



Scenic Pacifica
Incorporated Nov. 22, 1957

CITY OF PACIFICA

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PRESS RELEASE

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November of 2019 will mark the 250th Anniversary of the accidental “discovery” of the San Francisco Bay by the Portolà Expedition in 1769 from atop Sweeney Ridge in Pacifica. To mark the anniversary of this event, planning, led by the [County of San Mateo Ohlone-Portola Heritage Trail Project Committee](#), is underway to tell the story of the expedition and of the indigenous people who greeted the Spanish warmly and whose lives and culture were nearly eradicated within a few years. Work is being done to designate a 90-mile trail that traces the steps of the Spanish expedition and highlights the native people they encountered to include National Historic Trail designation and the County, State and federal levels.

To complete this trail, segments of the California Coastal Trail and Juan Bautista de Anza Trail along the route will be implemented as part of this project. Research is underway to understand the region’s Native American stories of their homeland, to secure necessary funds and to inspire public and private support.

On February 19, 2019 City Manager Kevin Woodhouse joined Doug McConnell from “Open Roads” and representatives from the Pacifica Historical Society, California State Parks and the San Mateo County Historical Association for the filming of the Open Roads segment about the trail and event, including the visit to and discussion about the planned Cattle Hill parking lot at the end of Fassler Avenue. The Open Roads segment, which will air in the spring/summer is expected to be a good promotion for Pacifica as well as the Ohlone-Portolà Heritage Trail project. The City, along with several other agencies in the county, contributed to the underwriting costs.

Pacifica’s Ohlone-Portolà Heritage Trail project page can be found at

<https://www.cityofpacifica.org/OPHT>



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