



PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

October 13, 2022
Item 5

**SUBJECT: RECEIVE AND COMMENT ON THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
PROJECTS STATUS REPORT FOR APRIL 2022 – SEPTEMBER 2022**

SUMMARY

This report is submitted for informational purposes and summarizes the last two quarters' 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 April 2022 through September 2022. Items that are *italicized* and marked with this symbol ❖ denote new information since the last report.

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and comment on the landscape architecture projects status report for April 2022 – September 2022.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

There is no financial impact resulting from this report.

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 8 years to determine a plan option that would be acceptable to the RWQCB.

Project Status: *The City has a conceptual design that has the tentative approval of the regulatory agencies. The below tasks have been simplified to only show the last two years' worth of efforts.*

- 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 2020 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 CIP Workplan process
- The City and their consultant met with the RWQCB on November 4, 2020, and again on May 8, 2021, to review the updated concept plan. The result of the meetings was that the updated conceptual plan was positively received but that more detailed hydrologic analysis and plans would be required for the agency to approve the plans
- In October 2021, the City entered into a contract with Balance Hydrologics to prepare preliminary creek design, hydraulic modeling, and a design basis memo for Kottinger Creek for a detailed discussion with the regulatory agencies at the Army Corps of Engineers Interagency meeting
- On December 7, 2021, staff and their consultants presented the hydraulic modeling, preliminary creek design, and basis of design to the regulatory agencies. The agencies indicated that the design met their expectations and that the design would likely be approved if submitted as shown
- On February 10, 2022, the conceptual plan was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review and approval
- ❖ *On April 12, 2022, City Council reviewed the updated conceptual plan, expressed their support of the design, including the orientation of the Chan Henderson Bicentennial Band Stand and regional trail as indicated on the plan, and directed staff to proceed with public outreach*

- ❖ *At the end of May 2022, staff removed the shade structure over the Chan Henderson Memorial Bandstand due to safety concerns*
- ❖ *A community survey regarding the design of Lions Wayside and Delucchi parks was advertised from May 11 to July 11, 2022*
- ❖ *On May 14, 2022, staff set up a booth at the Pleasanton Farmers Market from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. to obtain feedback from people attending the farmers' market*
- ❖ *On June 17, 2022, staff set up a booth at the Concert in the Park from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to obtain feedback from people attending the Summer Concert in the Park event*
- ❖ *On June 22, 2022, staff set up a booth in Lions Wayside Park at the Railroad Avenue and Neal Street intersection across from the Meadowlark Dairy*
- ❖ *On August 22, 2022, staff presented the project to the Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Trails Committee (BPTC) for their review of the project and public comments*
- ❖ *On September 8, 2022, staff presented the public outreach results and BPTC input to the Parks and Recreation Commission.*

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 HMH Engineers to design the corridor and proceeded to reach out to adjacent property owners to discuss the project.

Project status: *Project construction is nearing completion.*

- 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
- *In September 2021, four dead heritage-sized elm trees were removed from Civic Park*
- ❖ *The phase 1 and 2 improvements are nearly complete. These improvements included the parking lot, wall, trail, lighting, railing, fencing, pathways, Civic Park Plaza, grading, and associated irrigation and other site improvements.*

SKATEPARK

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

Project status: *The construction document phase of the project 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 2nd 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 2nd survey was posted the same day as the public workshop
- The concept designs, community input and in-progress community-wide survey #2 results were all presented to the City Council on October 5, 2021
- The skatepark conceptual plan was finalized and presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission for approval on January 13, 2022. The Commission approved the draft conceptual plan on a 4-2 vote
- On March 15, 2022, the skatepark conceptual plan was presented to the City Council for review and approval. The City Council unanimously approved the conceptual plan and directed staff to complete the design of the skatepark through to biddable documents, but also directed staff to consider value engineering or other alternatives, such as phasing portions of the work, to reduce anticipated cost
- ❖ *On May 17, 2022, City Council approved a contract amendment with the design consultant, RRM Design, to complete the design of the skatepark with a targeted construction budget of \$6 million with \$5 million as the base bid and another \$1 million in bid alternates*
- ❖ *On May 31, 2022, City Council allocated a total of \$2 million in funding for construction of the skatepark*
- ❖ *On June 21, 2022, City Council allocated an additional \$1 million dollars for construction of the skatepark, bringing the total skatepark budget to \$3 million*

- ❖ *Staff held a construction design kick-off meeting with the consultant on August 2, 2022*
- ❖ *Further information can be found at www.pleasantonskatepark.com.*

CRICKET

The City of Pleasanton prioritized cricket as part of the Capital Improvement Program process for FY 2021/22.

Project status: *The City is currently working on the design of the cricket field.*

- During the spring and summer of 2021, staff conducted research regarding cricket, spoke with other cities with cricket programs, and analyzed potential locations in Pleasanton for a cricket field
- On November 18, 2021, staff recommended locating a cricket field at Muirwood Community Park as a near-term solution and at the undeveloped property for the future Staples Ranch Community Park as a long-term solution. The Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously approved the recommendation of locating a near-term cricket field at Muirwood Community Park and a long-term field at the future Staples Ranch Community Park site
- Based on input received from the public and the Parks and Recreation Commission staff determined to hold further public outreach regarding the cricket field
- Staff conducted community outreach for cricket at the farmer's market on February 5, 2022, and at Muirwood Community Park on February 12, 2022
- ❖ *On April 12, 2022, City Council considered additional feedback from the community and directed staff to identify a location at Ken Mercer Sports Park that could accommodate a cricket field*
- ❖ *On June 17, 2022, staff posted a questionnaire regarding potential cricket field locations at Ken Mercer Sports Park. The advertisement ran through July 11, 2022 and 536 people responded to the questionnaire*
- ❖ *On June 21, 2022, City Council allocated an additional \$250,000 for the cricket field project during the Fiscal Year 2022/23 Mid-Term Operating and Capital Improvement Program process, bringing the total project budget to \$500,000*
- ❖ *Staff met multiple times with the sports organizations to obtain their input June – August 2022*
- ❖ *On August 11, 2022, staff presented the public outreach results to the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC). The PRC recommended option 2*
- ❖ *On September 6, 2022, City Council reviewed and approved the location of a cricket field at Ken Mercer Sports Park based on the PRC recommendation to locate the cricket field at option 2*
- ❖ *Staff obtained a proposal for construction design services from one of their on-call landscape architecture firms to design the cricket field in late September*
- ❖ *Further information can be found at www.pleasantoncricket.com.*

PICKLEBALL AND COURT RESURFACING

The City of Pleasanton prioritized pickleball as part of the Capital Improvement Program process for FY 2021/22, however no funding for the project was allocated as the City plans to install the pickleball courts as part of the City's annual court resurfacing project for FY 2022/23.

Project status: *Construction of the pickleball and court resurfacing project is currently underway.*

- During the spring and summer of 2021, staff conducted research regarding pickleball, spoke with other cities with pickleball courts, and analyzed potential locations in Pleasanton for pickleball courts
- On November 18, 2021, staff recommended converting some of the tennis courts at Muirwood Community Park to pickleball courts. The Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously approved the recommendation of converting two of the four tennis courts at Muirwood Community Park to pickleball courts
- Based on input received from the public and the Parks and Recreation Commission staff determined to hold further public outreach regarding the pickleball court project
- On December 16, 2021, staff submitted a Proposition 68 grant for \$227,000 to help fund the court resurfacing project at Muirwood Community Park, including the conversion of two tennis courts to six pickleball courts
- Staff conducted community outreach for the pickleball courts at the farmer's market on February 5, 2022, and at Muirwood Community Park on February 12, 2022
- ❖ *In April 2022, staff prepared construction documents for the pickleball court resurfacing project and advertised the project for bid in May 2022*
- ❖ *The bid opening for the project was held on June 8, 2022. Two contractors bid the project*
- ❖ *On July 19, 2022, City Council approved the plans and specifications and awarded the construction contract to the low bidder, Mauri Concrete*
- ❖ *Construction began on September 12, 2022.*

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
- In October 2021, based on the input from USFWS, the City and Dudek determined that the project was feasible from an environmental perspective with mitigation for the potential impact to the Alameda Whipsnake. Mitigation to include decommissioning more linear feet of existing "pirate" trails than linear feet of proposed new trail
- On December 7, 2021, City Council approved a contract amendment with Dudek to provide the necessary additional environmental and design services to update the plans based on the USFWS input
- In February 2022, the Golden Eagle Homeowners Association stated their support of allowing the necessary trail easement through Golden Eagle property. The City then contracted with a surveyor to provide the map exhibit and legal description for the trail easement document
- In March 2022, Dudek provided the final draft Initial Study and trail decommissioning plan for City review
- ❖ *In April 2022, Dudek completed the 100 percent trail construction plans and submitted the environmental documents to the state*
- ❖ *The public comment period for the environmental documents for the Augustin Mountain bike trail project ended in June 2022*

- ❖ *In September 2022, the City and Golden Eagle Homeowners Association entered into a public access trail agreement for the portion of the proposed trail through Golden Eagle's property.*

MEADOWLARK TRAIL

The Meadowlark property is located directly to the west of the Alviso Adobe and was donated to the City as permanent open space 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. 2/3-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 halted by the City Council*

- The Meadowlark Trail project was advertised for bid on October 2, 2021, and the bids were opened on October 21, 2021. American Ramp Company was the low bidder
- On November 16, 2021, City Council approved the construction contract with American Ramp Company for \$59,500 to construct the trail
- In December 2021, as part of the City's standard construction notification process, staff sent out "pardon our dust" construction notifications to the surrounding neighbors notifying them of the proposed construction start date. The City heard back from many residents opposing the construction of the trail adjacent to their properties, stating they had never been informed a trail was planned in the open space. The City determined to delay construction until staff could discuss the project with neighbors and conduct further review of the project
- On March 2, 2022, City staff held a neighborhood meeting at the Meadowlark Dairy building at Alviso Adobe Park to discuss the trail and trail alignment with the neighbors. Once again, neighbors voiced their opposition to the construction of the trail
- On March 15, 2022, five neighbors attended the City Council meeting and during comments open to the public asked Council to re-open the trail project for discussion before constructing the trail. Mayor Brown directed staff to bring the trail back to Council for discussion
- ❖ *On May 17, 2022, City Council determined that the Meadowlark trail project was no longer a desired or necessary project and directed staff to amend the PUD to remove the condition of approval requiring the trail*
- ❖ *On August 16, 2022, City Council approved the removal of the condition of approval requiring the trail.*

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 with the intention of installing the trails in Spring or Summer 2023.*

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, 2021
- 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
- Callander Associates submitted the 35% complete construction documents for the City's review on November 12. Staff met with the consultants to go over plan comments on December 15, 2021
- On February 25, 2022, the 65% complete construction documents were submitted to the City for review. Staff met with the consultants to go over plan comments on March 24, 2022
- ❖ *On July 19, 2022, City Council approved an amendment to the contract with Callander Associates for additional construction document services for the project.*

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: The City is currently working with the Master gardeners on the first phase of the project.

- ❖ *On June 21, 2022, City Council approved a memorandum of understanding with the Master Gardeners for a demonstration garden at the Bernal Community Farm site and authorized the Master Gardeners to proceed with the installation of a cover crop on a portion of the site.*

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 the play areas near the community garden at Val Vista Community Park (one for two-to-five-year-old children and one play area for five-to-twelve-year-old children).

- ❖ *In August 2022, staff advertised a Request For Qualifications (RFQ) for the Design, Supply, and Installation of Replacement Play Apparatus for Val Vista Community Park*
- ❖ *Four playground design companies submitted qualifications packages for the Val Vista playground renovation project on August 31, 2022.*

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
- ❖ *The Centennial Plaza improvements were completed as part of the first phase of the Transportation Corridor Parking lot improvements discussed earlier.*

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Gruber". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matt" being more prominent than the last name "Gruber".

Matt Gruber
City Landscape Architect