



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: DECEMBER 6, 2004

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF STAFF TIME TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE RECREATIONAL USES FOR CERTAIN PROPERTIES WITHIN THE CITY

DATE: NOVEMBER 23, 2004

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT/ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: WILLIAM J. MORRIS, PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: WILLIAM J. MORRIS AT (717) 754-5343

RECOMMENDATION:

The Parks and Recreation Commission recommends that the City Council authorize and direct staff to conduct an acceptability study for active recreational uses on certain parcels previously presented to Council (July 7, 2004, meeting) as non-City owned government properties.

The Commission also recommends that the City Council consider allocating funds in fiscal year 2005/2006 to develop concept plans for those parcels deemed acceptable for active recreational uses.

BACKGROUND:

At the October 27, 2004, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission considered a report on ten government-owned parcels in the City, not owned by the City, which may have potential in the future to be sold or redeveloped (Attachment 1). These ten properties were previously presented to City Council in a report on July 7, 2004 (included in Attachment 1), with the intent of reviewing the zoning for each parcel. The Commission's intent at looking at these parcels was to begin the possible development of a "long term vision" to meet the existing and future recreational needs of the City.

Partial minutes of the October 27, 2004, Parks and Recreation Commission are also provided for Council's information (Attachment 2).

ANALYSIS:

The Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the City Council staff report concerning the ten government parcels, and determined that eight of them should be further investigated for possible recreational use by the City, should they become available for acquisition or long-term lease at some time in the future. These eight properties are as follows:

1. Coast Community College District, 12370 Adams Avenue
2. State of California, Department of Developmental Services, northwest corner of Harbor Boulevard and Fair Drive
3. State of California, Department of Developmental Services, "Shannon's Mountain"
4. National Guard Armory (Department of the Navy), 2650 Newport Boulevard
5. Orange County Flood Control District, 1100 Bristol Street
6. Newport-Mesa Unified School District (Harper School), 425 E. 18th Street
7. Newport-Mesa Unified School District (Lindberg School), 2340 Orange Avenue
8. Newport-Mesa Unified School District (Mesa Verde Elementary School), 2990 Mesa Verde Drive

In order for staff to properly investigate these parcels to determine if they are good candidates for future active recreational uses, it is estimated that 24 to 32 hours of staff time would be required. In accordance with City Council Policy 300-6 (Attachment 3), authorization must be received from the City Council for any research requiring over four hours of City staff time.

If the recommended investigation/research project is approved by City Council, the Parks and Recreation Commission further recommends that a "concept plan" be developed for each parcel identified by staff as having potential. These concept plans would show how active recreational uses might be placed on the site. "Active" recreational uses may include ball fields, soccer fields, ball courts, etc., that have been identified in the recently completed Parks and Recreation Master Plan update as a future need in the City. The Commission further recommends that funding for these "concept plans" be considered as part of the fiscal year 2005/2006 budget deliberations.

The Commission believes that the recommendations they have made will help provide the City with a longer-term vision for the acquisition of properties for active recreational purposes. The concept plans may also provide a basis for any recreational land acquisition/construction funding plan that may be developed in the future to pay for needed recreational facilities.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

One alternative is to not approve the Parks and Recreation Commission's request for staff time to investigate the eight parcels. As another alternative, Council may chose to add or subtract from the list of properties to be investigated.

FISCAL REVIEW:

Staff estimates that between 24 and 32 hours would be needed to properly investigate the eight sites identified by the Parks and Recreation Commission. No other costs are anticipated in completing this work.

Staff is unable to provide an estimate at this time as to what costs may be involved in the development of concept plans for sites which are identified as appropriate for active recreational uses. If approved, staff would research and submit these costs to City Council as part of the fiscal year 2005/2006 budget considerations.

LEGAL REVIEW:

No legal review is required on this item.

CONCLUSION:

The Parks and Recreation Commission has requested consideration of a long range plan to identify government-owned parcels (not City-owned) that may be appropriate in the future for active recreational uses. City Council authorization is needed for staff to expend 24 to 32 hours of time on this research project.

If approved, the Commission also recommends consideration of funds in the fiscal year 2005/2006 budget to create concept plans for those parcels identified by staff to be appropriate for active recreational uses, as identified in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update.

WILLIAM J. MORRIS
Public Services Director

HOWARD PERKINS
Acting Administrative Services Director

- ATTACHMENTS:
- 1 [Parks and Recreation Commission Report Dated October 27, 2004](#)
 - 2 [Excerpts of Minutes from October 27, 2004, Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting](#)
 - 3 [City Council Policy 300-6](#)

DISTRIBUTION: Parks and Recreation Commissioners
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