## News Release



FOR RELEASE 1/25/2012:

Contact: Vince Sereno (209) 536-2916 Calaveras Sector Superintendent; or Peggy Harwell (209) 536-2917 Concessions Specialist at

January 25, 2012

## Three Historic-Style Specialty Retail Concessions At Columbia State Historic Park

RFP Release and Pre-Proposal Meeting Announcement

**COLUMBIA –** On January 25, California State Parks will begin accepting proposals for three five-year contracts, with the option to extend an additional five years, to develop, equip, operate, and maintain three separate historic-style specialty retail concessions in Columbia State Historic Park.

Highlights of the proposed contracts include the re-creation of the historic ambiance of the gold mining town of Columbia with furnishings and park visitor services that reinforce the nature of the historic businesses. The concessions will offer quality retail merchandise at reasonable prices to park visitors. One of the concessions will also include specialty food service. The contracts require some facility improvements to enhance visitor accessibility. The deadline for proposal submission is April 10, 2012 at 2 p.m.

There will be an optional pre-proposal meeting on Monday, February 6 at 6 p.m. at Eagle Cotage (*Editor's note: historic spelling of cottage*), 11195 Washington Street, Columbia. The meeting will include a review of the RFP process and materials, as well as a tour of the facilities. Potential proposers may contact Peggy Harwell, Concessions Specialist at (209) 536-2917 regarding meeting attendance.

The existing concession operations at these facilities include a coffee and sweets saloon located at 22760 Main Street and candle and soap shop originally located at 22719 Broadway Street. The third location of 11198 State Street will be available for a new type of concession opportunity. The recent visitor attendance reports indicate Columbia SHP attracts an average of 497,000 visitors each year.

Interested parties are encouraged to download a complimentary copy of the RFP at <u>http://www.parks.ca.gov/concessions</u>. Hard copies of the RFP may be purchased for \$25 by contacting Peggy Harwell at (209) 536-2917 or <u>pharwell@parks.ca.gov</u>.

For further information, contact Peggy Harwell, Central Valley District Concessions Specialist at (209) 536-2917 or Teresa Montijo, Concessions Program Manager at (916) 653-7733.

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California State Parks welcomes all visitors. For those with special needs, please contact us in advance to arrange accommodations.