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Westside Equestrian Center  
City of Lakeport

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Equestrians in Lake County:

- Clearlake Horsemen and Junior Horsemen
- Back Country Horsemen, Mendo-Lake Unit
- Lake County Horse Council
- Junior Drill Team
- Rodeo Association
- Mendo-Lake Arabian Horse Association
- Hooves and Wheels
- Redwood Empire Quarter Horse Association
- California Dressage Society
- Numerous private show and training facilities

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State Equine Demographics/Economics:

There are almost 700,000 horses in California – the second largest horse population in the U.S. after Texas. Over 311,000 people in California participate in horse events annually. California hosts over 170 major regional or national horse shows each year of more than 4 consecutive days per show. According to a recent study, revenues produced by the equine industry in Sonoma County equals that produced by Sonoma county grapes, and grapes are viewed as the most significant industry in Sonoma County.

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Economic Development:

Lake County has a unique opportunity to embrace and promote the equine industry as a strategy for economic development. Currently there are no public arenas or horse camping areas within 20 miles of Lakeport. Trails are being developed and publicized by the KRT (Konocti Regional Trails). Marketing Lake County as a horse-friendly community and location for eco-tourism such as trail riding, will attract visitors who purchase other services in the area.

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Proposed Location and Area:

The Master Plan designates a 4-1/2 acre section on the southwest corner of the Westside Community Park property, approximately 275 ft. wide by 700 ft. long (north to south). The parks' access road will need to be extended to the site.

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Users:

The facility will be designed to accommodate a wide range of equestrian disciplines, including Western Reining, Roping, Pleasure, Trail, English, Jumping, Driving (horse-drawn carriages), Dressage, Gymkhana, as well as training in these disciplines. Users will include youth groups, possibly schools, colleges, as well as established horse organizations and clubs in the community. Equestrian groups from neighboring counties are potential for leasing revenue.

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Facilities:

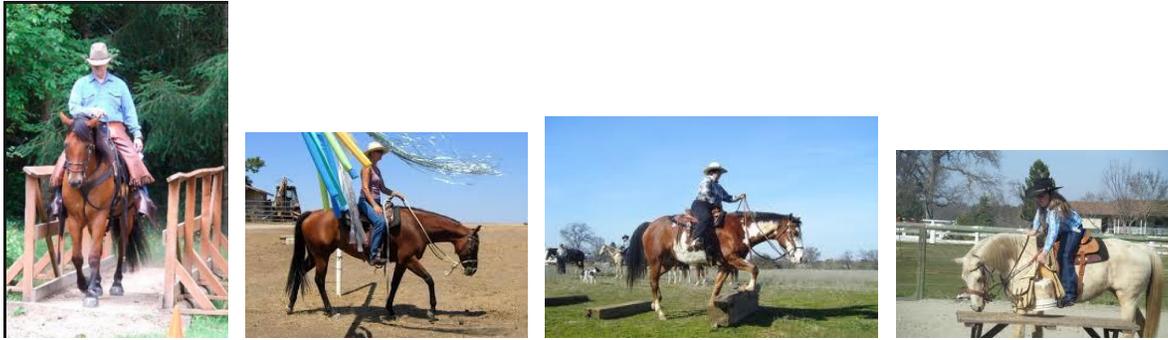
1. A 140 x 330 ft. pipe panel arena, regulation size for the disciplines noted above, with a covered seating area on its west side for up to 75 people.
2. One or two 50 foot diameter pipe panel round pens.
3. Four to six small pipe panel corrals adjacent to arena for stock.
4. A 160 x 200 ft. trail obstacle course with permanent trail obstacles such as bridges, gates, etc.
5. Parking Area sufficient to accommodate up to 25 truck and trailer rigs.
6. Up to 8 horse camping sites with picnic table, post for tie line, barbecue pits
7. Trail head to Cow Mountain including a staging area with hitching posts and benches.
8. Storage Shed for arena supplies. Manure collection area.
9. Water Service Area with outdoor sink, counter. Portable Restroom.

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Arena Images



Slide 11.  
Trail Obstacle Images



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Funding:

Major funding for the project will be sought from corporate equine feed and tack suppliers, as well as grants. Local horse clubs will assist with fund raising, drawing funding from corporate donors and private donations. A portion of these clubs' membership dues may also be collected for use of the facility, providing some regular revenue. Overnight camping fees and leasing of the facility for events can provide a revenue source.

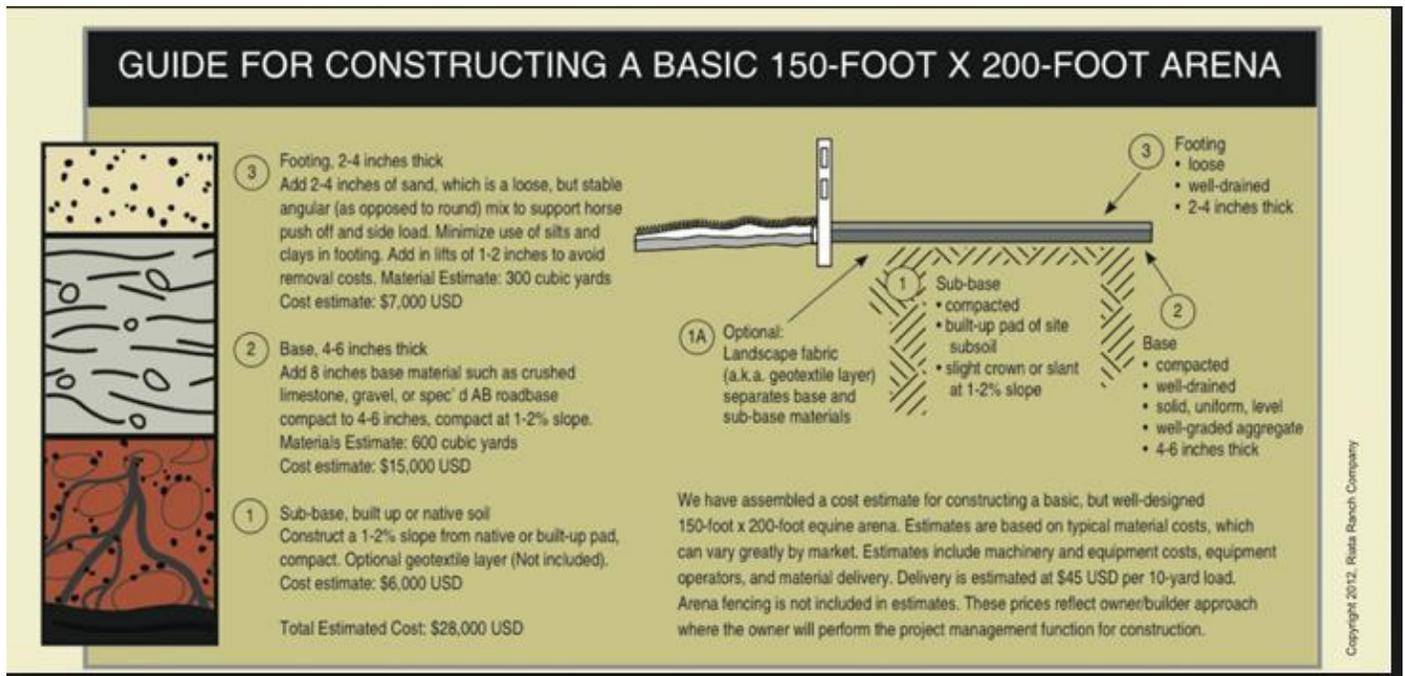
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Management:

Construction materials (pipe panels, for example) will be selected for low maintenance. A consortium of local horse clubs will agree on a rotating maintenance plan with volunteer workdays. A manure management plan can be developed with the help of local businesses (waste, soil and compost). Weed management and mowing will be planned with Westside Park's ongoing maintenance. On site caretaker may be involved in collecting camping fees and scheduling arena.

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Arena Construction:



Slides 15-20.

Napa Skyline Park's Equestrian Facility: A comparable project

(up to 5 slides with Dennis' photos from field trip)

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Next Steps

- City Council Approval
- Market Assessment (Interviews with horse clubs)
- Site Planning (to include drainage considerations for entire west boundary of WSC park)
- Financial Feasibility (to include maintenance plan, infrastructure)
- Environmental Review and Community Input
- Prospectus Development for Corporate Donors
- Request for Proposals, Engineering and Construction