



APPROVED

OCT 16 2001

OFFICE OF THE  
CITY CLERK

2.23

DEPARTMENT OF  
PARKS AND RECREATION

**CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA**

1231 I STREET, #400  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
95814-2997

RICHARD RAMIREZ  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

(916) 264-5200  
FAX 264-7346

October 6, 2001

City Council  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT: VERNAL POOL PRESERVATION HABITAT CREDITS FOR  
ROBLA COMMUNITY PARK, PHASE 1 (PN: LN61)**

**LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT:** Bell Avenue at Taylor Street,  
Council District 2

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the purchase of vernal pool preservation habitat credits from Conservation Resources, LLC, in the amount of \$246,800.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Dennis Day, Interim Senior Landscape Architect, 264-7633

**FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF:** October 16, 2001

**SUMMARY:**

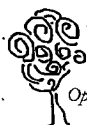
The first phase of development for Robla Community Park is 8.0 acres of this 18.5 acre park located on Bell Avenue at Taylor Street in North Sacramento. Approval of the purchase of vernal pool preservation habitat credits from Conservation Resources, LLC, is recommended.

**COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION:**

The Parks and Recreation Citizen's Advisory Committee approved the Robla Community Park master plan on October 10, 1999.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

As stated in the 2000 draft Parks Master Plan, this planning area had a community park deficit of



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41 acres in 1999, which will grow to 54 acres by 2015. The development of Robla Community Park will help to address this deficit. Phase One development of Robla Community Park will include grading, drainage, an automatic irrigation system, landscape and turf planting, concrete walkways, street frontage and sidewalk improvements, a 40-car parking lot, a baseball field, soccer fields, children's playground, and a group picnic area. In order to develop the portion of Robla Community Park which is within 250 feet or within the designated wetland area, vernal pool preservation habitat credits must be purchased prior to development. The park should be complete and open to the public in May 2002.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The total cost for Phase One park development and street frontage improvement costs, wetland mitigation fees, and design and administration costs is \$1,371,318. Council approved the appropriations associated with, and budget transfers for Robla Community Park on September 4, 2001. Therefore, all costs associated with the purchase of vernal pool preservation habitat credits were previously appropriated.

Once the park is complete next May, there will be ongoing annual costs to the general fund for water, electricity, park maintenance staffing, supplies, chemicals, vehicles and equipment. The estimated annual ongoing operations and maintenance cost for Phase I improvements is \$45,000. For every 45 acres of new parkland added within the City of Sacramento, the Department of Parks and Recreation requires the addition of a mobile crew that consists of the following full time equivalent (FTE) employees: 1 Park Maintenance Worker II, 1.5 Park Maintenance Worker I (1 full-time FTE and one .5 Limited Term FTE), and .42 Utility Worker FTE, in order to maintain the current level of maintenance throughout all City parkland.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

In accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15070, a Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared for the proposed project. The project was identified to have potentially significant impacts to biological resources (wetlands), soils, water, air quality, hazards and cultural resources. All potentially significant impacts have been mitigated to a less than significant level in the Negative Declaration.

The Negative Declaration was circulated to OPR and public review for 30 days from July 18, 2000 through August 16, 2000. The Notice of Availability was circulated in a newspaper of local circulation and to neighbors of the project. Comments were received from Gloria Savoniemi on Windcloud Avenue, DTSC and Regional Water Quality Control Board. Wetlands issues were addressed through an ACOE Section 7 Consultation with the USFWS. Issues of concern were noise, water quality, wetlands and possible historic pesticide use on the site.

Environmental Mitigation associated with the development of Robla Community Park requires

the purchase of vernal pool creation and preservation habitat credits from a mitigation bank. Robla Community Park site was identified to have to .17 acres of seasonal wetland and 1.36 acres of vernal pool for a total 1.53 acres of jurisdictional wetland on the park site. The proposed master plan for the park, all phases included, is expected to directly impact 1.72 acres of seasonal wetland and vernal pools.

The City is required to mitigate all direct and indirect impacts to the wetlands and vernal pools by planned park development by purchasing mitigation credits at an approved mitigation bank on a 1:1 and 2:1 ratio. The wetland area contains endangered species. According to the Endangered Species Act, the Vernal Pool Creation mitigation ratio is 1:1 and the Vernal Pool Preservation mitigation ratio is 2:1. The City is required to purchase 4.63 acres of mitigation credits (based on a ratio formula for endangered species) for the 1.53 acres of affected wetland area. Approval of the purchase of vernal pool preservation habitat credits from Conservation Resources, LLC, is recommended. The quotes received on September 14, 2001 are summarized below:

Mitigation Bank Bid	Vernal Pool Creation (1:1 ratio)	Cost \$	Vernal Pool Preservation (2:1 ratio)	Cost \$	Total \$
Wildlands, Inc.	3.1 acres	\$182,900	1.53 acres	\$91,800	\$274,700
Conservation Resources, LLC	3.1 acres	\$155,000	1.53 acres	\$91,800	\$246,800


**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

Award of this contract is consistent with Title 3 of the Sacramento City Code. Additionally, it meets City Council's goal to expand park and recreation opportunities.

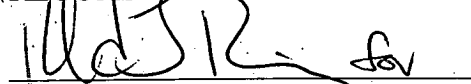
**ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:**

No ESBD qualified businesses that deal with environmental mitigation habitats were found.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
 Richard Ramirez  
 Interim Director

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:

  
 ROBERT P. THOMAS  
 City Manager

**APPROVED**  
OCT 16 2001  
OFFICE OF THE  
CITY CLERK

**RESOLUTION NO. 2001-687**

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

**VERNAL POOL PRESERVATION HABITAT CREDITS FOR ROBLA COMMUNITY  
PARK, PHASE 1 (PN: LN61)**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO THAT:**

The City Council hereby:

Approves the purchase of vernal pool preservation habitat credits from Conservation Resources, LLC in the amount of \$246,800.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

**FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY**

RESOLUTION NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_