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: 8/26/02
Department Name: Parks
Department No.: 052
Agenda Date: 9/24/02

Placement: Administrative

Estimate Time:

Continued Item: NO If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Terri Maus-Nisich

Parks Director

STAFF Rick Wheeler

CONTACT: South County Deputy Parks Director (681-5653)

SUBJECT: Allocation of \$15,000 from the South Coast West Quimby Fee Trust Fund for the

Construction of a New Playground at University Circle Open Space; Second

Supervisorial District

Recommendation:

That the Board of Supervisors approve the attached budget revision to appropriate \$15,000 from the South Coast West Quimby Fee Trust Fund (#1400) as partial funding for the construction of a new playground at the University Circle Open Space area in unincorporated west Goleta.

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:

In March of 2002, County Parks was contacted by neighbors living near the University Circle neighborhood park (open space) who were concerned with the condition of the 15-year-old wooden playground equipment located within this open space area. County Parks met with a group of neighbors to inform them that the replacement of this equipment was not included in the Park Department's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), as projected out for the next several years. The neighbors offered to fund-raise and partner with County Parks to upgrade the existing playground equipment outside of the CIP cycle. Staff agreed to participate in a replacement plan that depended heavily on neighborhood fund-raising and volunteerism. In order to fund-raise and secure volunteers to support the project, the neighbors formed a group they called the "University Circle Playground Committee" (UCPC).

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The current estimate to replace the play equipment is \$70,000. To date, the UCPC has raised approximately \$20,000. County Parks is committing \$30,000 from prior year CIP funding remaining from other completed playground projects. County Parks will also provide the labor for installation.

At their August 22, 2002 meeting, the Santa Barbara County Park Commission approved the UCPC's request of \$15,000 from the South Coast West Quimby Fee Trust Fund, bringing the total funding available for this project to \$65,000. The remaining \$5,000 required will be made up through project refinement, material donations, and/or continued fund-raising. It is anticipated that, with the approval of this budget revision, the additional funds could be obtained and the project completed by the end of calendar year 2002.

Mandates and Service Levels:

There are no mandates or changes in service levels.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Funding for the \$15,000 requested County contribution is currently 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 Trust Fund is \$67,355. Approval of this funding request would reduce the available balance in this Trust Fund to \$52,355.

There is no impact to facilities that requires additional staffing or other costs.

Special Instructions:

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

Concurrence:

Santa Barbara County Park Commission – August 22, 2002 Auditor-Controller