

**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: 8/6/02
Department Name: Parks
Department No.: 052
Agenda Date: 8/20/02
Placement: Departmental
Estimate Time: 30 min.
Continued Item: YES
If Yes, date from: 8/6/02

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Rick Wheeler
Interim Director of Parks

STAFF CONTACT: Claude Garciacelay
Park Planner, 568-2469

SUBJECT: Receive a report on the Park Development Mitigation Fee Reduction Program for Beneficial Projects in the South Coast West Recreation Demand Area and determine whether or not to continue the Program; 2nd and 3rd Districts

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive a report on the fee reductions granted for the period July 1999 to July 2002 on Park Development Mitigation Fees in the South Coast West Recreation Demand Area; and,
- b) Determine whether or not to continue the Fee Reduction Program pursuant to Resolutions 99-251 and 99-252.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No. 5.A High Quality of Life for All Residents; and with Goal No. 1. An Efficient Government Able to Respond Effectively to the Needs of the Community.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

In June 1999, the Board adopted ordinance amendments (Ordinance 4363 & 4364) to Parks' Development Impact Mitigation Fee Ordinances authorizing the Board to establish by resolution a Fee Reduction Program with categories of "beneficial" projects eligible for up-front mitigation impact fee reductions. Two fee collection areas were established by the Board through resolution and are the AB1600 fees for residential development in the South Coast West Recreation Demand Area (generally west of Highway 154 and Las Positas Road to Gaviota) and the AB1600 fees for commercial and industrial development in the Goleta Planning Area. The Ordinances establish that any fee reductions must be accompanied by a finding of

substitute funds. These substitute offset funds are primarily to be sought from, but not limited to, state and federal park related grant revenues. The Board established through resolution, categories of “beneficial” projects to identify types of development projects that reflect both county and community development priorities in need of some level of relief in paying park development mitigation fees.

The resolutions require that “The Park Department shall report to the Board once every three years or once \$120,000 of fee reductions have been granted, whichever occurs first. The report shall identify the total amount of Park Development Mitigation fee reductions granted, park grant revenues received, and anticipated grant revenues. The Board of Supervisors shall determine at that time whether or not to continue the fee reduction program.”

This report represents the status of the program through the three year period from July 1999 to July 2002.

Fee Reduction Program for Beneficial Projects Report:

Per the requirements of Ordinance 4363/Resolution 99-251 and Ordinance 4364/Resolution 99-252 (Attachment B) County Parks reports the following for the Board’s consideration:

This is the first report provided as part of the Fee Reduction Program for Beneficial Projects (Program) coinciding with the lapsed time of three years from the Program adoption per the requirement of the Resolutions. The adopted resolutions are applicable to beneficial residential projects within the South Coast West Recreational Demand Area (Fund 1405) and beneficial commercial/industrial projects within the Goleta Community Plan area (Fund 1396). Neither Mitigation Fund (1405 or 1396) reached the reporting threshold of \$120,000 prior to the three year period. County Parks reviewed various development projects that qualified under the Fee Reduction Program for Beneficial Projects (Attachment A) during this period.

Total Fee Reductions granted 7/99 to 7/02:

Park Development Mitigation Fee (Residential) – Fund #1405 =	\$113,960
Park Development Mitigation Fee (Commercial/Industrial) – Fund #1396 =	\$14,213

During this time period (7/99 to 7/02), County Parks was successful in securing various grants (Attachment A) for use within the areas covered by the Program. Grant sources included the State AB1431 program, CREF and US Fish and Wildlife Service & the National Association of Counties. One particular grant secured by Parks for the preparation of the Santa Barbara Shores Open Space Habitat Management Plan was applied for and awarded prior to the establishment of the City of Goleta. Parks anticipates that this grant, totaling \$110,000 and per our contract with the City, will be administered by Parks in favor of the City.

Total Grant funds awarded to County Parks within the Program area – 7/99 to 7/02:

\$632, 650 (includes \$110,000 grant for SB Shores OSHMP)

County Parks continues to pursue grant opportunities as they become available and as an appropriate “fit” is determined between a grant program and a parks project. The Fee Reduction Program reporting requests a listing of anticipated grant revenues within the program area. The following County Parks grant proposals are pending award notice and are within the Fee Reduction Program area.

Anticipated Future Grant Revenues:

State Riparian and Riverine Habitat Grant Program

Project: More Mesa Open Space Pedestrian Access Bridge and Habitat Restoration

Grant Amount - \$400,000

CREF

Project: Arroyo Burro Ranger Shed

Grant Amount - \$40,000

CREF

Project: Goleta Beach Restoration Planting

Grant Amount - \$17,500

Coastal Conservancy

Project: Goleta Beach Parking Lot Improvements (Associated with heavy vehicle traffic for beach nourishment)

Grant Amount - \$180,000

State Proposition 12 and 40

Projects: TBD

Grant Amount – Potentially a share of \$4.1 million available to the County

Board of Supervisors Consideration

After considering the above provided information, the appurtenant Fee Reduction Program Resolutions direct that the Board of Supervisors shall determine whether or not to continue the Fee Reduction Program. If the Board chooses to continue the program, County Parks will report back to the Board within another three year period of once \$120,000 has been expended as part of either Fee Reduction Program resolutions.

Mandates and Service Levels:

Ordinance 4363 and 4364 and appurtenant resolutions require the reporting and consideration of the Fee Reduction Program for Beneficial Projects to the Board once every three years or once \$120,000 in fee reduction have been granted. The hearing today meets the three year reporting requirement.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Fiscal impacts within the Fee Reduction Program areas can be anticipated to continue based on the reduction of the amount of full fees collected on projects deemed “beneficial” as defined in the adopted resolutions. It is anticipated that pending grant applications, in excess of \$600,000, within the Fee Reduction Program areas will offset potential future fee reductions through the next reporting period.

Special Instructions:

Clerk of the Board to provide the minute order to County Parks, Attention: Claude Garciacelay.

Concurrence:

County Counsel

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