

**LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT
GENERAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY UPDATE
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON ISSUES AND PROJECTS**

May 2017

Information contained in this report is intended to help keep the Board of Directors informed on current projects and study issues. Reported below is the most current and available information. Since work on these items is ongoing, the information is subject to rapid change. If a project or issue has not changed from the previous month's report, the information provided may be the same as was previously reported. Please note that some projects are not directed or managed by LARPD, but they are included below as informational only.

AGREEMENTS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS

1. Springtown Open Space Master Plan – LARPD and the City of Livermore are committed to maintaining a very open and transparent study of the Springtown Open Space property and what future public use might be made of it, as an open space. To help accomplish this, LARPD, as a subject-matter expert in parks and open space, has agreed to lead the Springtown Open Space Master Planning process for the City. This is one of two things to which LARPD has committed, in regards to the Springtown Open Space. The other commitment is that LARPD will consider potential involvement in the development and operation of the site ... IF it is directly related to LARPD's recreation and park goals and IF there is adequate and ongoing funding to support LARPD's involvement. LARPD may have an interest in operating this property but, like all government agencies, the District has a finite budget and it is not possible to take on the workload and cost of developing and/or maintaining an additional 85+ acres of land without additional financial resources.

The consultant for this project, RRM Design Group, researched the site and collected additional information from a number of local stakeholder groups; held two general public input meetings on Jan. 30 and 31; and held a conceptual design plan review meeting on April 27. These meetings involved receiving feedback from the community about how they would like to see the open space property used in the future and opinions on potential design elements. RRM Design Group is now using data collected from these meetings and from the email/mail comments received, to develop a final recommended design that will be presented in late summer, to the LARPD Board of Directors and to City Council. Notice of all public meetings will be posted on the District's website and will be advertised through other media sources.

2. District Asset Management – The Kayuga Solution consultant is developing an asset management program for the District. The project includes a detailed inventory and condition assessment of the District's physical assets (buildings, parks, trails, equipment, etc.); estimating the cost for repairs and/or replacement; identifying the areas of immediate need and how to address them; create a methodology for prioritizing the repair/replacement needs; and create a plan for long-term asset management. The consultant has submitted a draft report that staff is now reviewing. There is no new update for this item.

3. Sycamore Grove Bridge Project – Tri-Valley Conservancy continues to work with potential donors and sponsors to complete the funding goal. The LARPD Board has approved the concept design for the bridge and TVC is moving forward to creating the final construction and bid specifications for the project. The design of the bridge reflects requirements by regulatory agencies, accommodates District trail maintenance vehicles (ATVs) and will complement future improvements to the entire regional trail and other bridge crossings. The project consultants are also working to complete required studies (nesting birds, bats, 100-year flood requirements, etc.) and obtain the required construction permits. These studies, permit processes and design changes have increased costs and extended the length of time required to complete this project. Due to the project cost increasing by an estimated \$250,000, the LARPD Board of Directors has approved a request from TVC for an additional \$50,000 in support funding from the District.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

1. Sycamore Grove Nature Education Facilities (NEF) Grant Project – The Flip book panels have been installed. Construction of the new kiosk/weather station is complete. The old parking fee machine was moved to a temporary location, and the asphalt was removed.

Shade Structure Project: The installation of the new shade structure was completed by District staff.

NEF Gathering Area Project: Staff has finalized the construction plans for the gathering area under the original design, which included a raised concrete stage for the new shade structure. The approved bid documents had an estimated construction cost of \$98,000 and were advertised informally to bidders, with the bid opening scheduled for 2/10/17. However, no bids were received; staff was informed by some of the potential bidders that, currently, bidders in the Bay Area are not pursuing these smaller projects in the cost range of < \$175,000 due to lack of profitability. State law allows that, as no bids are received for this project, the project may be constructed by in-house staff. Staff has also made some minor modifications to the design requested by the rangers and is developing a revised schedule for construction. The project has been rescheduled to be completed by late spring/early summer 2017.

2. RLCC Pool Deck Repair – Additional and necessary improvements were added to the project scope (pool re-plastering, stairway construction). The task order for the additional consultant services required to complete the updated plans was approved on 2/22/17, and the updated construction plans are currently being prepared by the consultants. When finished with the construction plan, the next step will be to fund this project and set a construction timeline.

3. Bill Clark Park – Signature Homes approached the District with a proposal to renovate part of the Bill Clark Park playground. The Developer is willing to fund work to make the playgrounds ADA compliant, to upgrade the play equipment and to construct a shade structure over part of the equipment. The Board of Directors approved the acceptance of \$100,000 from Signature Homes for play area improvements at their Jan. 13, 2016, meeting. This project was recently approved by the City and, once the Developer-paid funds are received, staff will propose a CIP Project to accomplish the funded improvements. There is no new update for this item.

4. Ravenswood Historic Site Repairs – CIP and Facilities staff have conducted a walkthrough with the project consultants, to review the scope of repairs and work needed on the site. All of the roofing on the five buildings and the porch and rails on the Main House are to be replaced, with work to be scheduled between future rental dates. The bid documents will be for two separate projects. One is the replacement of the three roofs and the other the design and construction of the rebuilt porch. Staff has requested a project schedule and fee proposal from the consultants. The scope of work for the bid package will be finalized after the estimates for project construction costs have been received and reviewed by staff. There is no new update for this item.

5. Playground Renovation Projects – Conceptual plans and preliminary project budgets for playground renovations at Jane Addams Preschool site, May Nissen Park, Big Trees Park and Pleasure Island Park were approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting on July 27, 2016. Following development of the final plans and specifications (Jane Addams and Big Trees are now at 90 percent completion), two or more of the projects will be put out to bid in late spring or early summer 2017. More information and updates on the projects are posted on the District’s website at <http://parks.larpd.org>.

TRAILS

1. Re-pavement of the Arroyo Del Valle Regional Trail in Sycamore Grove Park – The funding agreement with EBRPD for a 10-year period, was finalized in 2015. The project is scheduled as part of the CIP improvements and will be undertaken as time and funding permits. Staff is seeking estimates for partial and full completion of the trail resurfacing project. Staff has researched a cost-saving method of trail deconstruction and reuse of materials on site as part of base for new trail construction and a new concrete product that uses a new application method. Staff has received an engineering report on the new product/process and is in the process of comparing cost estimates for repaving all and for selected parts of the trail with different surfaces, including a more natural surface material that is appropriate for bicycles and strollers. The recent storm damage may impact the progress of this project. Staff has received a fee proposal from the consultants for review and has now requested a project schedule. The scope of work for the bid package will be finalized after the estimates for project construction costs have been received and reviewed by staff. There is no new update for this item.

2. Upper Sycamore Grove Trail Development – Staff met with Zone 7 Water Agency and East Bay Regional Park District to discuss possible trail connections from Upper Sycamore Grove on to Zone 7’s Del Valle property (the former Patterson Ranch), and an on-site viewing of the potential route for the Facilities Committee took place on Dec. 20, 2016. The District was very pleased that Volunteers for Outdoor California agreed to construct a new trail in the upper park area on their revised schedule ... now April 28, 29 and 30, 2017. Additional information on this project and how citizens can volunteer to help is posted on the District’s website.

3. Vasco Trail Extension by Ponderosa – This is a City and developer-built Project. Ponderosa Homes will construct a 1,200-foot-trail segment that will extend the existing trail on Vasco Road (Trail Segment A in the South Livermore Trail System) north, to East Avenue as an amenity for the Vines development project. The proposed trail extension will be an 8-foot wide paved asphalt

path with 2-foot clear zones on either side. The development project has been approved, and staff has reviewed and commented on preliminary trail design plans. The District will assume the routine maintenance of this new trail section because it extends north from an existing trail section that LARPD maintains. There is no new update for this item.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

1. Storm Damage – The more recent storms have resulted in various levels of damage, as listed below:

- There has been significant damage to a number of LARPD trails. This damage ranges from dirt and debris washed onto the trails to water channeling ruts into the DG surface or undercutting and even totally washing out segments. Future storms can exacerbate the damage and impact repair efforts, but we do not anticipate much in the way of further damage. Sycamore Grove Park seems to have weathered the storms quite well; however, in other locations, such as Robertson Park, the damage to the trails will take several months to even do temporary repairs. The District is working closely with the City to deal with temporary and permanent repairs and to seek emergency assistance from FEMA, the State and County.
- Fallen trees/branches and resulting damage to fencing and structures have occurred in a number of parks, such as Independence, Robertson, Mocho and Hagemann. Due to aggressive pruning of Murrieta Meadows and Big Trees Park, there was minimal tree damage in those areas. Staff has identified several trees that will need to be severely pruned or removed because the rain and wind have loosened their root system to the point that they are unstable.
- Vandalism from individuals driving vehicles onto the saturated turf and open areas has occurred at Independence and Robertson Parks. Protective fencing has been installed at the north end of Independence Park (along Regent Road) to help prevent vehicle accessing the turf fields.
- Roof leaks have occurred at several buildings, partially due to the wind damage to the roof and the hard-driven rain entering vents underneath overhangs.
- Additional part-time Parks Division staff has been brought on to help with the storm cleanup.

Tim Barry, General Manager
TB/JL/s