

**MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**DATE:** October 9, 2019  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Jackie Nelson, Environmental Education Supervisor  
**REVIEWED BY:** Rafael Payan, General Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Consideration and Approval of Site Access Agreement for Seismic Monitoring with the U.S. Geological Survey

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Staff respectfully recommends that the Board consider entering an agreement with United States Geological Survey (USGS) (**ATTACHMENT 1**) to install seismic monitoring equipment in support of research necessary to characterize and identify earthquake hazards, assess earthquake risks, monitor seismic activity, and develop and implement earthquake early warnings.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Not Applicable

**FUNDING SOURCE:**

Not Applicable

**FUND BALANCE:**

Not Applicable

**DISCUSSION:**

In August 2018, representatives from USGS approached MPRPD to install a “ShakeAlert®” earthquake early warning system on Palo Corona Regional Park to quickly alert people of an earthquake before the shaking arrives. The state-of-the-art earthquake recording, and telemetry equipment is designed to identify and characterize an earthquake, calculate the likely intensity of ground shaking, and make alerts available to affected areas within seconds of it beginning.

Under the USGS, over 60 partners have installed stations that contribute continuous seismic data to the CA Earthquake Early Warning System (CEEWS) and ShakeAlert. Once installed, the system will be accessed only occasionally for maintenance and upgrade purposes.

According the ShakeAlert website ([www.shakealert.org](http://www.shakealert.org)), “earthquakes pose a national challenge because more than 143 million Americans live in areas of significant seismic risk across 39 states. Most of our Nation’s earthquake risk is concentrated on the West Coast of the United States....In the next 30 years, California has a 99.7% chance of a magnitude 6.7 or larger earthquake...” Expanding the network, by installing a site on Palo Corona Regional Park, increases the potential to save thousands of lives, prevent critical

infrastructure damage, and expedite recovery from a large earthquake. Data from this site will also be of great value to public safety agencies, emergency responders, and the earthquake engineering and scientific communities.

The staff respectfully recommends the Board enter into a 20-year agreement with the United States Geological Survey to install a CA Earthquake Early Warning System (CEEWS) and ShakeAlert on the property of Palo Corona Regional Park, as identified in the proposal (**ATTACHMENT 2**), and to authorize staff to cooperate with the USGS to install, fence, and provide access to the system.

**Attachments:**

1. [U.S. Geological Survey Site Access Agreement for Seismic Monitoring](#)
2. [Proposal to Install a Seismic Monitoring Site](#)