

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 1/7/03
Department Name: Planning & Development
Department No.: 053
Agenda Date: 1/28/03
Placement: Departmental
Estimate Time: 20 minutes
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Redevelopment Agency Board of Directors

FROM: Dianne Meester, Interim Director
Planning and Development

STAFF CONTACT: Dave Ward, Supervising Planner, Comprehensive Planning Division
Jamie Goldstein, Planner III (x 8050)

SUBJECT: Isla Vista Recreation and Park District Designation of Redevelopment Agency Owned Property in Isla Vista

Recommendation(s)

That the Board of Directors receive a report and adopt a resolution regarding park designations by the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District (IVRPD) on Redevelopment Agency owned parks in Isla Vista.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan

This report and resolution are consistent with our organizational values regarding collaboration and partnering and the following adopted Strategic Goals:

- Goal #4: A Community that is Economically Vital and Sustainable,
- Goal #5: A High Quality of Life for All Residents,
- Goal #6: A County Government that is Accessible, Open and Citizen Friendly.

Executive Summary and Discussion

In 1992 the Santa Barbara County Redevelopment Agency (RDA) and the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District entered into an agreement (referred to as "*RDA/IVRPD Pass Through Agreement*") regarding the allocation of property taxes, the improvement and maintenance of RDA property, and funding for recreation programs (see Exhibit 1). As part of the improvement and maintenance portion of the *RDA/IVRPD Pass Through Agreement*, IVRPD agreed to maintain RDA owned open space in Isla Vista. Since 1992 the RDA has purchased twelve open space parcels on the Isla Vista bluff-top (see Exhibit 2).

One component of the *RDA/IVRPD Pass Through Agreement* requires the IVRPD Board of Directors to designate RDA property according to park designations identified in the District Master Plan following a hearing by the IV Project Area Committee (PAC) and the RDA. To date, no designation process has occurred on

RDA owned parcels. RDA staff believes past and current IVRPD maintenance and improvement of RDA parks have, however, been consistent with this agreement.

On September 25, 2002, the IV PAC held a hearing on this subject. At that meeting the PAC made no recommendation regarding potential park designations. However, the PAC did suggest that the District consider ensuring that RDA property designations are consistent with open-space policies and projects that are developed as part of the on-going Isla Vista Master Plan process.

The *RDA/IVRPD Pass Through Agreement* requires only that the RDA hold a public hearing. While your Board is not required to make a recommendation regarding appropriate IVRPD park designations for RDA property in Isla Vista, RDA staff is recommending your Board adopt a resolution supporting park-designations recommended by IVRPD staff.

Isla Vista Recreation and Park District - Park Designation Recommendation

The District Master Plan has four categories of parks: neighborhood, bluff-top, natural open space and major parks (see Exhibit 2). Uses on these park categories range in intensity from soccer to bird watching. District staff has proposed that RDA park-parcels should be used as blufftop parks and therefore should be designated according to the District Master Plan as *Blufftop Parks*. Since the 1992, when the *RDA/IVRPD Pass Through Agreement* was originally adopted, IVRPD has amended their District Master Plan. The amended District Master Plan includes updates to the original park categories. While consistent with the categories in the 1992 District Master Plan, the new categories include additional options for greater variability in park-types. The designation *Blufftop Parks*, would be consistent with preliminary park and open space policies under consideration in the Isla Vista Master Plan.

Upon completion of this public hearing, IVRPD staff will forward RDA Board and public comments to the District Board for consideration of park designation within the District Master Plan in the upcoming months. IVRPD will ensure that the improvement and maintenance of the RDA parks will continue to be comparable to that of similarly designated District property pursuant to the pass-through agreement.

Mandates and Service Levels:

This hearing is required in the RDA adopted *RDA/IVRPD Pass Through Agreement*.

Consistency with the Five-Year Work Program:

The Isla Vista Master Plan project and the development of amendments to the Redevelopment Plan are included in Comprehensive Planning's five-year work program.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Staff costs associated with this hearing are included in Planning and Development's FY 02/03 budget. These funds can be found in the Redevelopment Agency cost center on page 262 of the adopted FY 02/03 budget.

Concurrence:

County Counsel

Exhibits:

Exhibit 1 – *RDA/IVRPD Pass Through Agreement*

Exhibit 2 – Agency Owned Property and IVRPD Park Designations

Exhibit 3 – Resolution

Redevelopment Agency Owned Property

APN	Common Park Name	Description
75-193-03	DP Open Space	6700 Del Playa Open Space, No Development, No Bluff Fence
75-193-12	DP Open Space	6700 Del Playa Open Space, No Development, No Bluff Fence
75-193-18	DP Open Space	6700 Del Playa Open Space, No Development, No Bluff Fence
75-193-24	DP Open Space	6700 Del Playa Open Space, No Development, No Bluff Fence
75-193-26	DP Open Space	6700 Del Playa Open Space, No Development, No Bluff Fence
75-193-35	DP Open Space	6700 Del Playa Open Space, No Development, No Bluff Fence
75-193-36	DP Open Space	6700 Del Playa Open Space, No Development, No Bluff Fence
75-193-37	DP Open Space	6700 Del Playa Open Space, No Development, No Bluff Fence
75-202-37	Del Playa Courts	6600 Del Playa Open Space, Informal Volleyball Court, Bluff Fence
75-223-03	Pelican Park	Developed Bluff-Top Park, Benches, Picnic Tables, Trails, Art Elements
75-223-05	Pelican Park	Developed Bluff-Top Park, Benches, Picnic Tables, Trails, Art Elements
75-223-06	Pelican Park	Developed Bluff-Top Park, Benches, Picnic Tables, Trails, Art Elements

Isla Vista Recreation and Park District Master Plan Park Designations

Neighborhood Parks

These parks are located throughout Isla Vista. Their purpose is to serve residents who live in the surrounding neighborhoods. Each park is less than 3 acres in size. They do not have restrooms or playing fields, and they are intended for passive recreational use. This means that parks users can run and play in them and hold small picnics. They are not designed to accommodate large events.

Bluff-Top Parks

The purpose of these parks is to provide residents and visitors with opportunities to enjoy views of the ocean, surf and the Channel Islands. Marine wildlife such as birds, dolphins, sea lions and whales can be observed from these locations. These parks are each under 3 acres in size. They do not have restrooms or playing fields and are intended for passive recreational use only.

Natural Open Spaces

Reminiscent of the age before Isla Vista was developed, our natural open spaces provide Isla Vista residents with areas where we can relax and forget about the concerns of everyday life. Some of these areas are planted with trees, shrubs and other natives of the Isla Vista mesa.

Major Parks

There are three parks located in downtown Isla Vista. Often the site of community events, these parks are the most heavily used in the District. In addition, the community gardens and large play areas on Estero Road enhance quality of life for many Isla Vistans.