



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: March 3, 2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item:
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Renée E. Bahl, Interim Community Services Director (805) 568-2467
Director(s) 2467
Contact Info: Paddy Langlands, Deputy Director, Parks (805) 568-2475
SUBJECT: MOU Between County of Santa Barbara and UCSB for Funding Isla Vista Bluff Top Fence, District 3

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

- 1) The Board of Supervisors accepts \$70,000 in funding from the University of California Santa Barbara (UCSB) pursuant to Cal. Gov. Code Section 25355 to fund the installation of a fence over several parcels of land owned by both the County of Santa Barbara and the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District;
- 2) Authorize the Community Services Director to execute the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County of Santa Barbara and UCSB(Attachment A);
- 3) Approve the attached Budget Revision Request (BRR-0003802) (Attachment B); and
- 4) Determine that the proposed project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15303(e) and 15301(l) (4) for new construction or conversion of small structures as the project consists of the installation of new or demolition or replacement of existing accessory structures such as fencing and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption (Attachment C).

Summary Text:

At the June 2014 budget hearings, the Board of Supervisors approved a Fiscal Year 2014-2015 work objective for the County Executive Office to coordinate an interdepartmental, countywide Isla Vista

initiative, within existing, budgeted resources. The County has been working with partners to seek solutions to a variety of issues, including adding or enhancing fencing along parkland along the Isla Vista bluffs.

Background:

The Isla Vista community encompasses a population of over 21,000 residents and is part of unincorporated Santa Barbara County. It is adjacent to the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) campus and a significant portion of the residents are students from UCSB and Santa Barbara City College. The community also includes a number of long-term owner occupant and lower-income renter households. The area includes a variety of single-family, multi-family, commercial and light industrial uses. This densely-populated area faces issues similar to other university towns in accommodating needs associated with a transient student population in a predominately renter-oriented community.

The Parks Division of the County Community Services Department has been seeking funds to erect bluff top fencing within six ocean front public parks and open space areas along Del Playa Drive. The project would commence at Pelican Park and terminate the fencing at the western end of Sea Lookout Park. Notwithstanding temporary fencing that was installed under an Emergency Permit, these parks and open space areas currently contain either no bluff fencing or low fencing (two-rail wooden fences). After considering several different fence styles, the proposal is for a 54-inch (4 ½-foot) tall fence consisting of a three-rail wooden pole fence covered with inch and quarter coated diamond chain link on the landward side to prevent climbing and sitting. The County held a community meeting on August 21, 2014 in Isla Vista to receive input on the style of fencing being considered. No clear consensus was reached during the meeting.

On October 29, 2014 the Planning Commission approved the Coastal Development Permit. There was no appeal. The University of California, Santa Barbara has offered, through a Memorandum of Understanding, to contribute to the cost of erecting or replacing the bluff fence on public parkland. The County would be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the fence.

The Parks Division will explore options with the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District for building portions of the fence on land owned by the IVRPD. These options may include the County providing a portion of the \$70,000 to IVRPD pursuant to a contract wherein IVRPD agrees to build a portion of the fence. Another option may be for the County to agree to build a portion of the fence on IVRPD's property pursuant to an agreement with the IVRPD as the owner of that land.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

The fence will be erected approximately 8 ft. from the edge of the bluff. In addition to annual maintenance there will be fence relocation costs approximately every three to five years bluff erosion requires the fences to be relocated. This is anticipated to be \$8,000 per occurrence and would need to be funded out of the Parks budget.

Attachments:

- A. MOU between County of Santa Barbara and UCSB
- B. Budget Revision 0003802 in the amount of \$70,000
- C. CEQA Notice of Exemption

Authored by: Jeff Lindgren