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February 5, 1991

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• NORTH
• SOUTH
• CITY-WIDE

Joint Budget and Finance/Transportation
and Community Development Committee
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Plaza Park Master Plan Process and 1991 Programming

SUMMARY

This report provides information on the public hearing process to develop a new master plan for Plaza Park. Additionally, this report includes a schedule of special events and programs planned by the Department of Parks and Community Services for the park this year. This report is for Council information only.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Master Plan Process

On October 30, 1990, City Council authorized the development of a new master plan and improvements for Plaza Park. Specifically, City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) to fund improvements and the development of a new master plan for the park. In addition, City Council authorized the Director of Parks and Community Services to conduct public hearings necessary to develop a new master plan.

A preliminary master plan for Plaza Park was recently completed and reviewed by the Plaza Park Steering Committee. (The Steering Committee is composed of representatives from various City departments, SHRA, citizens, farmers' market, and downtown merchants and developers.) This plan incorporates input received from a variety of interested public/private groups and accommodates cultural performances, the farmers' market, food service, an expanded water element, preservation of historic elements, and retention of existing trees. It will be presented at the public hearings as a model for developing the final master plan.

Public hearings will begin in February and tentatively conclude in July 1991 (see attached schedule). The hearings will be conducted by the Parks and Community Services' Landscape Architecture Section with the involvement of the Steering Committee. Notice of the hearings will appear in local newspapers and will be sent directly to interest groups and surrounding residents.

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Department staff will finalize the new master plan, file appropriate environmental documents, and tentatively return to City Council in February 1992 with a final master plan and cost estimate for Plaza Park.

1991 Programming

Special events and programs planned for 1991 include: Farmer's Market from May to December; mobile food vending June through October; City Life cultural programming and a book fair in July and August; "Sacramento Reads" in September, and the Pumpkin Patch Festival in October.

Due to the success of the Pumpkin Patch Festival, Department staff and the Plaza Park Steering Committee are examining the potential of a summer produce festival that would involve the farmer's market, downtown restaurants, and other sponsors. The Steering Committee will make recommendations on incorporating Plaza Park into grand opening festivities for the Galleria and Plaza Park Towers next year as well.

FINANCIAL DATA

Funding for the implementation of a new master plan has not been identified. Partial funding may come from the private sector. Department staff will work with the Steering Committee to identify potential funding sources and phased implementation of the master plan once it is adopted.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Development of a master plan for Plaza Park and continued programming is consistent with the City Council's policy and commitment to revitalize downtown Sacramento.

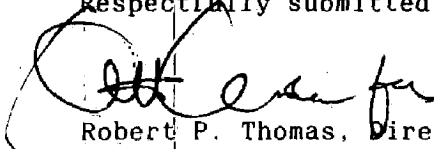
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No impact.

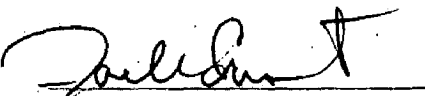
RECOMMENDATION

This report is for Council information only.

Respectfully submitted,


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Parks and Community Services

Recommendation Approved:


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District No. 1

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