

News Release



**For Immediate Release
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Sonoma State Historic Park Special Tour and Public Meeting Set for Thursday June 27, 2013

Exciting changes are coming to Sonoma State Historic Park this summer! Learn about them during an early evening tour and public meeting this coming Thursday June 27, 2013.

Preview Phase I of the implementation of an Interpretative Exhibit Project, and provide input that will help develop a Facilities Management Plan (FMP) for the park's downtown historic sites.

The brief outdoor tour of the Exhibit Project begins at 5 p.m. at the Toscano Hotel Annex 20 East Spain Street, and a scheduled two-hour public meeting for the FMP follows at 5:30 p.m. in the Sonoma Barracks W. Spain St. at 1st St. East.

An update on the Historic Structures Report for the buildings in the Toscano complex, including the Servant's Quarters, and other site information will be presented during the meeting. State Parks encourages input from all members of the community and its visitors to share what they would like to see happen at the park. The FMP will complement the park's nearly completed Interpretation Management Plan (IMP).

The Interpretive Exhibit Project is a result of staff, visitor and community input which was incorporated to develop the IMP. Feedback called for sharing the rich history represented in the structures on found as one travels between the Sonoma Barrack's parking lot and Spain Street. Construction is expected to begin in July for this Proposition 84 bond-funded project.

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The Sonoma State Historic Park (SHP) Facilities Management Plan (FMP) is intended to help guide use and development of facilities while protecting resources at the park unit. The plan will describe the general scope, scale, character and location of facilities, as well as describing the means to protect Sonoma SHP's resources, in particular, its historic and archeological resources, from human impacts.

The scope of the FMP includes only the downtown properties of the park, namely the Blue Wing Adobe Inn, the Toscano complex and Casa Grande area, the Barracks, the Mission, and the parking lot. Park managers recognize that there are questions regarding the site that need to be addressed in greater detail than spelled out in the General Plan.

The FMP picks up where the General Plan left off by adhering to the prescriptions contained in the General Plan regarding further resource investigation, and creating further guidelines for use and rehabilitation.

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