

# THE FUTURE OF THE OLYMPIC MEADOW

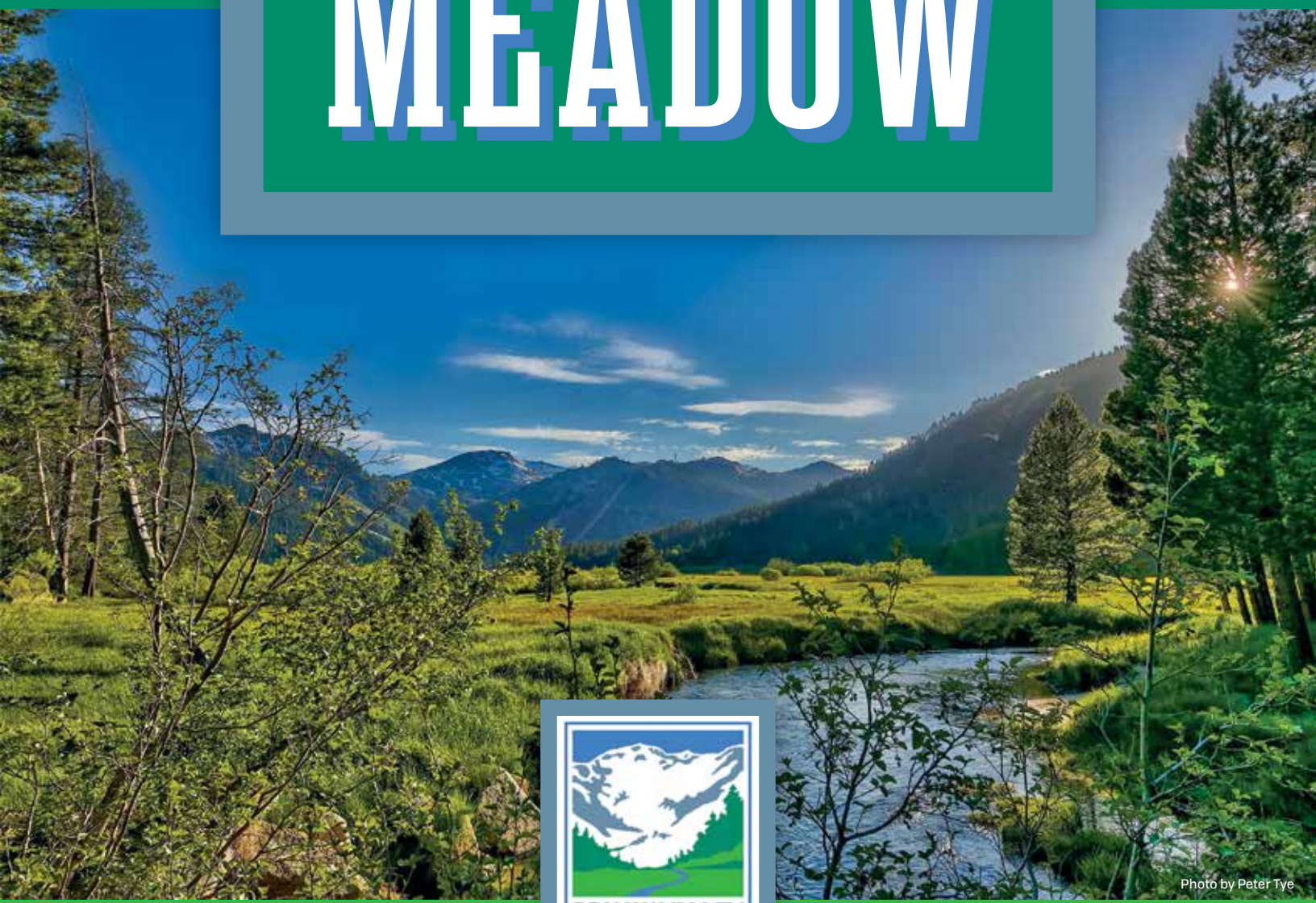
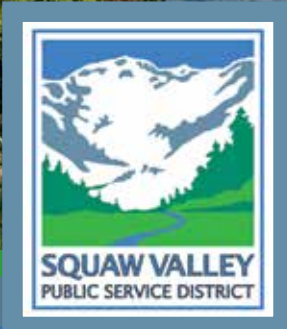


Photo by Peter Tye



A COMMUNITY UPDATE FROM SQUAW VALLEY PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT

# A PLAN FOR PROTECTING THE OLYMPIC MEADOW FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS



Photo by Peter Tye

## DEAR NEIGHBOR:



The Squaw Valley Public Service District (SVPSD) provides water, sewer, fire and emergency response services for our local community. As you may have heard, we are now partnering with the Truckee Donner Land Trust (TDLT) in an effort to protect the 30-acre Poulsen Property in the Olympic Meadow from private development.

As the gateway to Olympic Valley and the world-renowned Squaw Valley Ski Resort, the Olympic Meadow is an iconic natural resource that features Squaw Creek and a variety of native wildlife. The Poulsen Property has been listed for sale and a private developer could purchase the property and convert the open space to up to 291 condominiums, roads and parking, which could have significant impacts on our community.

That is why the SVPSD and TDLT are working together to purchase the eastern 30 acres of the Olympic Meadow to preserve this open space and protect Squaw Creek and sensitive ecological areas. Public acquisition and preservation of the Olympic Meadow would permanently prevent private development on this property and provide opportunities for public community access.

SVPSD is currently evaluating options for funding the acquisition and preservation of the Olympic Meadow. Our elected SVPSD Board of Directors will be considering these options at their upcoming meetings in May and June. We invite you to participate in these conversations as our community makes an important decision about the Olympic Meadow that will impact all current and future residents of our Valley.

Sincerely,

**MIKE GEARY**  
General Manager



Photo by Peter Tye

## ACQUIRING THE OLYMPIC MEADOW

The Squaw Valley Public Service District is considering options for funding the acquisition and protection of the Olympic Meadow. One option is to ask local voters to consider a parcel tax that would cost homeowners \$300 or less per year to acquire the 30-acre property currently owned by the Poulsen family.

SVPSD's goals for acquiring the property include:

- Permanently protecting the Olympic Meadow from private development
- Protecting Squaw Creek and the surrounding watershed
- Preserving sensitive ecological areas
- Providing community access, including creating trails for walking and hiking



Photo by Peter Tye

## ENSURING FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

Under this plan, all property owners in Olympic Valley, including commercial properties and the ski resort, would contribute toward the cost of protecting the Olympic Meadow from development. Additional private fundraising by the Truckee Donner Land Trust would help reduce costs for property owners and ensure the Olympic Meadow is accessible to our community.

A local funding measure would require mandatory annual audits and reports to the community to ensure funds are spent properly.

## YOU'RE INVITED

Please join the Squaw Valley Public Service District Board of Directors' discussions regarding the future of the Olympic Meadow and potential public funding options.

**WHAT:** Squaw Valley Public Service District Board of Directors Meeting

**WHERE:** 305 Squaw Valley Road, Community Room, Olympic Valley, CA 96146

**WHEN:** 5:30PM on May 16, 2019 · 8:30AM on May 28, 2019 · 8:30AM on June 25, 2019

For questions or more info, please contact us at [OMPinfo@svpsd.org](mailto:OMPinfo@svpsd.org).



**Squaw Valley Public Service District**  
P.O. Box 2026  
Olympic Valley, CA 96146

Prsrt. Std.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
TBW

# ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE OLYMPIC MEADOW

## **What is the Olympic Meadow?**

The Olympic Meadow is the gateway to Olympic Valley and the world-renowned Squaw Valley Ski Resort. Squaw Creek meanders through the meadow, and the famous peaks of the 1960 Winter Games frame the landscape. The Olympic Meadow is the first iconic view that greets visitors after passing by the Olympic Rings and eternal flame. Currently, this local treasure is privately owned by the Poulsen family and is for sale.

## **What is the current plan being discussed for protecting the Olympic Meadow?**

The Squaw Valley Public Service District and Truckee Donner Land Trust are working together to fund the acquisition, protection and future management of the Olympic Meadow. The Truckee Donner Land Trust is fundraising from private sources to cover a portion of the cost and SVPSD is examining options to publicly fund the remaining cost. One option to protect this open space is to place a parcel tax measure on the November 5, 2019 ballot. If approved by 66.7% of local voters, this measure would cost homeowners \$300 or less per year. Under this plan, SVPSD and the public would permanently own the Olympic Meadow.

## **What are the goals of public ownership and preservation of the Olympic Meadow?**

SVPSD's goals for acquiring and managing the Olympic Meadow include:

- Permanently protecting the Olympic Meadow from private development
- Protecting Squaw Creek and the surrounding watershed
- Preserving sensitive ecological areas
- Providing community access, including creating trails for walking and hiking

## **What are the alternatives to SVPSD and the public owning the Olympic Meadow?**

If SVPSD does not acquire the Poulsen Property, it will remain on the open market and could be purchased by a developer. This could lead to construction of up to 291 condominiums, a parking lot, roads and lights, which could cause additional traffic and congestion in Olympic Valley while losing a portion of our cherished open space.

## **Why is the Squaw Valley Public Service District working with the Truckee Donner Land Trust to preserve the Olympic Meadow?**

Both the Squaw Valley Public Service District and Truckee Donner Land Trust share the goal of protecting and conserving the Olympic Meadow. The Truckee Donner Land Trust brings three decades of experience preserving open space, and has helped protect over 36,000 acres in the region. Under this planned public-private partnership, the Truckee Donner Land Trust would provide private fundraising to help cover costs and advise the Squaw Valley Public Service District with their background in open space management. The SVPSD, overseen by its elected Board of Directors, would own and manage the Olympic Meadow on behalf of the people of Olympic Valley.

## **What if I have questions or need more information?**

For questions or more info, please contact us at [OMPinfo@svpsd.org](mailto:OMPinfo@svpsd.org) or (530) 583-4692.