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# **Board Matter**

## **Chairman McKay**

### **Supervisor Rodney Lusk**

**August 2, 2022**

Ensuring all our residents can access and enjoy the thousands of acres of parkland within the County gets to the heart of our One Fairfax Policy. Our parks are a vital resource that many of us have rediscovered over the last couple of years. However, residents may not always have a safe point of access, or multiple options in how to access our parks (e.g., by foot or bike).

This is particularly salient on Lockheed Boulevard leading up to Huntley Meadows where there is roughly a gap of 1,500 feet between the park entrance and the end of the sidewalk. I believe it is important that we fill that gap as soon as possible. Not only would this make for a safer route for residents to get to Huntley Meadows, but it would also create a safer connection to the nearby Hybla Valley Elementary School. Moreover, exploring the potential for another sidewalk connection on the west side of Harrison Lane leading into the park entrance from Bedrock Road could provide a significant benefit to our residents. The completion of these sidewalks would ensure equitable access to one of our County's greatest parks.

Therefore, and while there will still need to be analysis for costs around design, planning, and construction, I am requesting that the Department of Management and Budget include these projects for consideration in the FY22 Carryover budget.