

NEWS RELEASE



SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY

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Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
dedicate new trailhead facility on Pacific Coast Highway

*Corral Canyon trailhead provides beach access, trail into last undeveloped coastal
canyon in Los Angeles County formerly owned by entertainer Bob Hope*

Malibu, August 7, 2003—At a dedication ceremony near the stunning Malibu Coastline, The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky and Malibu Mayor Ken Kearsley cut the ribbon on a new state-of-the-art trailhead facility on Pacific Coast Highway. Located between Malibu Canyon and Kanan Dune Roads on a popular strip of the famous highway, the Corral Canyon trailhead provides visitors parking, picnic areas, restrooms, educational displays, sitting benches, and a hiking trail into the last undeveloped coastal canyon in Los Angeles County. Additionally, the new trailhead allows seasonal access to Los Angeles County operated Dan Blocker State Beach. There is an MTA bus stop at the entrance to the facility.

“The finest of Southern California experiences is now easily accessible to all visitors to the Pacific Coast in Los Angeles County,” said Joseph T. Edmiston, Executive Director of Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. “The Corral Canyon Trailhead provides a fine view and seasonal access to one of Malibu’s most popular beaches, as well as an easy hike into the pristine wilderness of the Santa Monica Mountains.”

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Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky said, “When budgets are tight, crises abound and cuts are inescapable, projects like these remind us that this, too, shall pass. When today’s challenges are distant memories, these mountains, these trails, these wild spaces will still be here for future generations to appreciate and enjoy.”

The property was formerly owned by entertainer Bob Hope, who in the early 1990’s had County approvals to build a luxury home development and golf course in Corral Canyon. Corral Canyon Park and the trailhead were acquired by the Conservancy in 1998.

The new 2.5 mile loop trail provides the visitor an opportunity to experience the last undeveloped coastal canyon in Los Angeles County that flows freely to the ocean. The trail climbs to the Puerco Canyon watershed divide providing spectacular views. It then descends onto an ancient marine terrace with native bunch grasses. Along this route, the hiker will pass through coastal sage scrub, coastal bluff native grassland, and the riparian corridor of Corral Creek with its alder, coast live oak, California sycamore, and willow trees. A pocket of coastal salt marsh is located where the creek meets the Pacific Coast Highway bridge.

The project was funded by \$50,000 in Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks (Proposition A) funds, \$130,000 in Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation funds, and \$145,000 in Caltrans Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program (EEMP) funds. The trail will eventually provide direct access to yet to be built sections of the Coastal Slope and Upper Corral Canyon trails that are designated in the Los Angeles County trail element of the General Plan. Corral Canyon Trailhead is an example of a small amount of local and State funds going a long way towards providing the public with great amenities.

Corral Canyon

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The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is dedicated to the preservation and acquisition of open space and parkland throughout Southern California.

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