

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Public Works
DATE: 2/25/2020
SUBJECT: Ramos Park Renovation Project

RECOMMENDATION

Staff will present a draft Park Plan, the results from the community meeting, and the online survey results to the Commission. No action is requested.

BACKGROUND

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

The Parks Master Plan (Policy 2.E) highlights the importance of providing restroom facilities in parks and lists Ramos Park as a potential location. Capital Improvement Project (PG-19000), which provides multi-year funding for restroom facilities in parks with \$350,000 budgeted every other year, may be used to install a new restroom facility in Ramos Park.

The first of three community meetings were held at 7 pm on January 29, 2020 at the Cubberley Community Center. A total of 32 community members attended the meeting. The meetings goal was to allow the community the opportunity to provide input on the project's 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 location for a restroom 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 as follows:

Question #1: Do you support having a restroom in the park?

Yes: 21 votes

No: 4 votes

Question #2: The existing playground features equipment for children of younger ages (2-5) only. Would you support having a mix of playground equipment for both younger (2-5) and older children (6-12)?

Maintain Playground for younger children only (2-5): 8 votes

Add a mix of playground equipment for both younger children (2-5) and older children (6-12): 14 votes

Question #3: How should the large paved court area be striped?

No stripping: 0 votes

Basketball court striping: 19 votes

Other: 0 votes

Question #4: What Location would you like to see the restroom installed?



The consensus was that the restroom should be placed closer to East Meadow Drive with the two locations closest to East Meadow splitting the vote.

Upon the 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 a question about security lighting, the extension of the current dead-end concrete pathway to connect 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 area. These topics were all brought up by the community in the meeting as points to consider during the development of the renovation plan and thereby were added to the survey.

The online community survey is open to the community from February 3, 2020 to February 28, 2020. To date, only 116 community members have responded to the survey. The survey results are as follows:

Question #1: Do you support having a restroom in the park?

Yes: 67 votes (58%)

No: 48 votes (42%)

Question #2: The existing playground features equipment for children of younger ages (2-5) only. Would you support having a mix of playground equipment for both younger (2-5) and older children (6-12).

Maintain Playground for younger children only (2-5): 38 votes (33%)

Add a mix of playground equipment for both younger children (2-5) and older children (6-12): 76 votes (67%)

Question #3: How should the large paved court area be striped?

No stripping: 36 votes (33%)

Basketball court striping: 65 votes (60%)

Other: 8 votes (7%) – 1 vote tennis, 1 vote half-court basketball court only, 1 vote pickle ball, 1 vote to redo the surface, 2 votes to leave as is, 1 vote to add signs to limit play/noise at night.

Question #4: Would you support adding one security light post to the center area of the park? (Low intensity lighting)

Yes: 95 votes (82%)

No: 20 votes (18%)

Question #5: Would you support extending the existing walkway that currently ends in the middle of the park to connect to East Meadow Drive, creating a continuous paved loop walking path around the park that doesn't cut through the picnic area?

Yes: 89 votes (78%)

No: 25 votes (22%)

Question #6: Would you support the addition of a native/habitat garden in the park?

Yes: 71 votes (63%)

No: 40 votes (36%)

Question #7: Would you support a fenced in dog park area added to the park?

Yes: 61 votes (53%)

No: 55 votes (47%)

DISCUSSION

Staff requests input from the commission to provide input on the survey questions, overall project scope, and provide guidance on which of these park elements should be included as part of the renovation project. Information gathered from the community meeting, the on-line survey, and the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, will guide which facilities are including in the draft park layout plan, which will be reviewed by the community at the second phase of outreach.

NEXT STEPS

- Community Meeting #2 Preliminary Plan Review: April 2020
- Architecture Review Board Meeting #1: April 2020
- Community Meeting #3 Finalize Park Layout Plan Design: Spring 2020
- Architecture Review Board Meeting #2: Spring/Summer 2020
- Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting #2 Review Final: Summer 2020
- PRC Meeting #3 – Adoption of Park Improvement Ordinance (PIO): Summer 2020
- Bid Document Preparation: Summer/Fall 2020
- Council to Adopt (PIO) and Approve Contract: Fall 2020
- Project Bidding: Fall 2020
- Construction Begins: Winter 2020

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.

PREPARED BY

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Presentation