



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Department Name:** Community Services  
**Department No.:** 057  
**For Agenda Of:** May 7, 2019  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimated Tme:** NA  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:**  
**Vote Required:** 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department George Chapjian, Director of Community Services (805) 568-2467  
Director(s) 2467  
Contact Info: Jeff Lindgren, Parks Superintendent (805) 568-5076  
**SUBJECT:** Approve Community Services Department, Parks Division Development of a Countywide Recreation Master Plan

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve the attached Budget Revision Request (Attachment A- BJE No. 0006184) to appropriate funding from Department-generated revenues for Phase One of a Countywide Recreation Master Plan, (4/5 Vote Required); and
- b) Determine that after consideration of environmental factors, the above-recommended actions involve a planning study for possible future actions which the County has not approved, adopted or funded, and are thereby statutorily exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15262; Feasibility and Planning Studies. Feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions which the Board has not approved, adopted or funded do not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Review or Negative Declaration. When and if individual projects and programs contained within these studies proceed to implementation, they may be subject to environmental review under NEPA and/or CEQA for possible impacts which are unique to that particular project and/or program.

### **Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda for the Board of Supervisors to consider approval of a Budget Revision Request that would appropriate \$200,000 in funding for Phase One of a Countywide Recreation Master Plan. The Countywide Recreation Master Plan would provide an inventory of recreational facilities and programs, describe existing unmet and future recreation needs through extensive public outreach, identify opportunities for future facilities with an implementation and financing strategy, recognize the economic impact of recreation within the County, and provide program-level environmental analysis of any future projects. Phase One of the Master Plan would also include identification of early action projects across the County that are eligible for \$254.9 million of California Proposition 68 funding.

In June of 2018, the voters of California approved Proposition 68, the Parks, Environment, and Water Bond. The Bond Act authorizes \$4 billion in general obligation bonds for creation and rehabilitation of state and local parks, natural resources protection projects, climate adaption, water quality and supply projects, and flood protection. Proposition 68 also reallocates \$100 million of unused bond authority from prior bond acts for the same purpose. Over \$650 million will be available state-wide over the next several years for acquisition and development of new parks and recreation opportunities including expansion or renovation of existing parks. \$254.9 million is going to be available later this year through competitive grants state-wide. Deliverables from the Countywide Recreation Master Plan will be tailored to improve the competitiveness of Countywide projects.

One of the primary goals of the Master Plan would be to involve each of the cities within the County to better understand our regional recreation needs. While the Plan would not direct recreation planning or implementation within each city, it would provide valuable insight on how the County and cities might coordinate recreation programs and facilities to better serve residents Countywide.

### **Background:**

CSD Parks proposes to use Department-generated revenues to launch a Countywide Recreation Master Plan. The purpose of the Countywide Recreation Master Plan would be to conduct a system-wide assessment of general needs and opportunities, facilitate coordination between agencies throughout the County to address and fund such needs, while aiming to streamline planning and permitting processes. The Plan would:

- Provide a current Countywide inventory of recreational facilities and programs of the County, cities, non-profits, and private recreational service providers, as well as those of the state and federal governments;
- Describe existing unmet and future recreational needs based on information gathered through public outreach, data collection, and trends specific to the region;
- Identify opportunities for future parks, facilities, trails, programming and supporting infrastructure (e.g., access, utilities) based on input from agency staff and citizens;
- Work with a Steering Committee to develop a prioritized list of recreation projects, programs, and initiatives, along with implementation and financing strategies; and
- Ensure that all data is provided in an easy to access online “Recprint for Parks and Recreation in Santa Barbara County.”

A key element of the Master Plan effort would be to foster coordination and cooperation between the County, the cities, state (including school districts) and federal agencies, and non-profit and private recreation service providers. Any recommendations would be tailored to respect other agency and organization goals and objectives regarding the implementation of specific projects, management, and maintenance of park and recreation facilities and programs. The benefits of this integrated regional Plan would be increased effective cooperation, complimentary use of resources, and potentially shared funding programs to sensibly plan for needed parks and recreation facilities in the County. To this end, a Parks Summit Meeting bringing together the park and recreation leadership from agencies and stakeholders Countywide is included in Phase One and planned for Summer 2019. This event is a significant effort of Phase One and is tentatively scheduled for summer of 2019. Phase One could be completed in eight to ten months.

Phase Two would include project-specific conceptual design development, environmental documentation, and a funding plan with the intent to have projects across the County and other jurisdictions highly competitive for Proposition 68 funding and other grant programs and funding sources. Phase Two would also include a report on the economic benefit to Santa Barbara County provided by recreation opportunities. Funding for Phase Two of the Countywide Master Plan is included in the Community Services Department budget expansion request for Fiscal Year 2019-20. This Phase could be completed in 18 months.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

With the approval of Attachment A, Budget Revision Request #0006184, all costs for Phase One will be budgeted within the Community Services Department, Parks Division operating budget.

**Special Instructions:**

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Budget Revision Request #0006184