

## Memo

**From:** Bruce Hagen  
**To:** Whom it may concern  
**Date:** October 4, 2006  
**Re:** Sunny Hill property



**Nutshell Summary:** The Dunn property on Sunny Hill is "Oak Hill Park, with views." It should be acquired and preserved for educational and recreational use.

**Details:** Sunny Hill, separating Sunnyslope Avenue and Sunnyslope Road, rises nearly 200 feet above downtown Petaluma. Its patchwork of Live Oak woodlands and meadows provide fine habitat for a variety of animals, including hikers and school kids. Over the past several years, more and more of this hill, and the ridge to the south, have been given over to development. Wouldn't it be great if we could preserve some of this nature before it all becomes houses, roads, and fenced-in yards?

Now, we have a chance to make that dream a reality. The Dunn property, 7 acres of ancient oaks, towering eucalyptus, grasslands and bramble thickets at the top of Sunny Hill, is for sale.



There is nothing like the Dunn's Sunny Hill property within the City limits, except perhaps Oak Hill Park. In fact, you could think of Sunny Hill as Oak Hill south, with the added assets of great views in all directions and being within short walking distance of two elementary schools. These photos were taken in early October, just before the rains begin to turn the grasslands from gold to green. Many of these trees are several feet in diameter (and some are excellent for climbing!)



Here's an aerial photo of Sunny Hill with the property line marked in green. Notice that it has legal access to both Sunnyslope Avenue (via Ash Lane) and Sunnyslope Road. The trees just south of the Ash Lane access are 100+ eucalyptuses. They are home for a variety of birds, including hawks and owls. The rest of the trees are Live Oak, including one that is a good five feet in *diameter*!



Here, on the topo map you can see that it incorporates the highest point on the hill, over 200 feet. The view north to Sonoma Mountain is on the right.



I encourage everyone to visit Sunny Hill, and take quick action supporting its preservation. Opportunities like this don't come along often—for Sunny Hill, it's our last chance.