



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: Parks Department
Department No.: 052
For Agenda Of: May 10, 2011
Placement: Set Hearing
Estimated Tme: 1 hour
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Thomas D. Fayram, Interim Parks Director (805) 568-2461
Director(s)
Contact Info: Brian Roney, Deputy Director (805) 934-6145
SUBJECT: Beach Parking Fees Set Hearing

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: No

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors set May 17, 2011 for a Departmental Hearing to provide direction to the Parks Department on County Park's Beach Parking Fees.

Summary Text:

On May 17, 2011, staff will request the Board direct the Parks Department to develop options for a Beach Parking Fee program at County Beach Parks. Beach Parks proposed for this would be Rincon Park, Lookout Park, Arroyo Burro Beach Park, Goleta Beach Park, Ocean Beach Park, and Guadalupe Dunes Beach Park. Jalama Beach Park currently has a daily day use fee.

Implementation of a Beach Parking fee at County Parks has the potential to remove the Parks Department from the General Fund, at a minimum for operations. In addition, depending on the revenues generated, the Beach Parking Fess (in conjunction with other current approved user fees) stands to provide Deferred Maintenance funds for the Parks Department's aging infrastructure and provide an emergency response reserve.

If directed to proceed, the Parks Department would first return to the Parks Commission for the Commission's consideration and recommendations on fee options. The Parks Commission's recommendations would then be brought to your Board for final Consideration.

Additional information will be provided at the Hearing including; required approvals, potential schedule, and costs of developing the program.

Background:

At its March 24, 2011 meeting, the Santa Barbara County Parks Commission voted to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the implementation of Parking Fees at County Beach Parks.

The proposal for charging parking fees at County Beach Parks has been under discussion in the past. Concurrently, there has been continued annual reduction in General Fund Contribution to the Parks Department. Also concurrently, the maintenance demands of an aging Parks system increases. Additionally, as witnessed this current year, significant storm systems inflicted further damages to the Parks system.

Staff recently gathered data on beach parking fees and found that most every other agency charges for Beach Parking. In Santa Barbara County, this includes the City of Santa Barbara and State Parks. A comprehensive summary of agencies that charge for beach parking will be included in the May 17, 2011 Board item.

Authored by:

Thomas D. Fayram, Interim Parks Director