



# Seeking an Operator and Partners for the Cooley Landing Education Center



*Cooley Landing - The Hidden Jewel of East Palo Alto*

Cooley Landing is a breathtaking nine-acre peninsula on the edge of San Francisco Bay that offers wide variety of educational opportunities that await all visitors. This park and Education Center offers unparalleled vistas over the southern Bay and offers ideal vantage points to observe the Bay’s waterfowl, rays, sharks, and tidal wetlands ecosystem. The East Palo Alto community has long desired education programs here about nature and the rich local cultural history for all ages, especially students, families, and seniors. The City of East Palo Alto and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, partners, seek a new operator and partners to share their energy, enthusiasm and commitment for this vision.



**Setting** Cooley Landing is connected by the San Francisco Bay Trail to the Ravenswood Open Space Preserve to the north and the Baylands Nature Preserve to the south. It is one of the best kept secrets on the Peninsula. For example, did you know that Cooley Landing is adjacent to the wetlands with the highest concentration of the endangered Ridgway’s Rail in the world? At high tide, visitors often see rays circling to the east and leopard sharks swimming to the south. How can you resist learning more about this hidden jewel?

**Community** Cooley Landing is the Birthplace of East Palo Alto. In 2.5 square miles, the city has over 28,000 diverse residents. The site is within minutes of a dozen schools and will serve as a vital source of hands-on science and history education and passive recreation for City’s 6,000 students.

**Education Center** The Education Center is a newly-constructed 3,900 square foot facility designed by Fog Studio in a community-driven, award-winning design that celebrates the site's history as the one-time busiest port between San Francisco and San Jose. Residents and community leaders are determined that the rich culture and history of East Palo Alto not be lost, so exhibits throughout the building show the value of this destination site. The facility has a warming kitchen, office, restrooms, and built-in projection for presentations, open houses and special events. It offers 270-degree views of the San Francisco Bay.



**Operating Partnership** The community seeks a long-term operator for the Education Center to deliver state-of-the-art, community-accessible education and interpretive programs in an economically sustainable and environmentally sensitive manner to ensure the Center's long-term viability. They seek an operator with a proven track record of operating and maintaining public parks and facilities as well as in developing environmental interpretation and education programs for children, youth, seniors, the general public. A successful operator would bring experience working in underserved communities and commitment to forming sound partnerships with local communities and organizations.



**Inviting other forms of partnerships** Perhaps you may not be interested in serving as a long-term solo operator, but you have the passion and dedication to support Cooley Landing to becoming a destination site, where old stories are told and new ones begin. We welcome your voice, your support, your program ideas and/or volunteer commitment.

### ***For more information***

What are you waiting for?  
Call us today!

Audree V. Jones-Taylor  
510 407-4979  
[recreating1@gmail.com](mailto:recreating1@gmail.com)

Or Lily Lee  
650-815-9749  
[lilyninglee@gmail.com](mailto:lilyninglee@gmail.com)



For more information, visit [openspace.org/cooley-landing](https://openspace.org/cooley-landing)

*Thank you for photos by John Green, Michael O'Callahan of Fog Studios, and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District*