ANNUAL FUEL MODIFICATION PLANS AT EACH PARK.**

**ENHANCED FACILITIES FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE.** Optional fire shelters proposed at camp areas if required. Fire truck sheds added at Corral Canyon Park and Malibu Bluffs Park.

**PARKS CLOSED ON RED FLAG DAYS.** Parks closed during any Red Flag Warning Day.

**ENHANCED FIRE PROTECTION MEASURES AT RAMIREZ CANYON PARK.** In addition to extensive existing park fire protection and emergency response facilities, Ramirez Canyon Road widening and Via Acero emergency access improvements have been fully analyzed and can be implemented if required by the responsible fire agency. Two houses will be retrofitted for sheltering in place. Other measures include fire sprinklers in buildings, new hydrants, and reinforcement of the existing bridge for fire trucks.





# NEED FOR PUBLIC CAMPING

- Implements Coastal Commission goal to provide low-cost, visitor-serving accommodations
- No public camping currently permitted in the City of Malibu
- Only one expensive, private campground currently exists in Malibu
- All nearby public campgrounds consistently full to capacity
- Provides camping facilities specifically for disabled persons
- Governor Schwarzenegger advocates for children to camp under the stars in his proclamation on the California Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights (2007)



Corral Canyon



Camping at Ramirez Canyon Park



Disabled access campsites key to Conservancy Plan



No public camping is currently permitted in Malibu



Ramirez Canyon Park  
ADA-accessible picnic area



Escondido Falls Trail





# FULL PUBLIC ACCESS

The Conservancy PWP supports the existing Malibu LCP goal “to promote fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.” (Malibu LCP/LUP, Chapter 1(D) – General Goals and Objectives)

## Accessible, Affordable, and Active Programming for All Ages and Abilities

- **Affordable Access.** Low-cost, “close-to-home” recreational opportunities for disadvantaged communities
- **Empowering Communities.** Recreational access promotes ethnic and cultural harmony, as well as opportunities for community involvement, and shared management and ownership of resources
- **Quality of Life.** Integrated and accessible recreational activities are critical to the quality of life of people with a disability and disadvantaged individuals
- **Inner City Social Capital.** Public recreational space enhances leisure equity, holistic personal development, social networking, and celebration of diversity
- **Healthy Communities.** Expanded access to outdoor recreation and physical activities to encourage positive lifestyle choices and counter high rates of obesity and diabetes
- **Healthy, Happy Children.** A place for all children to play, learn, and imagine
- **Education.** Public outreach programs for disadvantaged youth, physically and mentally-challenged visitors, service organizations, veterans, and seniors



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# RAMIREZ CANYON PARK SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

## RAMIREZ CANYON PARK

- Public outreach programs for disadvantaged youth, physically and mentally-challenged visitors, service organizations, veterans, and seniors
- Phase One—Two events not to exceed 40 guests per week
- Phase Two—Unlimited small events with up to 40 guests and 16 large events annually with up to 200 guests
- No public programs or events on Red Flag Days
- Net proceeds from special events go towards a program for first time coastal campers
- Limited to 40 round-trip vehicle trips per day. Offsite parking and shuttles for special events
- Limited park administrative offices in public buildings and ranger/maintenance supervisor residence



Ramirez Canyon Park



Senior program



Special education outreach



MRCA Ranger Naturalist



Seniors



Wheelchair accessible trails at Ramirez Canyon Park





- Existing state-of-the-art septic system
- Five new campsites with firesafe hospitality stations: two ADA-accessible, three regular
- Three ADA-accessible day use areas
- Extensive fire safety measures to protect Park and residences in Ramirez Canyon
- Three new parking areas on Kanan Dune Road (34 spaces)
- Trail from Kanan Dune Road to Ramirez Canyon Park
- Ramirez Creek stream restoration
- Ramirez Canyon Road widening, if required
- Explore Via Acero as emergency road

## RAMIREZ CANYON PARK PROPOSED PROJECT-JUNE 2009

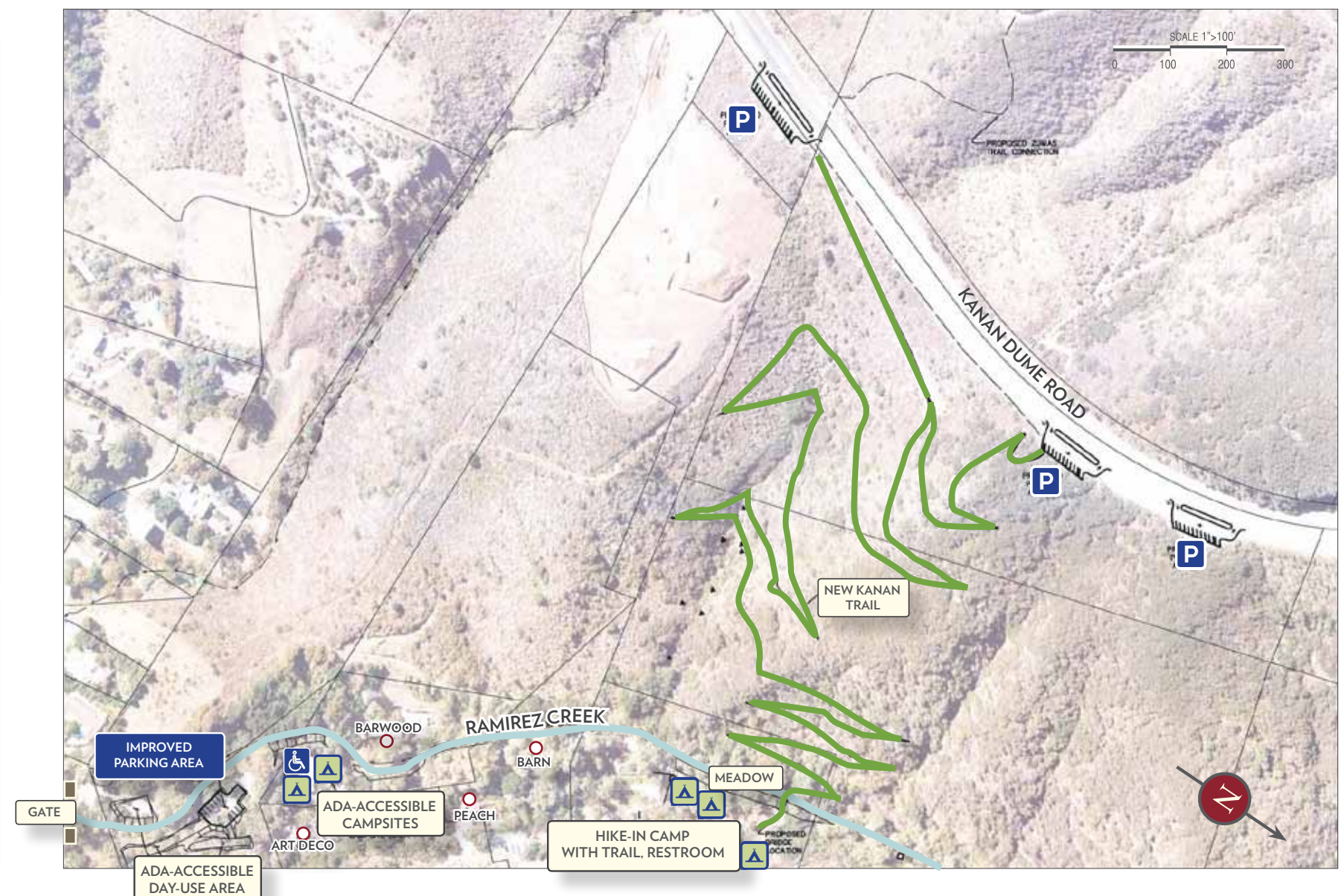
Ramirez Canyon gazebo



The Meadow



Bridge over Ramirez Creek





## PROPOSED PWP-RAMIREZ CANYON PARK



## TWO-PHASED PROJECT

### PHASE ONE

- Ramirez Canyon Creek Stream restoration
- Seven day use areas. ADA-restroom in back meadow
- Coastal Slope Trail connection from Kanan Dume Road through Escondido Canyon
- Fourteen Kanan Dume Road parking spaces
- Ranger/maintenance supervisor residence retrofitted as a fire safety shelter
- Ramirez Canyon Road widening, if required
- Limited park administration offices and ranger residence
- Kanan Dume road turn lane striping

### PHASE TWO

- Two ADA-accessible campsites
- ADA-improvements to day use areas, including additional parking
- Two new ADA-accessible restrooms
- Via Acero secondary emergency access road, if required by responsible fire agency
- Second house retrofitted as a fire safety shelter



# RAMIREZ CANYON PARK EMERGENCY ACCESS

(FOR PHASE TWO IF REQUIRED BY THE RESPONSIBLE FIRE AGENCY)



## OPTIONS WEIGHED:

### VIA ACERO: SELECTED ALTERNATIVE

- Consistent With LCP
- Improved access accomplished by Ramirez Canyon Road widening
- Least damaging secondary access
- No impacts to ESHA

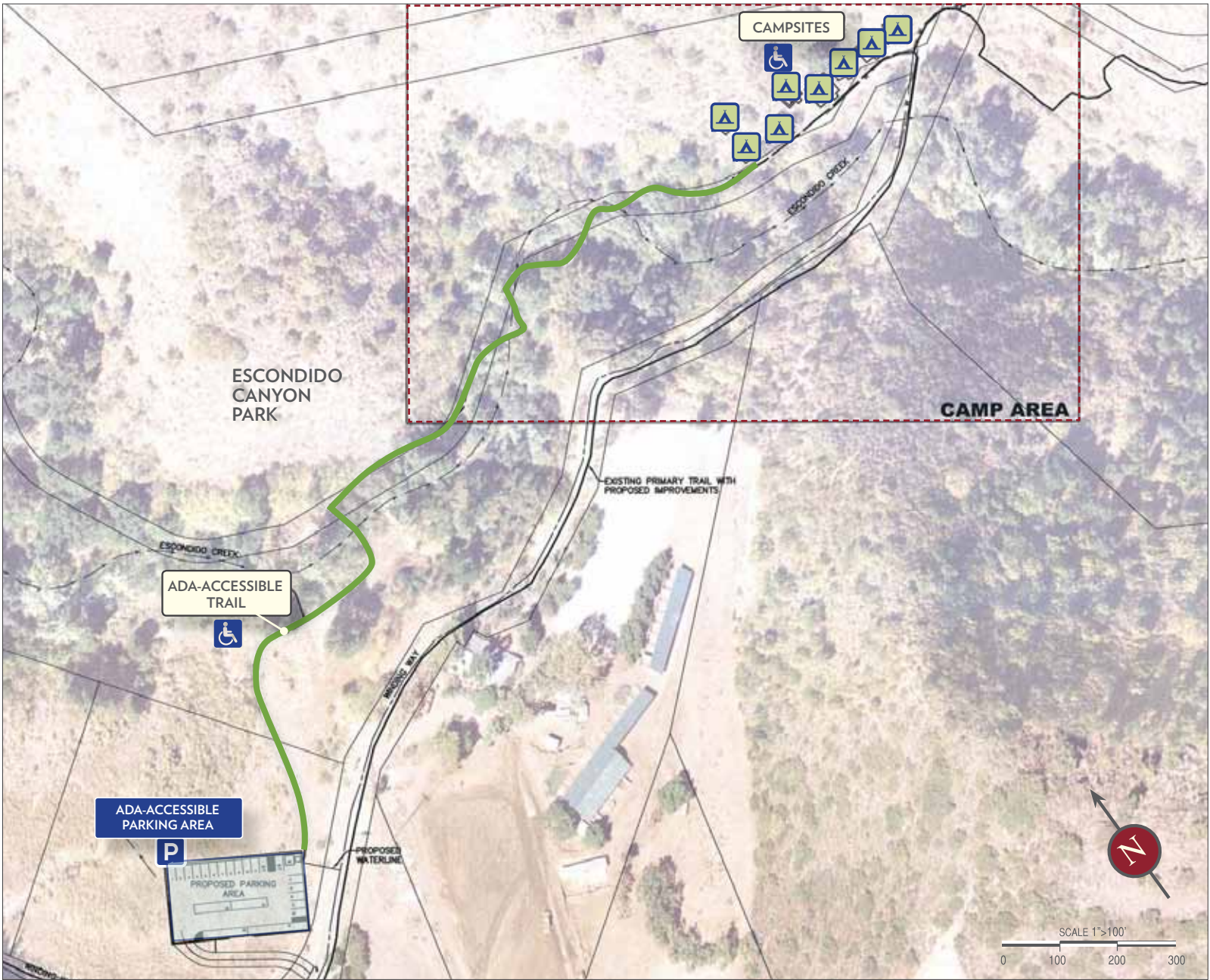
### LAUBER ROAD: REJECTED ALTERNATIVE

- Not consistent with LCP or addressed by LCP
- 2,355 foot road to be constructed on private property through Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area (ESHA)
- Majority of road in ESHA
- Costly purchase of private property
- Uncertainty as to the cost of road construction and maintenance



- Eight streamside campsites with restrooms
- 22 space parking area with restroom
- ADA-accessible trail to Escondido Creek
- Two Coastal Slope Trail segments connecting to Latigo Canyon Trailhead and Ramirez Canyon Park

PROPOSED ESCONDIDO CANYON TRAILHEAD AND CAMPGROUND—  
JUNE 2009



Escondido Canyon



Escondido Falls





## PROPOSED PWP-ESCONDIDO CANYON PARK



- Two Coastal Slope Trail segments connecting to Latigo Canyon Trailhead and Ramirez Canyon Park
- Parking lot and amenities deleted to reduce grading and minimize landform disturbance
- Campsites removed to avoid ESHA impacts
- Campsites moved to Conservancy Malibu Bluffs property to improve oversight and maintenance



- Ten space parking area
- One self-contained restroom
- Two picnic areas
- New trailhead for Coastal Slope Trail



Coastal Slope Trail route from Latigo Trailhead into Escondido Canyon



Entrance to Latigo Trailhead

## PROPOSED LATIGO TRAILHEAD—JUNE 2009





## PROPOSED PWP-LATIGO TRAILHEAD



- Proposed ADA self-contained restroom
- Seven proposed picnic areas: three streamside and four with ocean view
- New trailhead for Coastal Slope Trail into Escondido and Solstice Canyons
- Parking area moved and reduced in size to eliminate impacts to ESHA and to avoid geological hazards

SCALE 1"=100'

0 100 200 300



- Eleven campsites in Camp Area 1 near Pacific Coast Highway
- Five campsites in Camp Area 2 along Corral Creek
- Space for RV Host
- No additional public parking beyond existing trailhead parking

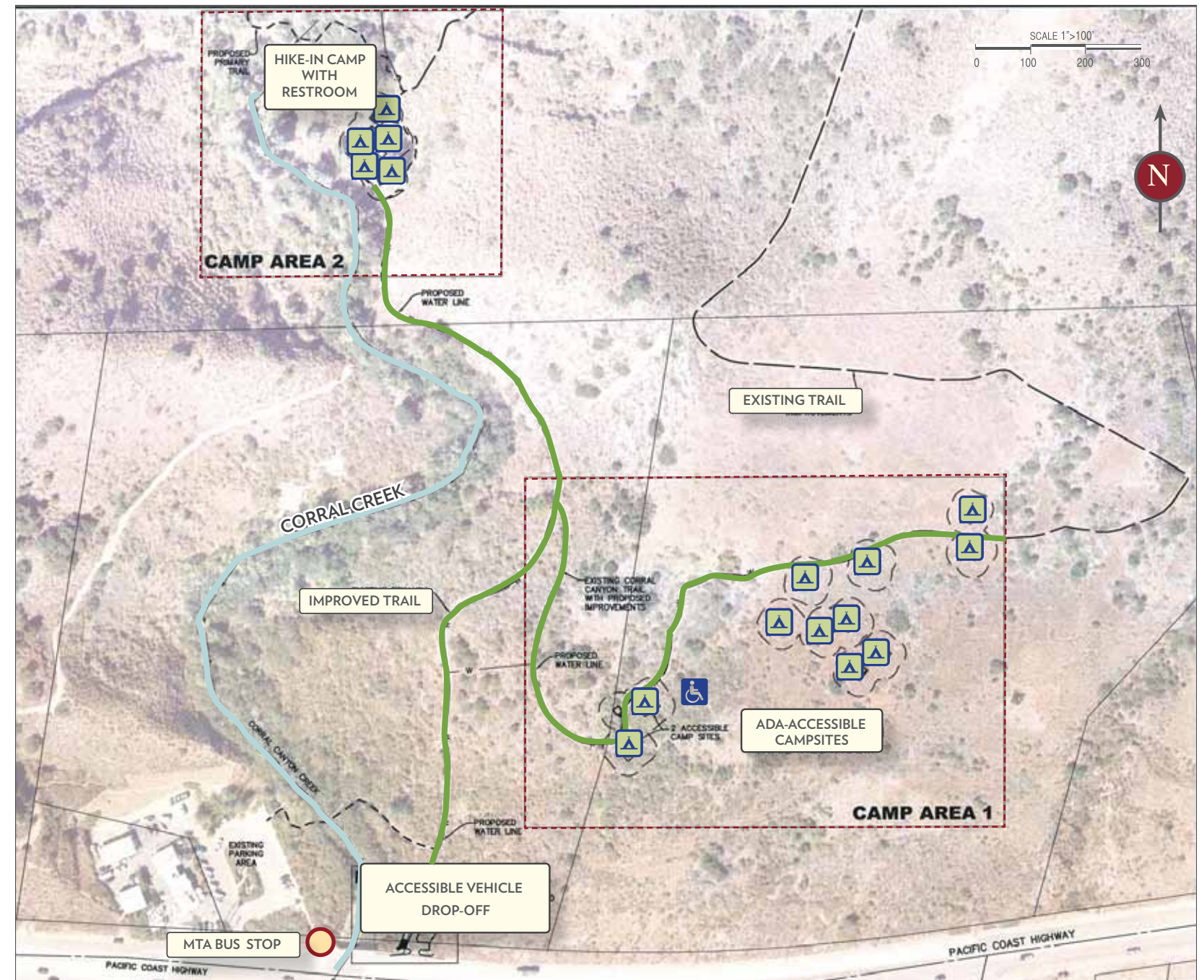


View from Corral Bluff campsites and Coastal Slope Trail



MTA bus access to Corral Canyon Park

## CORRAL CANYON PARK PROPOSED PROJECT-JUNE 2009





## PROPOSED PWP-CORRAL CANYON PARK



- All 17 campsites clustered on bluff close to Pacific Coast Highway
- Public parking increased from 15 to 32 spaces
- Permanent staff residence added for enhanced 24-hour oversight
- Picnic areas created where camping removed
- Permanent residence/office with self contained grey water tank and adjacent self contained restrooms
- Public transportation available

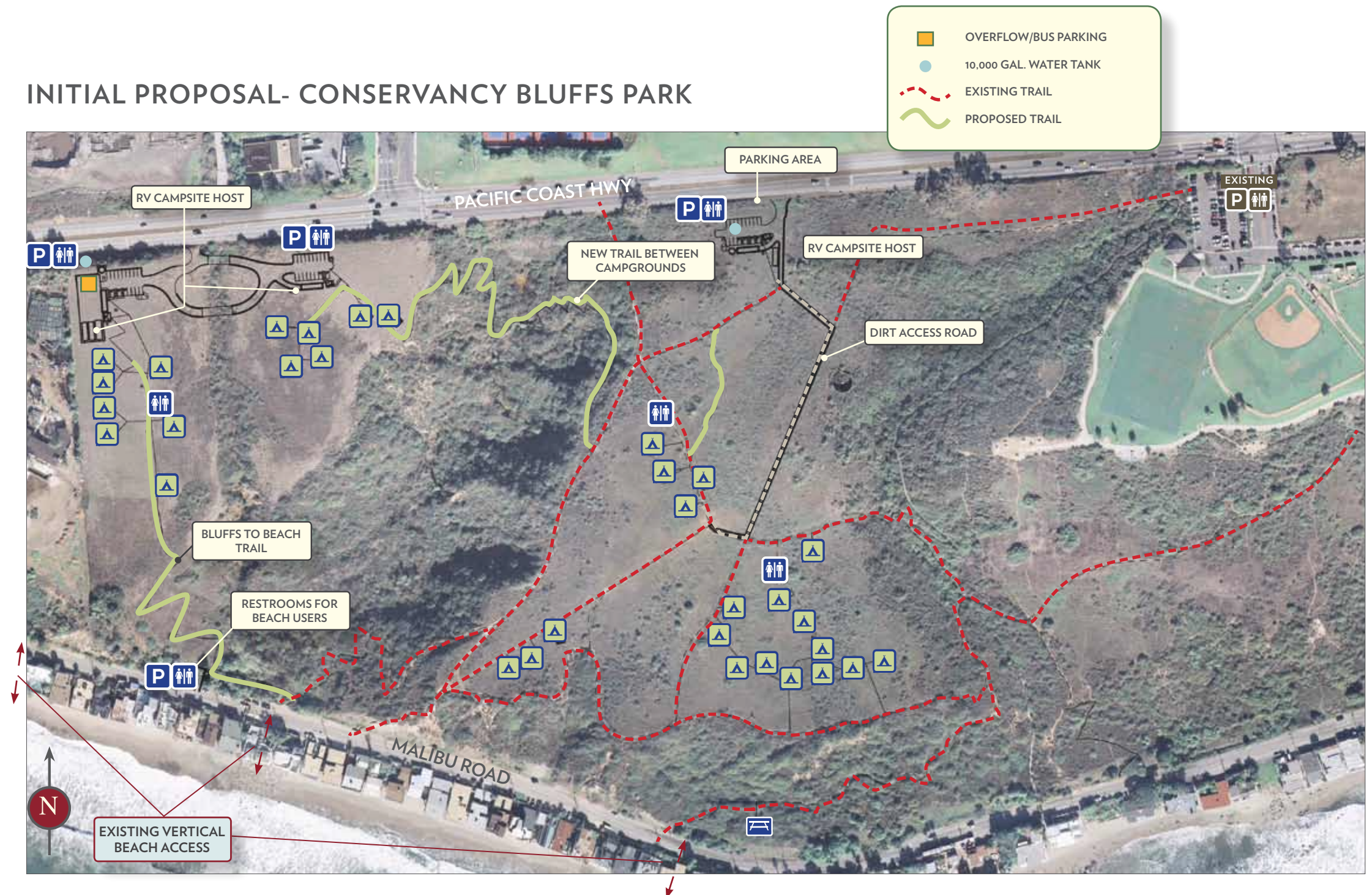


MTA bus access to Corral Canyon Park



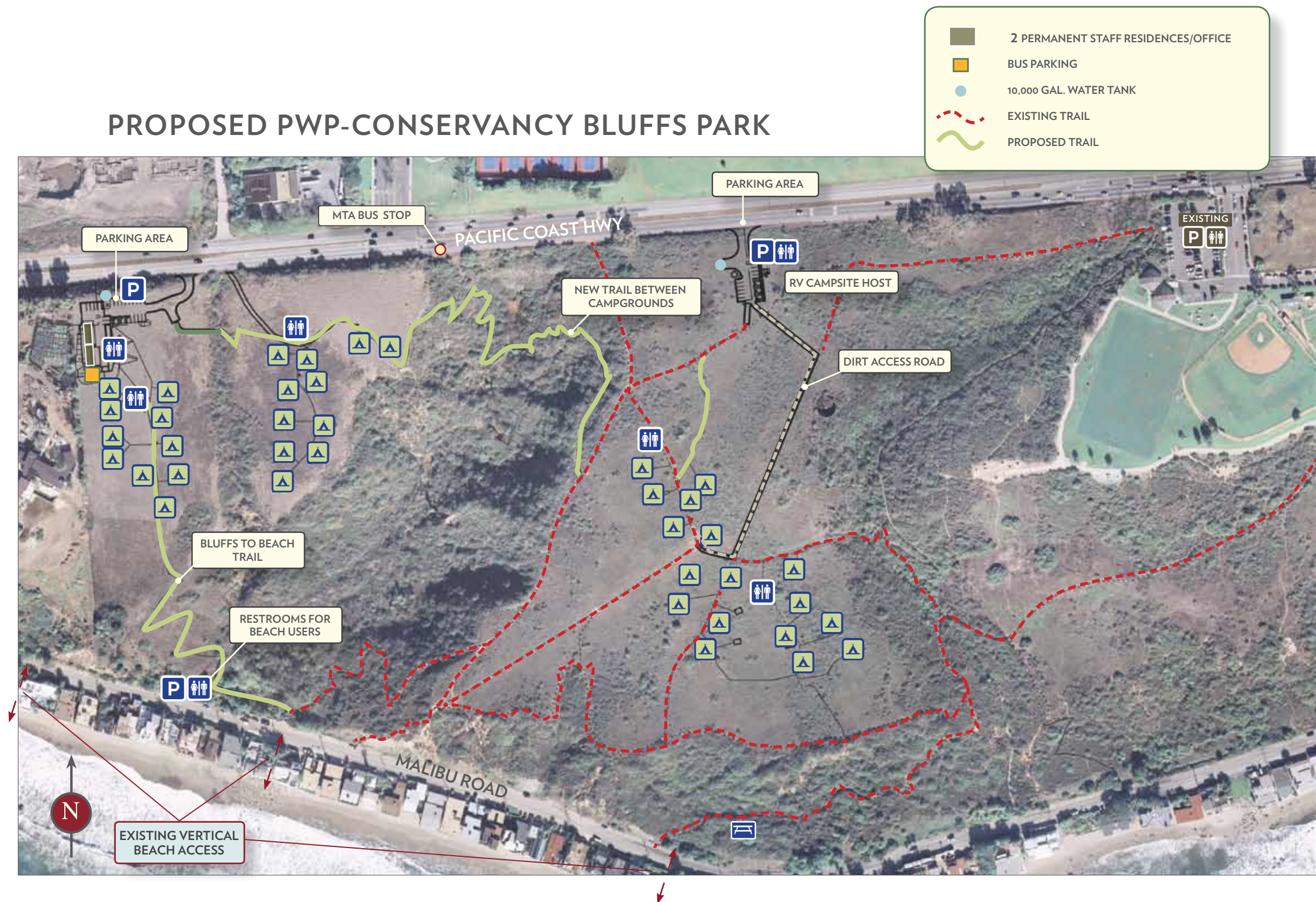
- 28 campsites and four tent cabins in five areas
- No permanent staff support structure
- Three camp host RV sites
- Beach to Bluffs Trail system
- 52 spaces in three parking areas
- Eastern campsite clusters come close to Bluffs edge
- Restroom on Malibu Road for beach users

## INITIAL PROPOSAL- CONSERVANCY BLUFFS PARK





# PROPOSED PWP-CONSERVANCY BLUFFS PARK



- 40 spaces in two parking areas
- 35 campsites in four camp areas (no tent cabins)
- Two permanent support staff structures
- Two permanent support structures with self contained grey water tank and adjacent self contained restroom
- Two camp host RV sites
- Beach to Bluffs Trail system
- Eastern campsite clusters moved to respond to concerns from residents
- Restroom on Malibu Road for beach users
- Public transportation available
- All improvements in disturbed, non-ESHA areas





Ramirez Canyon Specialized Programs



Yellow Pincushion



Ramirez Canyon Specialized Programs



Mule Deer



Bobcat



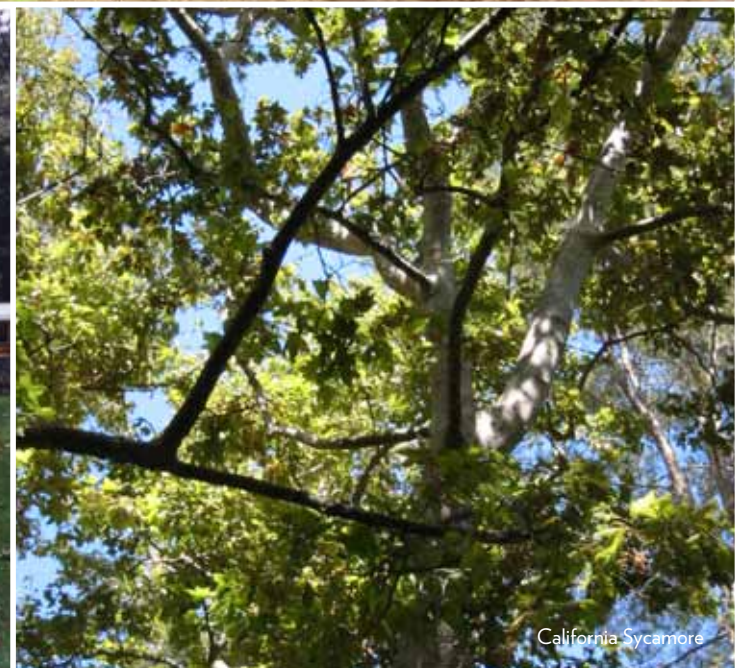
Ramirez Canyon Specialized Programs



Yucca



Ramirez Canyon Specialized Programs



California Sycamore



Ramirez Canyon Specialized Programs



Dudleya



California Ground Squirrel



Ramirez Canyon Specialized Programs





## REQUESTED ACTION

Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority request:

- **Approve the Malibu Parks Public Access Enhancement Plan—Public Works Plan**



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