



## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

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October 14, 2021  
Item 4

**SUBJECT: LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PROJECTS STATUS REPORT FOR  
MAY 2021 – SEPTEMBER 2021**

### **SUMMARY**

This report is submitted for informational purposes and summarizes the last two quarter's landscape architecture projects. The intent of the report is to inform the Commission of the status of ongoing landscape architecture projects for the period from May 2021 through September 2021. Items that are *italicized and* marked with this symbol ❖ denote new information since the last report.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive the report and provide comment if desired.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

There is none.

## **LIONS WAYSIDE AND DELUCCHI PARKS**

This project will result in the final design and construction of Lions Wayside and Delucchi Parks. Initial construction drawings to construct the box culvert across Lions Wayside Park in the location of the current open channel were based on the Master Plan for Lions Wayside and Delucchi Parks by R.J. Larson and Associates. The Master Plan proposed to cover a portion of the drainage channel through Lions Wayside Park, to relocate the band shell, and to provide a larger lawn area for concerts. The City was unable to obtain approval for the project as proposed from the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) and has been working for the last 7 years to determine a plan option that would be acceptable to the RWQCB.

Project Status: The City is coordinating with the RWQCB. The below tasks have been simplified to only show the last two years' worth of efforts.

- The City met with the RWQCB in August 2019 to review concepts that should meet the requirements of the RWQCB.
  - The famous Blue Gum Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*) in Wayside Park had a major branch failure so the City performed an inspection of the health of the tree and a resistograph to test for decay/fungus. It was determined that the tree had Sulfur Fungus and that there was a moderate chance that the tree would fail. The tree was removed in September due to safety concerns.
  - In November 2020, the City held a zoom meeting with the consultant to discuss concepts that incorporated input from the RWQCB, added the newly purchased property, and factored in the loss of the Eucalyptus.
  - The City Council prioritized Wayside and Delucchi Parks as a top priority during the 2021-22 two-year CIP Workplan process.
- ❖ *The City and their consultant met with the RWQCB to review the updated concept plan and determined that more detailed hydrologic analysis and plans would be required for the agency to approve the plans.*

## **TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR PARKING LOT**

The City purchased the Alameda County Transportation Corridor (the old railroad right-of-way) through downtown Pleasanton in 2008 with a goal of continuing the regional trail and adding more parking to downtown. In 2017 City Council set aside \$2.2 million to improve the corridor between Bernal Avenue and Abbie Street. In 2018 the City hired HMM Engineers to design the corridor and proceeded to reach out to adjacent property owners to discuss the project.

Project status: *Project is under construction.*

- ❖ *A construction change order was added to the project to include the proposed Civic Park improvements as approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission on August 12, 2021.*

## **ALL ABILITIES PLAYGROUND**

The City of Pleasanton prioritized an inclusive playground, also known as an all-abilities playground, as part of the Capital Improvement Program process for FY 2019/20.

*Project status: The design phase of the project is underway.*

- In November/December 2019 City Staff reviewed design considerations and potential locations for an All-Abilities Playground in Pleasanton.
  - On January 9, 2020, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommended locating the All-Abilities playground at Ken Mercer Sports Park.
  - City Council approved the location of the All-Abilities playground at Ken Mercer Sports Park on September 1, 2020.
  - The City advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the design of a master plan for the All-Abilities Playground on September 16, 2020. Nine firms submitted for the master plan and the City held interviews in November.
  - City Council approved the contract with RRM Design Group in the amount of \$105,335 for the All-Abilities Playground Master Plan services on February 2, 2021.
  - City staff held the kick-off meeting with RRM on March 2, 2021.
  - The public outreach strategy for the All-Abilities playground was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission on April 8.
  - City staff and RRM held stakeholder's meetings with Sunflower Hill, Friends of the Senior Center, Rotary North, and the PUSD the week of April 12.
  - The first Community Workshop was held on April 22. Approximately 18 community members attended.
- ❖ *A community-wide survey was posted in April/May and received over 180 responses.*
  - ❖ *Concept design alternatives were presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission for feedback on August 12, 2021*
  - ❖ *Concept design alternatives were presented to the Human Services Commission on September 1, 2021 and to the Youth Commission on September 8.*
  - ❖ *The City presented the design alternatives to the public at the Farmer's Market on September 18, 2021.*
  - ❖ *The 2<sup>nd</sup> public workshop was held at Ken Mercer Sports Park at the proposed playground location on September 25, 2021. The turnout was good with a few dozen adults/children stopping by over the course of the 3-hour outreach period.*
  - ❖ *A 2<sup>nd</sup> survey was posted the same day as the public workshop.*
  - ❖ *Further information can be found at [www.pleasantonallabilitiesplayground.com](http://www.pleasantonallabilitiesplayground.com)*

## **SKATEPARK**

The City of Pleasanton prioritized a skatepark as part of the Capital Improvement Program process for FY 2019/20.

*Project status: The design process is underway.*

- In Fall 2020 City Staff researched potential skatepark locations and met with Fremont, Milpitas, and Newark staff at their respective skateparks to discuss the lessons they learned and the successes that they have had at their skateparks.
- On November 10, 2020, the Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously recommended expanding the skatepark at Ken Mercer Sports Park.
- On December 1, 2020, City Council approved policy direction to begin the design process for a one-acre lighted skatepark at Ken Mercer.
- Staff advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for the conceptual design and public outreach services for the skatepark on December 9, 2020.
- The qualification packages for the skatepark were received on January 13, 2021. The City received 10 qualification packages and interviewed the 4 top-ranked firms: Grindline, New Line, RRM, and Verde.
- City Council approved the contract with RRM Design Group, the top-ranked firm upon completion of the interviews, in the amount of \$115,154 for the conceptual design and public outreach for the skatepark on March 16.
- The kick-off meeting between the City and RRM was held on April 12.
- ❖ *The City held the first Public Outreach Workshop date on May 26 @ 6:00 p.m.*
- ❖ *A community-wide survey was posted in May/June and over 300 responses were received.*
- ❖ *Concept design alternatives were presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission for feedback on August 12, 2021*
- ❖ *The City advertised the concept designs and project at the BMX Event held in downtown Pleasanton on August 21, 2021.*
- ❖ *Concept design alternatives were presented to the Youth Commission on September 8, 2021.*
- ❖ *The City presented the design alternatives to the public at the Farmer's Market on September 11, 2021.*
- ❖ *The 2<sup>nd</sup> public workshop was held at Ken Mercer Sports Park at the proposed skatepark location on September 25, 2021. The turnout was good with two to three dozen adults/children stopping by over the course of the 3-hour outreach period.*
- ❖ *A 2<sup>nd</sup> survey was posted the same day as the public workshop.*
- ❖ *Further information can be found at [www.pleasantonskatepark.com](http://www.pleasantonskatepark.com)*

### **AUGUSTIN BERNAL MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL**

The City of Pleasanton prioritized a one-way downhill mountain bike trail as part of the Capital Improvement Program process for FY 2019/20.

Project status: Design is underway.

- On October 8, 2019 City Staff met with three members of the mountain bike community to review the potential alignment of the downhill mountain bike trail at Augustin Bernal Park.
- In November City Staff created a GIS map that defined the existing trails that could be utilized for segments of the trail. The maps were utilized to discuss the project with experienced trail building contractors.

- In December, the City solicited a proposal for the design of the mountain bike trail.
  - In February 2020, the City advertised a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for environmental firms to conduct the environmental review required for the project. No firms submitted their qualifications due to the pandemic, so the City advertised again in April. Eight firms submitted their qualifications for the project.
  - On August 4, 2020, City Council awarded the environmental contract to Dudek for \$45,810. At the same time, City Council awarded the design and construction contract to Action Sports Construction for \$49,000.
  - Action Sports Construction was unable to meet their insurance obligations, so the City amended the contract with Dudek to provide trail design services. City Council approved Dudek's contract amendment on November 17, 2020.
  - On December 9 City Staff met with Dudek to review the draft trail alignment and potential environmental concerns associated with the project.
  - Dudek provided a draft trail alignment to the City in early February 2021 for review and met with staff in the field to walk the preliminary alignment in late February.
  - City staff also met with the Golden Eagle HOA Board in February and the Board tentatively agreed to provide a trail easement for the portion of their property that the trail would cross (Golden Eagle owns the land between the parking lot and Augustin Bernal Park).
  - Dudek provided the 85% construction documents for City review on April 1 and completed their biological and archaeological assessments for the proposed trail on April 12.
- ❖ *Dudek provided the draft 100% submittal for the trail alignment in June 2021.*
  - ❖ *On June 28, 2021, Dudek submitted the administrative draft Initial Study.*
  - ❖ *On September 28, 2021, Dudek and the City held a zoom meeting with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to determine permitting requirements as the proposed bike trail is in potential Alameda Whipsnake territory.*

### **MEADOWLARK TRAIL**

The Meadowlark property is located directly to the west of the Alviso Adobe and was donated to the City as part of the development agreement with the Meadowlark property owner. The property is 22-acres in size and surrounds the new development, which is currently under construction. The Meadowlark trail, an approx. 3/4-mile long hiking trail, was approved as part of the development with the developer providing funds to the City to construct the trail.

Project status: Project out to bid.

- ❖ *The Meadowlark Trail project was advertised for bid on October 2, 2021 with the scheduled bid opening on October 21, 2021.*

### **LUND RANCH TRAIL**

*The Lund Ranch property is located on the east side of town to the east of Lund Ranch Road and adjacent to the Bonde Ranch Open Space. The approx. 168-acre property*

*was donated to the City as part of the development agreement with the Lund Ranch property owner. The proposed trail in the open space surrounding the Lund Ranch development will be approx. 3-miles in length and will connect Sycamore Creek Way and Sunset Creek Lane through the hills and past the creek on the east side of the development up around to the North with the Bonde Ranch Open Space trails.*

*Project status: The developer is currently constructing the development, including the trails.*

### **GARM'S STAGING AREA**

The City entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) in September 2016 regarding the construction of a staging area for hiking the Pleasanton Ridge at the end of West las Positas Blvd. along Foothill Road. The staging area will consist of a parking lot (approximately 75 stalls), restroom, picnic area, play area, a loop trail, and trail access to the ridge.

*Project status: No update to report*

### **NEVADA STREET IMPROVEMENTS**

During the 2019-20 CIP Workplan prioritization process the City prioritized and funded the proposed improvements for the section of Nevada Street between the Valley Humane Society and the Bernal/Nevada intersection. The project continues the street design of the Irby Ranch development. The proposed improvements include street widening, additional on-street parking, bike lanes, extension of the trail constructed as part of the Irby Ranch development (to connect with the existing trail on Bernal Avenue to the BMX park and Shadow Cliff), sidewalk widening on the east side of Bernal between the intersection and trail connection, and a linear park between the Valley Humane Society and Fire Station #1.

*Project status: Project design is underway.*

- The City contracted with one of their on-call landscape architects, Callander Associates, for the conceptual design of the Nevada Street Improvements on February 19.
- The City held a kick-off meeting with Callander on March 5.
- City staff met with the Valley Humane Society and Zone 7 to discuss the proposed street and trail improvements in March and April.
- Callander provided a preliminary concept plan for the City to review on April 29.
- ❖ *On June 16, 2021 City staff and their consultant held an on-site public outreach meeting to obtain feedback from the surrounding commercial and residential neighbors.*
- ❖ *On June 26, 2021, staff held another on-site meeting with some of the new Irby Ranch neighbors.*
- ❖ *On June 28, 2021, staff presented the project to the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Committee.*

- ❖ *On July 8, 2021, staff presented the project to the Parks and Recreation Commission.*
- ❖ *On August 17, 2021, City Council approved an amendment to the consultant's contract for design and bid support services, with changes to the project as recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission.*

## **BERNAL COMMUNITY FARM**

Based on the support of the community, the City agreed to explore the design of a community farm for Pleasanton residents at the Bernal property. In March of 2017, the City accepted the design of a community farm on Sub-Area 7 and Sub-Area 16 of the Bernal property and approved an agreement with M.D. Fotheringham to prepare a Bernal Community Farm Master Plan. Council adopted the draft master plan on May 1, 2018 and identified funding for the design of Phase 1 during the 2019-20 two-year CIP workplan process. The Bernal Community Farm Master Plan was adopted.

*Project status: Project is on hold.*

## **MISCELLANEOUS PARK PROJECTS**

The following is a list of small projects that fall into the categories of “routine replacement,” “minor renovation” or “public art installation.”

### **Minor Renovation:**

#### Playground Renovation

Consistent with the City's ongoing playground replacement plan, the City is replacing three of the play areas at Ken Mercer Sports Park (two play areas for two-to-five-year-old children and one play area for five-to-twelve-year-old children), Tawny Park (one play area for two-to-five-year-old children and one play area for five-to-twelve-year-old children), and Vintage Hills Park (a play area for five-to-twelve-year-old children).

- On February 11, 2021, the Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed the preliminary survey results and designs for the playgrounds and made a recommendation to incorporate the public feedback into the designs and specify the Ken Mercer East playground design option preferred by the children.
- On March 16, City Council approved the design contracts with Ross Recreation for the installation of the playgrounds at Ken Mercer Sports Park and Vintage Hills Park and with Park Planet for the installation of the playground at Tawny Park.
- ❖ *Construction notifications for the Ken Mercer and Tawny playground renovations went out on May 3. Construction signs were also posted at the playgrounds.*
- ❖ *The construction for Ken Mercer East and Tawny was completed in late June 2021.*
- ❖ *The construction for Ken Mercer Central was completed in July.*
- ❖ *The City ordered shade structure for the Ken Mercer East playground, one 16-ft square shade canopy for the 2-5 play equipment and one for the 5-12 play equipment, and the installation is expected to occur in October/November.*
- ❖ *Vintage Hills playground construction was completed in August.*

## **Public Art Installation:**

### Centennial Towers

The City is planning to renovate the Centennial Towers Plaza at Civic Park to address the problems with lighting, drainage, and grading.

- In early 2019 the City identified the names of the people and groups that had donated bricks for the plaza.
  - In June, the City hired an electrical engineer for the electrical aspect of the project.
  - City staff prepared construction documents for the Centennial Plaza Renovations project in December 2020.
- ❖ *The Centennial Plaza plans were incorporated into the Transportation Corridor plans and the improvements are currently under construction.*

### **ALTERNATIVE ACTION**

Any other action as determined by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt Gruber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Matt Gruber  
City Landscape Architect