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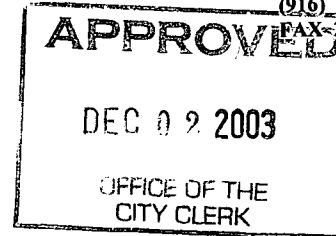
DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS AND RECREATION

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

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

PARK PLANNING DESIGN
AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

(916) 264-1190
FAX 264-8329



November 14, 2003

City Council
Sacramento, California

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF PARK NAME ASSIGNMENT AND MASTER PLAN FOR
RIVER OTTER PARK CIP (PN: LW12)**

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: Barandas Drive at Sweet Pea Way,
Council District 1

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council, by resolution (page 4):

- ▶ Approve the name assignment for River Otter Park (formerly Natomas West Park); and
- ▶ Approve the River Otter Park master plan.

CONTACT PERSON: JANET BAKER, PARK DEVELOPMENT MANAGER, 808-8234

FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: December 2, 2003

SUMMARY:

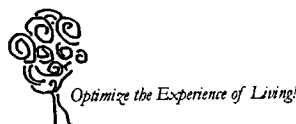
Staff recommends that City Council approve the name assignment and park master plan for River Otter Park.

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION:

The Parks and Recreation Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) approved the park name assignment and master plan for the development of River Otter Park on July 3, 2003.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

River Otter Park is an undeveloped, 1.8 acre neighborhood park, located on the corner of



Barandas Drive and Sweet Pea Way in South Natomas. See Exhibit A (page 5). The master plan for River Otter Park was created and developed through the public participation process. The Department of Parks and Recreation held two community workshops on January 29, 2003 and April 2, 2003. The community approved the master plan on April 2, 2003. See Exhibit B (page 6). The community requested that the park be renamed from "Natomas West Park" to "River Otter Park."

The River Otter Park master plan includes basic landscaping, a concrete walkway, open turf, a picnic area, and a native tree area. Future phases of the master plan include a tot lot playground, and a half court basketball court. The River Otter Park master plan meets the Maintainable Park Design Guidelines. At least 20% of the site is designed with native trees and urban forest, non-irrigated native grasses and mulch.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There are no financial considerations associated with the approval of the name assignment and master plan for River Otter Park. Funding is available in CIP (PN: LW12) for the development of Phase One improvements of River Otter Park. When the park is developed, however, maintenance costs will not have adequate funding. Maintenance for this park is estimated to be \$14,400 annually.

The Neighborhood Park Maintenance Community Facilities District (CFD) was established to reduce reliance on the general fund for neighborhood park maintenance and to preserve the level of maintenance in the parks system. It was projected that revenues from the CFD would provide approximately 65-70% of the cost associated with maintaining new neighborhood parks for those areas that annex to the District. Since some areas have not annexed to the District, the percentage of costs covered for this particular site may fall below the 65-70% level. The balance of costs must be borne by the Citywide Landscape and Lighting District and other city funds. It is anticipated that significant revenues from the CFD will not begin until 2005. In the meantime, maintenance funds must be derived from other sources. There are some remaining homes to be developed in the West Natomas area which will be annexed at some time in the future to the CFD. Because of the limited development remaining, the funding levels for West Natomas Park will be far less than the typical 65-70% of maintenance covered in areas where there is full participation in the CFD.

Unless there is funding for maintenance, citywide service levels will be reduced to accommodate this unfunded maintenance responsibility.

Existing parks and all community parks, regional parks, open space, trails and buffer areas are not covered by the CFD.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The Planning and Building Department, Environmental Planning Services has reviewed the project and has determined that it is categorically exempt under CEQA Guidelines 15332. The project is categorically exempt because it involves the development of an infill site for park use where the project meets the infill conditions as listed in the CEQA Guidelines.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

The development of River Otter Park is consistent with the City's Strategic Plan goal to expand park and recreation opportunities.

ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:

All *Emerging and Small Business Development Guidelines* will be followed when securing professional services for the development of this park.

Respectfully Submitted,



ROBERT G. OVERSTREET
Director, Parks and Recreation

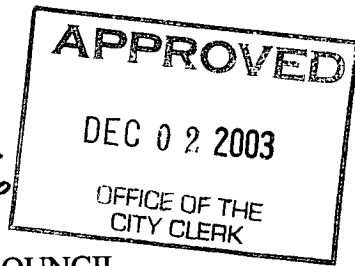
Recommendation Approved:



ROBERT P. THOMAS
City Manager

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RESOLUTION NO. 2003-846

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF: _____

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PARK NAME ASSIGNMENT AND MASTER PLAN FOR RIVER OTTER PARK CIP (PN: LW12).

Be it resolved by the Council of the City of Sacramento:

City Council hereby approves:

1. The name assignment for River Otter Park (formerly Natomas West Park); and
2. The River Otter Park Master Plan.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

RESOLUTION NO. _____

DATE ADOPTED: _____



City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation River Otter Park

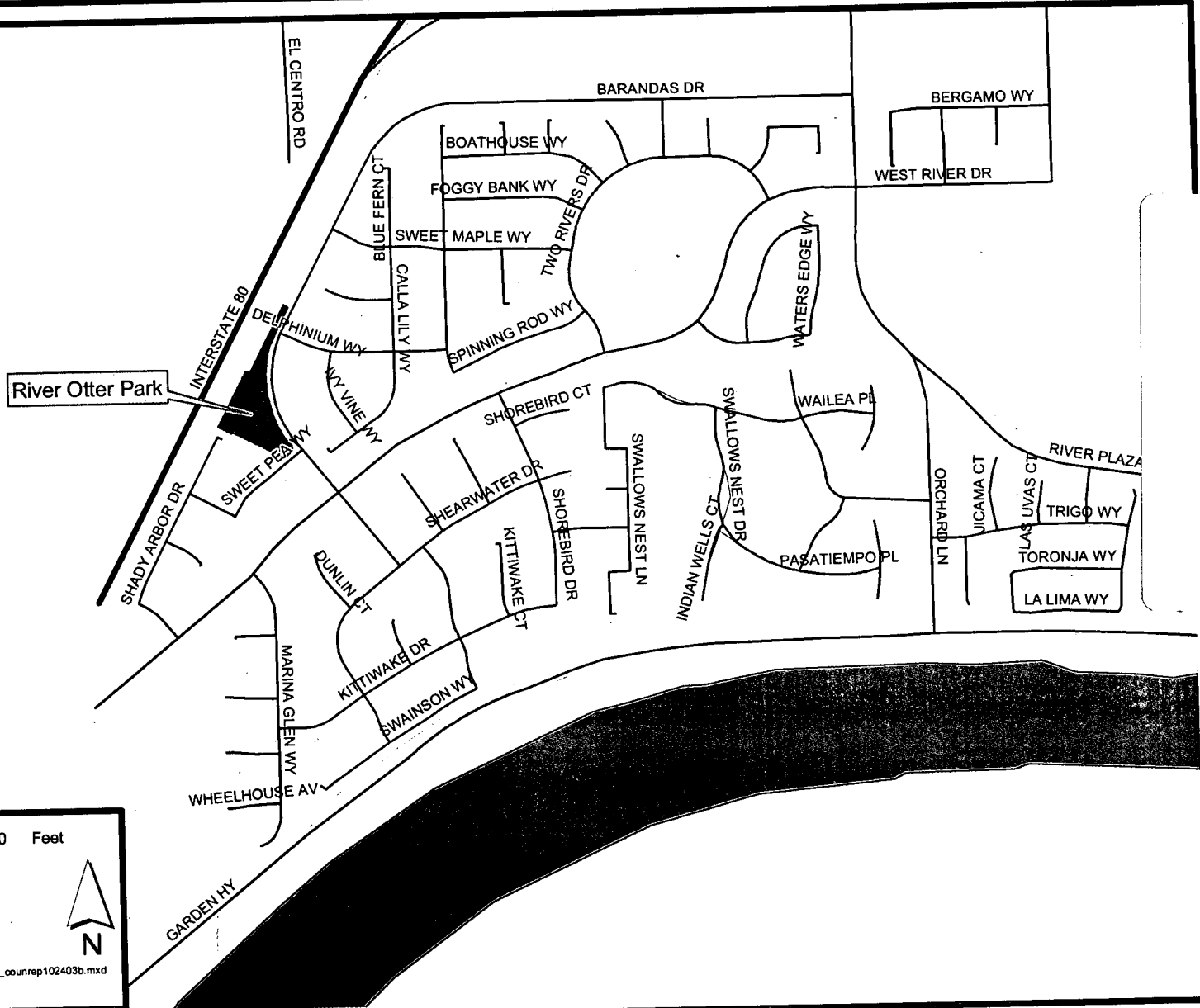
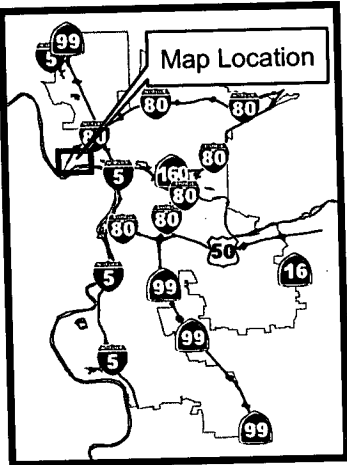
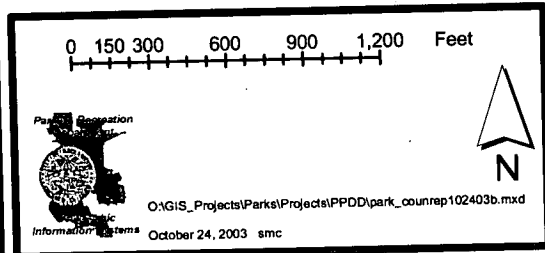


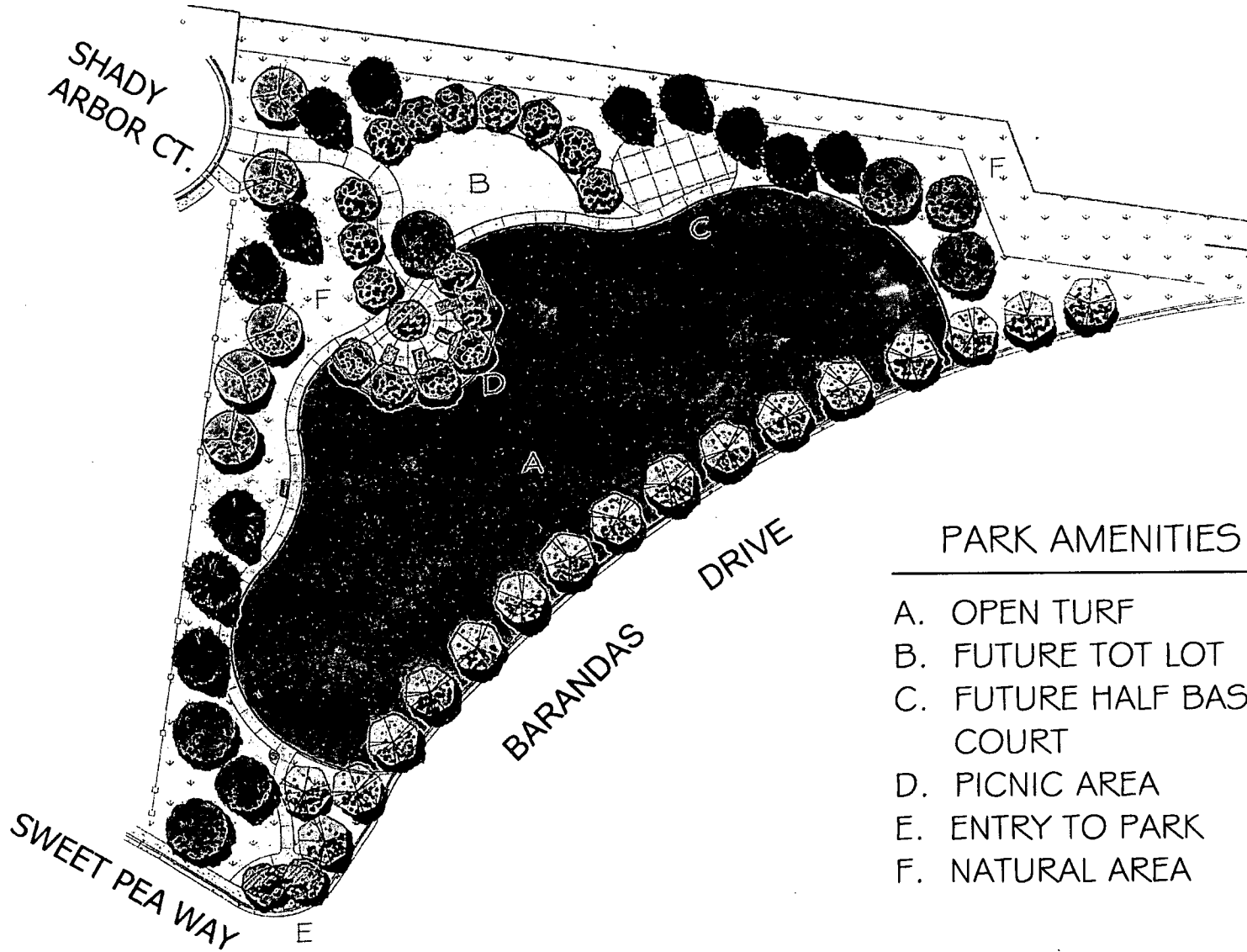
EXHIBIT A

City Limits



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EXHIBIT B



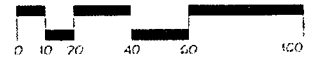
PARK AMENITIES

- A. OPEN TURF
- B. FUTURE TOT LOT
- C. FUTURE HALF BASKETBALL COURT
- D. PICNIC AREA
- E. ENTRY TO PARK
- F. NATURAL AREA

MASTER PLAN FOR: RIVER OTTER PARK



NORTH



PROJECT MANAGER: JEFF NIETKA
DESIGN BY: MICHAEL ROSALE
DATE: JUNE 2003

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