



Parks and Recreation Commission
March 20, 2008

AGENDA ITEM 6

DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS AND RECREATION

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

3801 POWER INN ROAD
SACRAMENTO, CA
95826-4332

RECREATION ADMINISTRATION

February 26, 2008

PH 916-808-5200
FAX 916-808-6180

Parks and Recreation Commission
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: SUPPORT THE *PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY SAFETY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN*

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide, All Council Districts

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) review, provide comment, and support the proposed *Parks and Recreation Facility Safety Implementation Plan* (Exhibit A – **TO BE DELIVERED via email and hard copy delivered at PRC meeting**).

CONTACT PERSON: Jonathan Rewers, Parks and Recreation Analyst, 808-7590

FOR COMMISSION MEETING OF: March 6, 2008

SUMMARY:

On December 6, 2007 the Parks and Recreation Commission supported *Part I* of the *Parks and Recreation Facility Safety Implementation Plan* (Plan). The proposed *Plan* was brought forward due to the fact that between 2003 and 2006 there was a further decline in residents feeling safe in City parks, according to a scientific public survey. Part I of the Plan included: safety assessment criteria; a public outreach/Park Safety Audit process, and a recommendation/process to complete a Best Management Practices (BMP) study on the Department of Parks and Recreation's Park Safety Services Program.

With the PRC's support, staff brought the proposed Plan forward to the City Council on January 8, 2008. The recommendation included a scope, schedule and budget for development of Part II of the plan to include final recommendations: an assessment of park sites; action plans for park facilities selected for a Park Safety Audit; BMP recommendations including staffing/service levels and revenue/funding recommendations. The City Council approved staff's recommendation, but, requested that staff revise the process to deliver final recommendations to the City Council by the end of March 2008.

Staff is now bringing forward Part II of the Plan, and is recommending that the PRC review, provide comment and support the recommendations.



Optimize the Experience of Living!

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In August/September 2006, the Department of Parks and Recreation completed a public survey, which indicated between 2003 and 2006 that there was a further decline in residents feeling safe in City parks. In 2003, less than half (48%) of the respondents assigned a letter grade of "A" or "B" when evaluating overall security and public safety in City parks. In 2006, the concern over public safety increased with only 41% of respondents assigning high grades.

Ensuring that the City's park and recreation system creates a positive, clean, vibrant and safe environment required a comprehensive strategy that needs to be targeted at the facility/neighborhood level. No one solution has proven to resolve the issue and falling perception by the public that the City's parks and facilities are not safe. Staff, therefore, brought a comprehensive plan the *Park and Recreation Facility Safety Implementation Plan* (Plan) forward to both the PRC and City Council in order to develop specific recommendations for both capital improvements and operations meant to resolve some of the concerns regarding safety at City parks and recreation facilities.

On January 8, 2008, the City Council approved the *Parks and Recreation Safety Implementation Plan*. Staff was directed to streamline the process, complete the plan and come forward with concrete action plans by March 2008.

The current status of the Plan is as follows:

PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY SAFETY IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

PART 1 – Planning & Development Process

Parks and Recreation Facility Safety Assessment Criteria developed/approved

Parks Safety Audit Process (community process) developed/approved

Park Safety Services Best Management Practices (BMP) process developed/approved

Plan Budget - \$50,000 in Park Impact Fees approved

Plan Schedule – updated per City Council request for streamlined process by March 2008

PART 2 – Action Plans, BMP Development and Revenue/Funding

Updated schedule and streamlined process completed

Using approved criteria, assessment of 38 parks completed (list generated by Council)

9 park sites for Park Safety Audits and Action Plans selected

Park Safety Audits at 10 community forums/meetings performed

Park Safety Ranger and Police Department staff site evaluations of 9 parks completed

Special workshop with PRC regarding Park Safety Audits completed

For BMP : high level review of Park Safety operations at 7 other jurisdictions performed

Draft BMP recommendations (staffing and service level goals) developed

Action Plans and CIP funding recommendations for 9 park facilities developed

Staff is now bringing forward Part II of the Plan, and is recommending that the PRC review, provide comment and support the recommended implementation plan.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

As part of the final recommendation to the City Council, staff is recommending as part of the Action Plans capital improvements at the **Tier I** and **Tier II** levels. Tier I recommendations are those items that will be constructed immediately and can be fully funded using available resources. Tier II recommendations are longer term items, and in most cases involve the remaster planning of a park site to integrate new amenities and safety into the overall design. Those items that cannot be funded are recommended to be included in the *2008 Parks and Recreation Programming Guide* for future funding consideration.

In total, staff is recommending the establishment of nine capital improvement projects for Tier I recommendations at the nine selected park sites totaling approximately \$1.2 million. Tier II recommendations total approximately \$660,000. Funding for these capital improvement projects will come from both Quimby In-Lieu Fees and Park Impact Fees within the eleven community planning areas.

In addition, as part of the BMP, staff is recommending that a possible across the board nominal fee attached to reservations and permit related activities be added to recognize their impact to the park system. This would be one possible strategy in funding additional Park Safety Services staff.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

Staff's recommendation is consistent with policies in the City Council adopted *2005-2010 Parks and Recreation Master Plan* including:

Policy 1.6: Ensure both physical and psychological safety in design, management and use of all Department facilities and programs, considering the safety of users, employees and volunteers the highest of priorities.

Policy 2.3: Make regular outreach visits to community gathering places to gauge satisfaction with services and to identify recreation trends and issues relevant to planning and management of services.

Policy 3.3: Adjust operations, goals and policies in response to ongoing customer and nonuser feedback.

Policy 13.22: Design and develop safe, sustainable and useable parks and facilities in accordance with the City Park and Recreation Facility Design and Development Standards.

Policy 13.26: Design night lighting to consider anticipated park use, safety and adjacent uses.

Policy 13.32: Design parks and recreation facilities to reduce vandalism, crime and graffiti, and for ease of repair and removal.


Policy 13.37: Ensure community review and participation in developing site master plans in accordance with the City Site Specific Park Master Plan/Development Process.

In addition, staff's recommendation is an element of the Implementation Strategies section of the City Council adopted the *2005-2010 Parks and Recreation Master Plan* which states:

Implementation 1.1: *Safety Services:* Work with City Police Department and other local law enforcement organizations to identify target areas and implement improvement measures. Pursue funding for additional Park Safety Services staffing.

Implementation 1.3: *Security Lighting:* Increase in target areas identified through additional September 2003 Telephone Survey results analysis and by Park Safety Services staff.

Recommendation Approved:


ALAN TOMIYAMA
Recreation Manager

Recommendation Approved:


J.P. TINDELL
Planning & Development Manager

Recommendation Approved:


JANET BAKER
Operations Manager

Attachments: **TO BE DELIVERED**

Exhibit A: *Parks and Recreation Facility Safety Implementation Plan* (Draft)

Exhibit B: Power Point Presentation

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR	CITY OF SACRAMENTO March, 2008	1231 I STREET, ROOM 400 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-2998
---	-----------------------------------	--

The following report highlights Department events and activities that took place during the month of **February, 2008** as well as those that will take place during the month of **March, 2008**. In addition, the report provides brief updates on follow-up items from the **February, 2008** Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

Last Month's Highlights: February, 2008

New Amenities at Regency Community Park – February 18th (Location: 5500 Honor Parkway)

After Phase 2 construction, Regency Community Park's now has a new 2-acre dog park, soccer field, and a bike and pedestrian trail. This is in addition to the amenities that were already there—a skate park, baseball fields, disc golf course, and fully accessible playground.

Cup Stacking Tournament – Didion Elementary School, February 23rd

Approximately two hundred Cup Stackers and their family members competed or watched others compete at the 3rd Annual City of Sacramento Cup Stacking Tournament. As in previous years, the Department was represented by 5 to 12-year-old youth in its Sacramento START program.

Hampton Park – Opened for Public Use, Feb 27th (Location: Corner of Hampton Way and Kennedy Drive, in the Meadowview area)

Hampton Park is now open for public use. The park is a joint-use detention basin and a park. It has a group picnic area with a shade structure, a tot lot and adventure area, half a basketball court, and a soccer field.

North Natomas Park Development: Awarded \$1.2 million in new pathway improvements to N. Natomas Regional Park and \$800,000 for completion of Phase 2 of Westlake Park.

River District Specific Plan: The Economic Development Dept. is leading the City's effort to update the Richards Blvd Area Plan in 2008. The plan will include parks, open space and recreation facilities.

This Month's Highlights: March, 2008

- **2008 Sacramento Paralympic Academy**, Mar. 1st, Sacramento State University
DPR's Access Leisure program and U.S. Paralympics hosted a paralympic academy at Sac State. There were educational sessions on Wheelchair Basketball, Quad Rugby, Track and Field, Hand Cycling, Wheelchair Tennis, Sit Volley Ball, Goal Ball, and Sled Hockey. The event was a grand success.
- **Jr. NBA/Jr. WNBA Youth Basketball Skills Competition**
Yesterday, the culminating basketball competition for 4th-6th graders in the Jr. NBA/Jr. WNBA Youth Basketball program took place at Arco Arena. This season, 65 teams throughout the City participated in the program. Of the 65 teams, 12 teams advanced to Wednesday's competition. The event was well attended and enjoyed by all.
- **DPR Egg Hunts**
The Department will again host its annual Egg Hunts. The egg hunts are some of our most popular events and as usual, our staff are working hard to make sure families enjoy the event. This year's hunts will take place at the following parks: William Land Park (March 15), Belle Cooledge Library Park (March 15), Parkway Oaks Park (March 22), and Robla Park (March 22).

Current Topics/Issues

- City Budget Update

Follow-up Items from Feb. 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings

Requested By	Issue/Topic	Status	Staff Contact
D. Price	Use of cell tower revenues	See email to PRC from JPT dtd. 2/26/08	J.P. Tindell, 808-1955
Cindy Cooke	Land Park Parking	Postponed to April Meeting	Howard Chan, 808-7488