



CALIFORNIA SENATE

RESOLUTION

By the Honorable Dave Cortese, 15th Senatorial District;
Relative to Commending the

Martin-Fontana Parks Association

WHEREAS, The California Association of Nonprofits is celebrating California Nonprofits Day in conjunction with the California State Legislature, and in recognition of its outstanding record of community support, the Martin-Fontana Parks Association (MFPA) is being honored as the 15th Senatorial District's 2023 Nonprofit of the Year and is deserving of special public recognition; and

WHEREAS, The relationship between a community and nonprofit organization is a vital and interdependent one, deriving strength from the civic involvement and dedication of those who engage with such organizations, the many positive outcomes these organizations make possible, and the spirit of cooperation and respect they foster within the communities to which they contribute, and MFPA is one such stellar nonprofit organization; and

WHEREAS, Formed in August 2010 by a group of concerned neighbors of TJ Martin and Jeffrey Fontana parks in the City of San José to preserve and enhance the beauty of the parks-- located in the Almaden Valley and containing much-loved native oak trees--in a manner compatible with the delivery of safe and reliable power under high-voltage transmission lines in the parks, MFPA was able to establish an annual negotiation process with the local utility provider to stop the removal of trees deemed a hazard and instead return to pruning the trees as in years past to keep them a safe distance from the transmission lines running through the 1.2-mile length of the parks; and

WHEREAS, Successfully reducing the proposed removal of 140 mature trees--approximately 30 percent of the trees in the parks--to just 26 trees after the announcement to cut them down was made in 2009, MFPA raises and provides funds to be specifically used for pruning, as well as enhancing vegetation in the parks, a method previously employed for years by the power company to avoid cutting down the trees, which it had an easement allowing for if the action was determined to be reasonable and necessary; and

WHEREAS, As a nonprofit organization committed to the conviction that it is possible to have safe reliable power with trees, MFPA has evolved to beautifying and enhancing the parks as well as making them places where the community can come together, and each year it hosts a Heart of the Park event to bring awareness to the needs of the parks; and

WHEREAS, By contributing to the success and well-being of the community in which it serves, MFPA has enhanced the quality of life for local residents and instilled a strong sense of pride in the individuals with whom it is associated; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY SENATOR DAVE CORTESE, That he takes immense pleasure in congratulating the Martin-Fontana Parks Association on its selection as the 15th Senatorial District's 2023 Nonprofit of the Year, commends its positive contributions to the District, and extends best wishes for the success of its future worthy efforts.

Members Resolution No. 327
Dated this 7th day of June, 2023.

Honorable Dave Cortese
15th Senatorial District