

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Parks and Recreation

BOARD AGENDA # *B-5

Urgent ☐

Routine ☒

AGENDA DATE October 4, 2011

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES ☒ NO ☐

(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES ☐ NO ☒

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Donations from Jon E. Maring and Group for the Laird Park Renovation Project Located in the Grayson/Westley Area

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, or her designee, to accept donations of labor, materials, equipment and design work from Jon E. Maring and Group to renovate Laird Park located in the Grayson/Westley Area.
2. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, or her designee, to sign all necessary documents for the completion of the Laird Park Renovation Project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Renovation, reconstruction and maintenance of Laird Park will be provided by Jon E. Maring and Group, with no additional matching funds required from Stanislaus County. The estimated value of the renovation and reconstruction of Laird Park is in excess of \$100,000.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2011-570

On motion of Supervisor DeMartini, Seconded by Supervisor Withrow
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Withrow, DeMartini, and Chairman Monteith

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) ☒ Approved as recommended

2) ☐ Denied

3) ☐ Approved as amended

4) ☐ Other:

MOTION: This Item was removed from the consent calendar for discussion and consideration.

ATTEST:


CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

Approval to Accept the Donations from Jon E. Maring and Group for the Laird Park Renovation Project Located in the Grayson/Westley Area

DISCUSSION:

Laird Park is a place where previously, families came to have picnics, kids played ball, and community events were held. In the past, this park facility offered a built-in barbeque, picnic tables, shade shelter, baseball diamond, and restrooms. This facility also offers several access points along the river for fishing. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-2010, the maintenance of the facility was turned over to the Parks and Recreation Department. By that time, due to lack of funding for maintenance and upkeep, the restrooms and irrigation system had deteriorated beyond repair. In FY 2009-2010, the Parks and Recreation Department received \$22,000 for the maintenance of the facility. Since then, the amount of funding has decreased and in FY 2011-2012, the Department received approximately \$10,780. In addition, over the last ten years, full-time Parks and Recreation staff has decreased from 39 positions to 20. Without adequate funding, the only maintenance the Department could provide was fire prevention and minimal litter pick-up.

During July of 2011, the Board of Supervisors was approached by a group of private citizens, including Jon E. Maring, about restoring and maintaining Laird Park. Collectively, it is referred to herein as the "Group." This Group has submitted a renovation plan (Attachment A) that includes the following tasks:

- 1) Tree removal including the grinding and removal of the tree material;
- 2) Pruning the remaining trees;
- 3) Installation of a new irrigation well;
- 4) Design, and install a new irrigation system;
- 5) Area preparation for the new irrigation system;
- 6) Supply and maintain portable restrooms; and
- 7) Assistance with maintenance and management of the park.

The project area includes approximately 30 acres of previously developed parkland. The description of the project area is south of Grayson Road and bounded by the Laird Park access road to the south and west, and the chain link fence to the east (Attachment B). This is a request to renovate and reconstruct the infrastructure that previously deteriorated at Laird Park. This proposal includes the design and replacement of the existing irrigation system, and ground preparation of the area where the new system will be installed. The proposal also includes providing and maintaining portable restrooms, the turf area, and the pruning and/or removal of some of the trees that pose a safety hazard, which includes the mulberry trees. Removal of the mulberry trees may come at a later date and would reduce the expensive annual maintenance of these trees. The Laird Park Renovation Project will start after the harvest season and should be complete by late summer 2012.

Each of the entities in the Group will be required to complete a form prepared by the Office of County Counsel. This form will limit the County's liability and ensure that these entities will not retain any vested interest in any of the property and renovations by virtue of their donation. (Attachment C)

On September 8, 2011, this project was presented and reviewed by the Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation Commission. In discussion, the Commission found that the project is

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consistent with the Parks Master Plan adopted August 24, 1999. This project is exempt from CEQA under Section 15302 Replacement or Reconstruction.

This is the third park renovation by a private party to be brought before the Board of Supervisors. The two previous projects approved and completed by volunteer groups were the Modesto Rotary Club at Oregon Park and the Salida Rotary Club at Broadway Park. This generous donation has come at a very good time since the budget for the Parks and Recreation Department has been reduced so much that only a minimum of maintenance could be provided to Laird Park. The Department will work with this group to help support the maintenance of the park to the extent funding is available.

The Laird Park Renovation Project will provide much needed open park space for families and communities to gather. In addition, it will be a source of pride for the west side communities.

POLICY ISSUE:

Approval of staff's recommendation supports the Board's priorities of A Well Planned Infrastructure System and Effective Partnerships by partnering with community members to provide a special opportunity within Stanislaus County.

STAFFING IMPACTS:

Department staff will work with the Group, volunteer groups and Alternative Work Program (AWP) to provide maintenance of Laird Park.

CONTACT PERSON:

Sonya K. Harrigfeld, Director of Parks and Recreation

Telephone: 209-525-6770

From:

07/27/2011 14:06

#291 P.002/002

GROWERS PACKERS SHIPPERS
DEL MAR

SHED, 9843 COX ROAD

P.O. Box 97, WESTLEY, CALIFORNIA 95387

(209) 894-5555

July 25, 2011

Board of Supervisors
Stanislaus County
1010 10th Street Suite, 6500
Modesto, CA 95354

Re: Laird Park Renovation Proposal

Dear Stanislaus County Supervisors,

I would like to propose the following renovation plan for Laird Park. Most of the vendors mentioned in the schedule have been contacted. I have worked with all of these vendors in the past and they operate on a very professional level. I would attempt to complete the renovation by late spring of 2012.

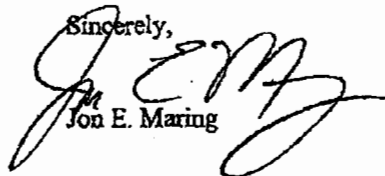
The steps are as follows:

- 1) Jim DeMartini has volunteered pruning towers and labor to prune the trees that are to remain.
- 2) Phil Liondakis would remove the trees necessary and grind and haul off the material.
- 3) Blake Hennings would drill a new irrigation well.
- 4) Gary Rossider would install a new pump in the new well.
- 5) Mike Conrad will designed and supply a modern irrigation system.
- 6) Jon Maring would install the system.
- 7) Jon Maring would prepare the area.
- 8) Ben Arroyo would supply and maintain portable restrooms.
- 9) Jon Maring would take an active lead in future management of the park

This is a rough action plan to begin renovating of one of the few amenities the communities of Grayson and Westley have for families to enjoy. There are numerous small projects that could be accomplished by our area service clubs such as Boy Scouts and Vernalis 4H.

If the County, is willing to allow a simple renovation, without interruption. I would like to talk further with the vendors mentioned and begin scheduling the renovations.

Sincerely,


Jon E. Maring

Jon E. Maring

Mobile (209) 531-3711

FAX (209) 894-5556

Lee Del Don

Mobile (209) 531-4207

ATTACHMENT A



Laird Park

Printed: Sep 22, 2011



**HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT
AND WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND INTERESTS**

The undersigned, representing (organization) _____, agrees to defend, indemnify and save harmless the County of Stanislaus, its officers, employees and agents from and against any and all claims, demands, damages, costs, liabilities or loss of any kind or nature which the County, its officers, agents or employees may sustain or incur or which may be imposed upon them for injury to or death of persons or damage to property as a result of or arising out of the use of the County facilities and premises by the person or organization named above or the officers, employees, or participants, patrons, or visitors. The undersigned further agrees to pay any and all costs and expenses, including but not limited to court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred by the County on account of any such claims, demands, or liabilities.

The undersigned further agrees that acceptance of the donations of labor, materials, equipment and design work by the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors creates no rights, interests, licenses (revocable or irrevocable), easements (express, implied, or by estoppel) or covenants that are personal or that run with the land by the persons or entities or their agents and/or employees who made the donation, to or in the park, land, well, or water rights connected to the well. It is further agreed that the undersigned intends the donation of labor, materials, equipment, and design work to the County in favor of public use and that the undersigned retains no interest in or creates no rights to continue to manage or maintain the donated time, material, labor, or design work upon completion of the project. It is expressly understood there is no agreement or ongoing commitment by the County to maintain the park in the same condition as it will be upon completion of the project should funds be unavailable to further maintain the park.

Dated: _____

Authorized Representative

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

Signature: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Park Site: _____

Dates of Use: _____