



Date: July 13, 2023
To: Board of Directors
From: David Aranda, Interim General Manager
Subject: Approval to Make Park Improvements up to \$50,000

Recommendation

Approve the General Manager expending up to \$50,000 for park improvements and safety improvements.

Background

Directors Gough and Duggan were tasked with developing a park improvement plan in conjunction with the loss of some trees. This agenda item is requesting board approval to expend up to \$50,000 to begin implementing that plan and possibly purchase additional items for safety reasons.

Exhibits

- Kensington Park Re-Planting Committee Proposal
- Photos (6)

Kensington Park Re-Planting Committee Proposal for FY 2023-2024

By: Director Duggan and Director Duggan

Date: July 13, 2023

Background:

In the June KPPCSD Board Meeting, this Committee provided an overview of the input we received as well as several recommendations for future park re-planting and care. Since that time, we have further refined our recommendations to reduce both scope and costs.

Therefore, the Kensington Park Re-Planting Committee requests approval and funding of the items outlined below to mitigate the blight and tree loss from the recent large scale tree removal along Highland Boulevard.

In this revised proposal, we substantially reduced the project scope to save costs and eliminate any need to engage a landscape architect. Separately, we flagged some maintenance concerns as well as provided preliminary suggestions for Phase 2 plantings. Please note, our Committee is not seeking approval for Phase 2 projects at this stage.

Phase 1 Proposal (to be done during Fiscal Year 2023-2024):

- Soil Testing: perform soil testing at 2 locations (Highland Blvd. and by serpentine rock) to understand soil health (pollutants and needed amendments)
 - Contractor: Cole Rainey
 - Cost Estimate: \$750

- Plant 7 trees by the Viewpoint on Highland Blvd (4 to the north and 3 to the south): combination of Coast Live Oak and California Buckeye; requires irrigation, staking and protective wire fencing
 - Contractor: Fernando Herrera's Team
 - Cost Estimate: \$10,000 (includes trees at \$5250, water line at \$3800, and County meter at \$250)

- Construct a 22 ft x 15 ft Viewpoint platform next to the sidewalk on Highland Avenue, without carve-outs for additional plantings, but with baserock, de-composed granite and wood borders in the style of the "Presidio" steps
 - Contractor: FJ+I Engineering
 - Cost Estimate: \$16,700

- Plant 5-6 Redbud trees (24" boxes) on northern and southern edges of the lawn area by Annex and Building E; requires irrigation, staking and protective wire fencing
 - Contractor: Fernando Herrera's Team
 - Cost Estimate: \$3,750 - \$4,500

- Re-finish and repair all existing park benches and re-locate 2 to use at the Viewpoint platform. The plaques which are currently on the benches at the lower viewpoint will be placed on the Viewpoint benches. The lower viewpoint seating area will have at least one bench.
 - Provider: TBD
 - Cost Estimate: \$1000

Total Phase 1 Cost Estimate: \$32,200-\$32,950

Phase 2 Preliminary Suggestions ONLY (for FY 2024-2025):

- Swale with plantings
- Full replacement of existing path
- Rehabilitation of eastern slope
- Planting of additional trees by tot lot and library
- Removal of old fruit trees by library
- Removal of old concrete and wood by library

Flagged Maintenance/Safety Concerns

- Repairing/Mitigating dangerous concrete wall by oak tree
- Replacement of decomposing retaining wall by the tot lot
- Removal/Remediation of old foundation/structural remains behind Community Center