

# SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



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

**Agenda Number:**  
**Prepared on:** 3/30/04  
**Department Name:** Parks  
**Department No.:** 052  
**Agenda Date:** 4/27/04  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Terri Maus-Nisich  
Parks Director

**STAFF CONTACT:** Mike Gibson  
Business Manager (568-2477)

**SUBJECT:** Allocation of \$10,400 from the Orcutt Quimby Fee Trust Fund for Consultant Services to Provide Technical Assistance for the Construction of Dabbling Ponds at Waller County Park in Santa Maria; Fourth Supervisorial District

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## **Recommendation:**

That the Board of Supervisors approve the attached budget revision to appropriate \$10,400 from the Orcutt Quimby Fee Trust Fund (#1397) for consultant services to provide technical assistance for the construction of dabbling ponds at Waller County Park in Santa Maria.

## **Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 5 – A High Quality of Life for All Residents.

## **Executive Summary and Discussion:**

The Santa Maria Valley Beautiful – Wings at Waller Steering Committee has been actively involved in developing a bird and butterfly garden at the gazebo at Waller County Park in Santa Maria. Santa Maria Valley Beautiful formed this steering committee in 1998 in consultation with County Parks and many other groups and organizations to guide this project. The garden is a demonstration project to encourage planting of trees, bushes and flowers that provide habitat for native birds and butterflies. A public awareness program will be created to encourage homeowners and developers to design their landscaping to provide this habitat. In addition, a school program will be developed to reach children in the elementary and high schools. There have been three major plantings associated with this project since November 2002.

The next phase of this project is construction of dabbling ponds and an audience seating area at the garden. The ponds will complement the gazebo and provide water for the birds to drink and bathe in and are an integral part of the garden design. A \$7,000 grant from the Santa Barbara Foundation for materials has been

received and volunteer labor is being provided by the California Conservation Corps (CCC). However, since the ponds project involves specialized construction, additional funding is required for consultant services to provide technical advice and oversight to the CCC during the construction. The Wings at Waller Steering Committee has requested through County Parks a contribution of \$10,400 from Orcutt Quimby funds to pay for these consultant services. County Parks will contract directly with the consultant for these services.

It is anticipated that the Steering Committee will return at a future date to request funding to construct the gazebo seating area, which is also an integral element of the project. This funding request will be made when accurate cost estimates have been developed for that portion of the project.

The Park Commission approved the request for \$10,400 in Quimby funding for the consultant services at its March 25, 2004 meeting.

**Mandates and Service Levels:**

There are no mandates or changes in service levels.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Funding for the \$10,400 requested for the consultant services are available in the Orcutt Quimby Fee Trust Fund (#1397). Use of this Trust Fund is restricted to development of park or recreational facilities within the Orcutt Quimby Demand Area. The current balance in the Orcutt Quimby Fee Trust Fund is \$353,561. Approval of this funding request would reduce this Trust Fund balance to \$343,161.

The \$10,400 Quimby funding contribution represents only a portion of the total cost of the dabbling ponds project. A \$7,000 grant has been received from the Santa Barbara Foundation for materials and volunteer labor will be provided by the California Conservation Corps (CCC) for the construction of this project.

There is no impact to facilities that will result in additional staffing or ongoing costs for the Parks Department.

**Special Instructions:**

Clerk of the Board to provide a copy of the minute order to the Parks Department/Administration, Attn: Mike Gibson

**Concurrence:**  
Auditor-Controller