Bench & Picnic Table Sponsorship FAQ

WALKING THE PARK
The best way to choose a site is to walk the park! If you find a picnic table or bench without a plaque, it is 99.9% available for sponsorship. Exceptions include the Peace Garden and Veteran's Grove at Ragle Ranch Regional.

INVENTORY
Spring Lake, Helen Putnam and Doran Beach are our most popular regional parks. At this time, we have only picnic tables available there ($3,500 gift). If you like to wait for a bench ($5,500 gift), we can add you to the wait list. This is slow-moving process, with only a few benches being released each year. Taylor Mountain Regional currently has the most bench sites mapped for sponsorship, many at higher elevations on Sky Lupine and Cooper Ridge Trails. Many of our popular parks are considered "furniture dense" by Regional Park Managers and Park Rangers, so we are unable to accommodate donor site requests.

MAPS & AVAILABILITY
Let us know the park or trails you're interested in, and we'll provide a general map for your review. Please note maps sometimes include proposed sites that park managers have approved for sponsorship, but nothing is there yet. Once you narrow down an area of interest, we can often provide a more precise aerial GPS map and site photos.

SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT
Once you decide which site to sponsor, the next step is to fill out the official sponsorship agreement (available online) and email or mail with your gift to the Parks Foundation. Please be sure to fully review the agreement, which helps answer a lot of commonly asked questions regarding donation levels, terms, and plaque guidelines.

PLAQUE WORDING
If you're not ready to submit plaque wording yet, feel free to leave that section blank or write in TBD. The wording is usually the most challenging part for a lot of people, and there's no rush. When you're ready, our engraver will provide a proof (pdf) for your review, and we will go back and forth until you're 100% happy. Once approved, plaques take about 5 to 6 weeks to manufacture and ship. When the plaque arrives, we'll share a photo with you to make sure everything is in order.

INSTALLATION & TIMING
Once we deliver the plaque to our Maintenance & Operations team, installation timing is difficult to predict. Please be advised that between late April and August, summer prep work and vegetation management take priority over *all* furniture installation projects. The sponsorship process can take 6 months or longer from start to finish. If you're not in a hurry - that's a bonus!

YOUR GIFT IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE
The Parks Foundation is a certified 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Tax ID 68-0421813. Checks and all major credit cards accepted. To arrange credit card payment, contact Development Specialist Jodie Ellis at jodie.ellis@sonoma-county.org or (707) 565-1355. You will receive an official acknowledgment of your gift for tax purposes.