

**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: 11/19/04
Department Name: Parks
Department No.: 052
Agenda Date: 12/7/04
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Terri Maus-Nisich
Parks Director

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

SUBJECT: Allocation of \$9,750 from the South Coast West Quimby Fee Trust Fund for the Conversion of the Ranger Residence Site at Tucker's Grove County Park to a Park Host Site and Additional Day Use Improvements; Second Supervisorial District

Recommendation:

That the Board of Supervisors approve the attached budget revision to appropriate \$9,750 from the South Coast West Quimby Fee Trust Fund (#1400) for the conversion of the ranger residence site at Tucker's Grove County Park to a park host site as well as adding some additional day use space.

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:

Due to the recent retirement of a permanent Park Ranger at Tucker's Grove County Park in the Goleta area, the existing, aging mobile home that served as the Ranger's residence will be removed. This is consistent with the Parks Department's ongoing strategy, as recommended in the 1994-95 Grand Jury report, to phase out ranger residences as they are vacated due to retirements or departures of resident rangers.

A Park Ranger will continue to be assigned to the park on a daily basis to provide visitor services and perform maintenance, but this person will not reside there. The current level of service will continue to be provided. However, in order to continue an on-site presence at the park, a new volunteer park host site will be installed after the ranger residence is removed. The Department's host site program involves volunteers who agree to live at the park site free of charge in exchange for performing some visitor service and maintenance responsibilities. Park hosts are required to provide their own living accommodations (travel trailer, motor home, etc.), which they connect to the water and sewer hook-ups provided on site. In return

for occupying the site, the host will provide 24 hours of labor per week in support of the park's maintenance. This will result in an increase in overall service level at the park.

The reduced space required for the host site provides the opportunity to renovate and convert the remainder of the resident ranger property into additional day use space for park users. Due to the proximity of this area to the existing children's play area, staff is recommending that additional landscaping, benches, and a small reservable picnic area (suitable for birthday parties and other small events) be installed.

The hard costs to demolish and remove the mobile home, install fencing to separate the host site area from the remainder of the park, new benches, tables, irrigation, etc., are approximately \$9,750. This represents the cost to purchase the material and equipment only, since Parks Department staff will perform the labor.

It is recommended that these funds be allocated from the South Coast West Quimby Fee Trust Fund (#1400). The Park Commission approved the allocation of these funds for this project at its November 10, 2004 meeting.

Mandates and Service Levels:

There are no mandates or changes in service levels.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Funding for the \$9,750 requested for the ranger residence conversion at Tucker's Grove Park is available in the South Coast West Quimby Fee Trust Fund (#1400). Use of this Trust Fund is restricted to development of park or recreational facilities within the South Coast West Quimby Demand Area. The current balance in the South Coast West Quimby Fee Trust Fund is \$143,583. Approval of this funding request would reduce this Trust Fund balance to \$133,833.

There is no impact to facilities that will result in additional staffing or other 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

