

**Monterey County Board of Supervisors  
Referral Submittal Form**

**Referral No. 2025.18**  
**Assignment Date: 12/10/25**

(Completed by CAO's Office)

**SUBMITTAL - Completed by referring Board office and returned to CAO no later than 10:00AM on Wednesday prior to Board meeting:**

Date: 11/25/25	Submitted By: Supervisor Kate Daniels	District #: 5
Referral Title: History and Status of Monterey County Trails: Jack's Peak to Laureles Grade		
<p><b>Referral Purpose:</b> This referral seeks to better understand the status of trail alignments on private land throughout the general area between Jacks Peak, Laureles Grade, Highway 68 and Carmel Valley Road. Since 1971, official County of Monterey (County) plans and permits have included a trail from Jacks Peak to Laureles Grade passing through subdivisions such as Monterra, Tehama, Canada Wood and Hidden Hills. It would be beneficial if the public had a clearer understanding of all entitlements relating to trails in this vicinity. My office has been approached by constituents who have created a web site for the County to review and use to research public entitlements associated with private land use approvals over the past four decades. That website can be found at the following address: <a href="http://bit.ly/4pvlQul">http://bit.ly/4pvlQul</a></p>		
A crucial conclusion of this research is that: (1) a perpetual and geographically continuous set of trail entitlements exists today between Jacks Peak and Laureles Grade, and between the Jacks-Laureles connection and Highway 68; and (2) the details of this entitlement are not clearly and accurately known to staff or the public and are therefore not being adequately publicized, enforced, and physically pursued.		
<b>Classification - Implication</b>		<b>Mode of Response</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Ministerial / Minor		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Memo <input type="checkbox"/> Board Report <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use Policy		<b>Requested Response Timeline</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Social Policy		<input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 6 weeks
<input type="checkbox"/> Budget Policy		<input type="checkbox"/> Status reports until completed
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:		<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Date: _____

**ASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO at Board Meeting. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s)  
Completed by CAO's Office:**

Department(s):	Referral Lead:	Board Date:
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**REASSIGNMENT – Provided by CAO. Copied to Board Offices and Department Head(s). Completed by CAO's Office:**

Department(s): <b>HCD</b>	Referral Lead: <b>Craig Spencer</b>	Date: <b>12/10/2025</b>
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**ANALYSIS - Completed by Department and copied to Board Offices and CAO:**

Department analysis of resources required/impact on existing department priorities to complete referral:	
Analysis Completed By:	<b>Department's Recommended Response Timeline</b>
Date: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> By requested date <input type="checkbox"/> 2 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 1 month <input type="checkbox"/> 6 weeks <input type="checkbox"/> 6 months <input type="checkbox"/> 1 year <input type="checkbox"/> Other/Specific Date: _____

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**REFERRAL RESPONSE/COMPLETION - Provided by Department to Board Offices and CAO:**

Referral Response Date:	Board Item No.:	Referrals List Deletion:
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**Note:** Please cc Claudia Escalante and Karina Bokanovich on all CAO correspondence relating to referrals.

**Brief description continued:**

A number of actions should be taken, in the short and longer term:

**Short Term:**

1. The constituents who have prepared the aforementioned website (<http://bit.ly/4pvlQul>) have posted many documents that should help staff determine whether or not staff concurs with their understanding of all the public entitlements associated with private land, especially the entitlements relating to trails. This referral requests a review by County Counsel and HCD of the website produced by Monterey County Constituents and the return in one month's time with a memo stating whether Monterey County concurs with the assessment presented.
2. If staff concurs, HCD should immediately implement procedures to ensure development applications are reviewed for consistency with trail information contained in the memorandum.

**Longer Term (beyond the scope of this initial referral)**

3. Ultimately, a working "Master Map" of all existing public trail entitlements should be created covering the entire county. The map should be a "working" map, assembled and fleshed out over time, starting with the Jacks/Laureles/68/CVR area included in this referral. The master map should be publicly available in GIS and PDF formats, and all future permit applications should be checked against it.
4. The county's system of notifying the public of pending approvals should be enhanced so that access to trail information (parcels and trail map layers) is readily available making it easy to determine potential impacts of a development on existing or planned trail alignments. .
5. Entitled trails should be planned, designed, & approved.
6. Entitled trails should be constructed.