



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Parks



Date: September 8, 2016
Board Meeting Date: September 20, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: No
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Marlene Finley, Parks Director

Subject: Report Back from the Fiscal Year 2016-17 June Budget Hearing

RECOMMENDATION:

Accept this report responding to the Board's inquiry on the Mini-park Policy.

BACKGROUND:

On March 17, 2015, the Board adopted the **Measure A** allocation plan for the FY 2015-17 Budget. This budget included \$500,000 in **Measure A** funding for mini-parks.

The Mini-park Policy, adopted by the Board of Supervisors on May 19, 2015 (Resolution No. 073780), requires that proposals for new and adopted parks include a demonstrated need for the facility as well as community support for the park. Partnerships for building and sustaining parks are also encouraged under the Policy.

On June 21, 2016, the Board of Supervisors requested more information on the status of the Parks Department's Mini-park Policy.

DISCUSSION:

The following section provides the Board with the information it requested during the FY 2016-17 June Budget Hearing.

The Board of Supervisors, at its September 6, 2016 meeting (Resolution No. 074779), authorized that \$80,000 of the **Measure A** funding for mini-parks be redirected for programs, staffing and promotional information related to the Parks Shuttle Program. The Program that offers two new weekend shuttles recently started Saturday, September 10, 2016. The shuttles transport park visitors from East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, North Fair Oaks and Redwood City to Edgewood and Wunderlich County Parks. These shuttles will provide much needed transportation for those individuals that are from high density, park-poor neighborhoods.

The remaining **Measure A** funds for mini-parks will continue to be used to create and sustain small parks in unincorporated areas of the County where there is demonstrated need and partners. The first proposal to the Board of Supervisors for mini-park funding is to help support two parks operated and maintained by the Fair Oaks Beautification Association in North Fair Oaks. Parks is requesting approval of \$45,000 in funding for this proposal in a separate Board item and resolution at the Board's September 20, 2016 meeting, and the allocation of these funds is included in the FY 2016-17 Adopted Budget being considered by the Board at the same meeting.

Parks staff recently compared the costs of providing mini-parks, such as Friendship Park in North Fair Oaks, versus the costs if the County were to contract with other cities, including Redwood City. To date, County costs have remained lower than the estimates for cities to provide the same services.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no Net County Cost associated with accepting this report.