



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT

AGENDA DATE: April 13, 2016

TO: Neighborhood Advisory Council

FROM: Administration Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Capital Projects Update

RECOMMENDATION: That the Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) receive a presentation on the status of Parks and Recreation Capital Projects.

DISCUSSION:

The Parks and Recreation Department (Department) has a diverse capital program of park improvement and recreation enhancement projects. Over the course of every fiscal year, a number of projects are in various stages of development and construction. Depending on the complexity and availability of funding, many projects take a number of years to complete. This staff report provides a brief overview of the most active projects underway in Fiscal Year 2016.

Projects under Construction

The Department has three projects currently under construction. They include the Bohnett Park Playground, Oak Park Wading Pool Ramp to bring the pool in compliance with new Americans with Disabilities (ADA) regulations, and the Bird Refuge Stretch Area.

Bohnett Park Playground: The Department is installing a new playground at Bohnett Park, primarily for 5-12 year-old children. It replaces a playground installed more than ten years ago. In addition to the new playground equipment, the project includes reconfiguring the playground area, construction of a walkway in front of the playground, and relocation of picnic tables. These changes will allow for park access and field improvements to be designed in the future, as well as provide space for the addition of an adult fitness area. The estimated cost of the playground and minor site improvements is \$183,000.

Oak Park Wading Pool Ramp: The Oak Park Wading Pool includes the construction of a ramped entry into the pool, expansion of the concrete pool deck, and the addition of a second gate. Construction will be complete by late-May so that the pool can open on schedule for the summer season. Project design and construction costs total \$95,940.

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Bird Refuge Stretch Area: The Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed and made findings for the Bird Refuge Stretch Area in December 2014. Over the course of 2015, the Department completed project design and Historic Landmarks Commission review, and secured project permits. The project includes three pieces of equipment, including a stretching bar, hip flex unit, and an air walker. The project required compliance with ADA standards for access to the equipment as well as an ADA compliance parking stall. Project construction costs are \$51,210. Project funds include a private donation of \$10,000, \$10,000 in PARC Park Improvement funds, and \$31,210 in City General Funds. It is anticipated that the project will be complete in June.

Projects in Design Development

The Department has eight projects in various stages of design development. Since the NAC is familiar with the Cabrillo Ball Park Renovation, this report outlines the work efforts under way for the Municipal Tennis Center Playground and Site Improvements, Cabrillo Pavilion and Bathhouse Renovation, Kids World Renovation, Parks and Recreation Facility Sign Replacement Program, walkway improvements at Chase Palm Park, renovation of the Chase Palm Park restroom, and new bike racks at Los Baños.

Municipal Tennis Center Playground and Pedestrian Safety Improvements: The project includes a new playground, access improvements, and safety upgrades, including a new crosswalk along Old Coast Highway. The project is expected to cost \$677,169. There is \$60,000 of General Funds allocated for project design, \$42,000 of General Funds allocated for ADA improvements around the Municipal Tennis Center, and \$53,000 from the Woods-Claeyssens Foundation for new playground equipment. City Council recently recommended \$126,000 of Community Development Block Grant funds to be used on the pedestrian safety improvements at Old Coast Highway. Additional General Fund money and grant funds will be needed to complete the project. However, ADA improvements along the western portion of the parcel are expected to begin construction this summer.

Cabrillo Pavilion and Bathhouse Renovation: This project includes complete renovation of the facility's mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and communication systems, and associated structural and seismic, fire protection upgrades. Exterior building improvements will achieve accessibility standards; restore the beach level promenade; renovate exterior building modifications; repair the building façade; and renovate site landscaping, outdoor showers, and the covered walkway adjacent to the playground. For the Bathhouse floor, interior renovations will address the lobby, shower/locker facility, and restaurant concession area as well as new multi-purpose rooms and a small tenant space. Improvements for the Pavilion floor will redesign the lobby to create one large room; renovate the main special event room and restrooms; install a modern prep kitchen; and renovate the enclosed terrace. An elevator will connect the two floors. It is anticipated that the total project cost will be \$13 million. The project is partially funded with \$9,117,026 in former Redevelopment Agency (RDA) bond proceeds. Over the next year, the

Department will be seeking community and grant funds to provide the additional funding needed for project construction.

Kids World Renovation: The Department recently contracted with Van Sande Structural Consultants to complete the engineering design drawings for Kids World Renovation. The project includes structural upgrades to the playground structure, replacement of play components, and playground safety and accessibility improvements. The Department has \$509,000 in capital funds to complete the project.

Parks and Recreation Facility Sign Replacement Program: Signage design and fabrication standards for all City parks and recreation facilities are being adopted to efficiently update, remove, or replace all signs. Signs are the primary tool used to communicate the name of the park, intended use and prohibitions and hours of operation, as well as provide educational opportunities. The Parks and Recreation Department (Department) has long needed a sign program that sets design standards and establishes a system for sign removal and replacement.

Chase Palm Park Walkway Improvements: Walkway improvements for Chase Palm Park will address safety concerns for pedestrians that walk along Cabrillo Boulevard between the roadway and the park. Extension of the park's walkways will encourage pedestrians to either walk in the park or cross the street to the sidewalk on the south side of Cabrillo Boulevard. It is anticipated that the project will receive Historic Landmarks Commission review in late-April. The Department has \$128,000 in capital funds to complete the project.

Chase Palm Park Restroom Renovation: Similar to other restroom renovation projects, the primary focus of this project is to upgrade the interior of the restroom located on the beach side of Chase Palm Park. The Department will also be completing some exterior improvements, including fencing and gates, to address public safety concerns and discourage overnight camping and extended use of the park area around the restroom. The Historic Landmarks Commission recently approved the design of the exterior improvements. The Department has \$155,000 in capital funds to complete the project.

Los Baños Bike Racks: The Department is completing plans to install new bike racks and landscaping in front of Los Baños to support the many swimmers that use bicycle transportation to the facility. The project design was recently approved by the Historic Landmarks Commission. The project will be funded through a donation from the Friends of Los Baños.

Other Projects in Concept Planning

The Department has five other projects that are currently in concept planning. They include the development of a fenced off leash dog area at MacKenzie Park, renovation design plans for the Louise Lowry Davis Center, renovation plans for the Thousand Steps Beach Access, site improvements for Franceschi Park, and Parkway and Median Landscape

Guidelines. The NAC will be provided with a status report on these projects once they are further underway.

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