

**County of Santa Clara**  
**Office of the County Executive**  
70 West Hedding Street, East Wing 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Jose, CA 95110  
(408) 299-5119  
www.sccgov.org



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 24, 2008

**Contact:**

Gwendolyn Mitchell/Helen Yan  
Office of Public Affairs  
(408) 299-5119

Tamara Clark-Shear  
Parks and Recreation Department  
(408) 355-2215

## **County to Exchange Land in Vasona Park with the Town of Los Gatos**

SAN JOSE, CALIF.— The County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors agreed today to exchange land in Vasona Lake County Park with the Town of Los Gatos, removing the need for each agency to manage the other agency's land.

The exchange included the County's purchase of 13 acres land of Vasona Park from Los Gatos and Los Gatos' purchase of two-thirds of an acre's County Vasona property. Because Los Gatos' property is considerably larger than the County land, the County will pay Los Gatos six million dollars to provide a fair market value.

For many years Los Gatos has managed land that is owned by the County for the operation of the Billy Jones Wildcat railroad in the Town's Oak Meadow Park, and the County has managed land owned by the Town as part of Vasona Lake County Park. The two parks are adjacent to each other.

"This is a win-win for the town and the county," said Supervisor Don Gage, Chair of the County of Santa Clara Board of Supervisors' Housing Land Use, Environment, and Transportation Committee.

"Los Gatos will now have \$ 6 million to develop recreational facilities for our residents."

-more-

## County to Exchange Land in Vasona Park with the Town of Los Gatos, Page 2 of 2

Since 1960 the County has leased the 13-acre site from the Town of Los Gatos for park purposes. The County's regional park system has traditionally provided passive recreational opportunities through amenities such as open meadows and a trail system within the Vasona Park. Since 2002, the Town of Los Gatos and the County were involved in discussions related to possible use of the 13-acre subject property. A proposal of a land exchange was broached by the parties. On June 2, 2008, the Town of Los Gatos Council voted to move forward with the Vasona exchange. The Town and the County will also pursue a means to allow continued operation of the Billy Jones Wildcat Railroad within the Town and County parkland.

###