



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2017

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Administration Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Director's Report

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive a presentation on the status of the various Parks and Recreation Department initiatives and activities.

DISCUSSION:

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CALFIRE) Concept Proposal

On December 22, 2016, the Department submitted a concept proposal in the amount of \$667,800 to CALFIRE to plant 650 trees and remove 42,800 square feet of parkway hardscape. With City matching funds of \$225,705, the total project cost is \$893,505. If the concept proposal is accepted, the Department will be required to submit a full proposal prior to any grant award. In recent years, the Department received grants from CALFIRE to complete the iTree Assessment for the Street Tree Inventory and prepare the Urban Forest Management Plan.

Barger Canyon Restoration Project

The Creeks Division recently completed construction of the Upper Arroyo Burro Restoration Project at Barger Canyon. In late 2013, the Creeks Division purchased the 14.19 acre parcel on Foothill Road along upper Arroyo Burro in Barger Canyon. The project includes the restoration of approximately 4.95 acres of riparian and upland habitat, including the removal of existing concrete structures and debris in the creek, and re-grading of the channel to create a more natural and stable creek bed and banks. The creek channel was widened at the downstream end of the site to expand the riparian/wetland zone, and a seasonal wetland was constructed in the upland area to improve habitat diversity. Over 4,500 native plants and trees were installed at the site. The ribbon cutting event for the project is scheduled for 11 am on Wednesday January 25, 2017.

Chase Palm Park Restroom Renovation

Renovation of the Chase Palm Park Restroom is nearing completion. The renovation project included a full interior remodel and exterior landscape improvements and new lighting. The restroom will also have new gates to close off the entry way when it is closed overnight. It is anticipated that the facility will be open for use in late January.

Cabrillo Pavilion and Bathhouse Renovation Project

The Department and the PARC Foundation are actively developing the fundraising plan for the Cabrillo Pavilion and Bathhouse Renovation Project. Recently the Santa Barbara Triathlon selected the PARC Foundation as the beneficiary of the 2017 event. All fundraising associated with Triathlon participants would be dedicated to facility renovation. The Department is also actively pursuing local and state funding opportunities. The Commission will receive a status report at the March 22, 2017 meeting.

Smoking Ordinance Update

On January 31, 2017, the Ordinance Committee will discuss a range of options to amend the City's smoking ordinance, including establishing smoke free areas in various public places, including parks, beaches, recreation facilities, libraries, parking lots, and the harbor as well as City sidewalks, patios, and paseos. The Commission will consider the recommendations for City parks, beaches, trails and recreation facilities at the February 22, 2017 regular meeting.

Upcoming Commission Agenda Items

February 2017: Tentative agenda items include a discussion of the landscape plan for the Waterfront Hotel, the continuation of the December 2016 meeting discussion of Park and Facility Use and Misuse, and updates to the City's Smoking Ordinance.

Upcoming Commission Site Visits

February 2017: The Department would like to schedule a Commission site visit to Chase Palm Park and the Waterfront Hotel property.

March 2017: The Department would like to schedule a Commission tour of key capital project locations. Due to the short daylight hours, the tour would occur on Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. It would include lunch at a park location.

PREPARED BY: Jill E. Zachary, Parks and Recreation Director