

Edgewood Interpretive Center Redwood City, California

The Acorn Group, together with Ron Yeo, FAIA Architect, developed the interpretive master plan and architectural package for a new interpretive center at Edgewood County Park and Natural Preserve, known for its biological diversity despite its proximity to development in the crowded San Francisco Bay Area.



Coordinating the interests of eight key stakeholder interests, the team developed an environmentally sustainable building design, identified thematic messages for interpretation park-wide, and developed an intriguing and powerful exhibit design scheme for interior exhibits and trailside panels.

In 2007, we collaborated with General Graphics Exhibits (GGE) and began the interpretive center's schematic design phase. GGE would subsequently merge with Group Delphi. We refined and expanded the exhibit concepts, created renderings, developed the panel copy and worked closely with the larger team to ensure construction documents consistently reflected the interpretive theme and other parameters established in the interpretive master plan.

We view an interpretive center to be a portal to an experience immediately outdoors. To this end, we designed

Edgewood's exhibits to showcase the site's species and habitats, ecological restoration efforts, and role within a larger watershed.



The interpretive center opened in 2011, following an intensive interpretive training workshop for the center's docents that Acorn Group staff conducted. We also developed wayside exhibits for the preserve. These focus on current restoration efforts, eradication of yellow star thistle, and propagation of the Bay checkerspot butterfly.