

**AGENDA STATEMENT
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
BY: Peter Castro, Division Manager, Administrative Services
PRESENTER: Peter Castro, Division Manager, Administrative Services
DATE: January 13, 2016
SUBJECT: **Park Needs Assessment**

RECOMMENDATION:

Parks and Recreation Commission take recommendations on potential projects from staff and community members, have community members vote to prioritize the top ten projects, and have staff submit the projects to the County of Los Angeles Park Needs Assessment project.

BACKGROUND:

The County of Los Angeles is working on a ballot measure for a parcel tax program to replace Proposition A Recreation funding, which will be expiring. The Proposition A Recreation funding program is restricted funding targeted toward the Maintenance of existing community facilities. Currently, the City uses this funding to allocate \$33,150 annually to the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge for maintenance.

It is unknown what the proposed ballot measure will be available to support. The County is conducting a Countywide Comprehensive Park Needs Assessment including Community Workshops to better understand the needs of the 88 cities in Los Angeles County to better structure the guidelines of the proposed bond measure. At this time, the County is focusing the effort in the areas of parks and recreational facilities.

COUNTYWIDE COMPREHENSIVE PARKS NEEDS ASSESSMENT PROJECT:

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved the development of the Countywide Comprehensive Park Needs Assessment in February 2015. As part of the assessment, the County created 189 Study Areas covering the entire County of Los Angeles. The City of La Cañada Flintridge is one of those areas. All areas were inventoried for existing parks, park amenities, and their condition documented. In addition, park metrics and community profiles were created. This information was given to the City to present at a community workshop.

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP:

The City is required to host a Public Workshop in order to identify potential Recreational Facility Projects within the City. At the end of this process, the City will submit a prioritized list of 10 projects to the County, so the County may better understand the needs of the City of La Cañada Flintridge. It is important to note the City will not necessarily be tied to these 10 projects; the list is simply a guide for the County to better understand the needs of our community in comparison to other cities.

The goal of the Park Needs Assessment is to engage all communities within the County in a collaborative process to gather data and input for future decision-making on parks and recreation. The Park Needs Assessment will increase understanding of existing park and recreation assets, and help determine how to improve, expand, and make parks more accessible.

The assessment will result in a visionary list of prioritized projects and associated cost estimates for each Study Area. It will identify future opportunities for parks and recreation throughout the County.

The Park Needs Assessment may be used as a guide for potential development of future funding mechanisms. Results could also be used to leverage Federal and State resources, and guide local funding decisions.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS:

The County and the City have created an initial list of potential park projects as a starting point to discuss with the community. In addition to the initial list of projects, the Commission should take comments from community members on additional potential park projects to a maximum of twenty (20) potential projects. The community members in attendance can then vote on the projects to narrow the list down to ten potential projects. The City will then submit those ten projects to the County.

Potential Projects are restricted to the following guidelines:

1. They must occur at a single location, with the exception of specific infrastructure projects.
2. Be categorized as one of the following project types:
 - a. Repair of an existing amenity type within a park, or repair of an existing general infrastructure amenity type at all parks within the City.
 - b. Addition/replacement of a new amenity type to an existing park, or addition/replacement of an existing general infrastructure amenity type at all parks within the City.
 - c. Construction of a new park.

Potential Project List:

1. Add a dog park amenity.
2. Add a Fitness Zone amenity.
3. Add a Picnic Shelter amenity
4. Replace the Tennis Court at Glenhaven Park.
5. Replace the Splash Pad at Mayors' Discovery Park.
6. Repair the restrooms at Memorial Park.
7. Repair the Gazebo at Memorial Park.
8. Replace the tennis courts at FIS.
9. Replace fencing and gates at Cornishon Field.
10. Add a shade structure at Memorial Park.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Parks and Recreation Commission take recommendations on additional potential projects community members, have community members vote to prioritize the top ten projects, and have staff submit the projects to the County of Los Angeles Park Needs Assessment project.