

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission  
**FROM:** Public Works  
**DATE:** 8/25/20  
**SUBJECT:** Ramos Park Renovation Project

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff will present a draft park renovation plan and results of the community input meeting to the Parks and Recreation Commission. No action will be taken.

## **BACKGROUND**

Capital improvement Project (PG-14000) with funding of \$271,000 was approved by City Council in 2017 to address park maintenance and renovation needs in Fiscal Year 2019. The renovation includes replacement of the playground equipment, replacement of benches, trash receptacles and drinking fountain as well as accessibility improvements and possible renovations to the large paved area.

As part of the City's continued effort to provide restroom facilities in parks, Ramos Park was identified by criteria in the Parks Master Plan (2017) as a park in need of a restroom. Capital Improvement Project (PG-19000) with funding of \$350,000 will be used to install a new restroom facility in the park and will be included in the renovation project's scope.

The first community meeting was held on January 29, 2020 at the Cubberley Community Center. A total of 32 community members attended the meeting. The meeting goal was to obtain community input on the project scope of work and to determine a location for the proposed restroom. The community was asked to provide input using a series of sticker boards. Stickers were used to identify a restroom location in the park and to answer questions regarding the desire to have a restroom, use of the playground and striping improvements to the large concrete paved area. The results are included in Attachment 'B'.

Upon completion of the first community meeting, an online version of the community survey was released for those who could not attend. As a result of the community meeting, four additional questions were added to the survey. These included questions about security lighting, the extension of the concrete pathway to East Meadow Rd., the addition of native/habitat planting in the park and if a defined dog park should be added to the park. These topics were brought up by the community in the first community meeting and were added to the survey for further input.

The online community survey was open on February 3, 2020 to February 28, 2020. A total of 167 community members responded to the on-line survey. The online survey results are included in Attachment 'B'.

The Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the project on February 25, 2020. The Commission was supportive of the restroom location, the idea to include playground equipment for children (6-12) as well as children (2-5), the addition of native planting along the East Meadow street frontage and discussed the addition of a dog park to the scope of work. The dog park discussion explored the idea of providing an off-leash dog area (unfenced) at the open grass area along the eastern edge of the park as a pilot program. The off-leash area would include: Signage (rules, times of operation and map of area), a waste bin, a 42" tall black clad chain link fence running parallel with East Meadow Drive placed in a 25' wide native planting area replacing the turf along the street frontage.

A second community meeting was held via webcast on August 13 at 6:30pm. A total of 12 community members attended. A revised proposed plan was reviewed showing the following proposed park renovations items per Attachment 'A'.

- New playground equipment with (2-5) and (6-12) equipment
- Stripping the existing paved area with a basketball court
- Native planting along the East Meadow street frontage and the park entry off Ross Rd.
- Extension of the concrete pathway to E. Meadow Drive
- Restroom location (location B from first community meeting)
- A defined off leash dog area
- New site amenities
- ADA Improvements

The majority of community members were supportive of the proposed renovations scope for the project. A request was made for more benches to be added to the park, which can be considered based on funding as well as making the restroom one stall instead of two, which is still being explored, and discussed.

## **DISCUSSION**

Staff requests input from the Commission per the proposed park renovation items and further discussion concerning the off-leash dog park area use times and process of review and parameters for determining if it is to continue after the pilot is complete. Staff suggests the Dog Park Ad Hoc continue the discussion to finalize the off-leash rules, times and process of evaluation of the pilot plan.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- Architecture Review Board Restroom Review: August 2020
- Community Meeting #3 (if necessary): September 2020
- PRC Meeting #3 – Adoption of Park Improvement Ordinance (PIO): Fall 2020
- Bid Document Preparation: Fall/Winter 2020
- Council to Adopt (PIO) and Approve Contract: Winter 2020
- Project Bidding: Winter/Spring 2021
- Construction Begins: Spring 2021

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

The proposed recommendations are consistent with Policy C-26 of the Community Services element of the Comprehensive Plan that encourages maintaining park facilities as safe and healthy community assets; and Policy C-22 that encourages new community facilities to have flexible functions to ensure adaptability to the changing needs of the community.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment A: Proposed Renovation Plan

Attachment B: Community Meeting #1 input and on-line survey results

Attachment C: Presentation

### **PREPARED BY**

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