



## MEMORANDUM

### City of Angels City Council

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**Date:** September 3, 2024

**To:** City Council

**From:** Amy Augustine, AICP – Contract City Planner

**Re:** Rural Recreation and Tourism Program - Utica Park Lightner Mine Expansion Project Update

**Recommendation:**

Acknowledge and accept updates.

**Background:**

Consistent with direction from the City Council, attached is an update on the above-captioned project through August 27, 2024.

**Strategic Plan Alignment**

**A4: Economic Development: Promote a wide variety of economic opportunities consistent with the city's social, cultural, environmental, and aesthetic resources.** The proposed Rural Recreation and Tourism grant park project is intended to increase tourism through park enhancements including a stage, historical (cultural) interpretation trail, and improved pavilion for outdoor events. A new children's playground, adult/teen exercise equipment, bocce courts, hardcourts, improved pavilion and stage are intended to encourage social interactions with local theatre productions, local musical performances, movies in the park and enhanced outdoor spaces for other local events.

**A5: Economic Development: Maintain and enhance the city's economic vitality while conserving the city's social, cultural, environmental, and aesthetic resources.** See above.

**B2 Community Identity: Design new development to be compatible with the natural, scenic, and cultural resources and rural character of Angels Camp.** The Community Stakeholders Design Committee will assist with park design to ensure compatibility with cultural resources and rural character.

**C7: Public Facilities and Services: Maintain or increase the levels of service currently available within Angels Camp for park facilities and infrastructure.** The project will increase the size of Utica Park by 3.8± acres, add or improve numerous park amenities, and upgrade and expand infrastructure increasing the level of park facilities available to all age groups and ability levels for residents and visitors.

**Discussion**

Phase II Plans for the park are anticipated in early September for City review. (Phase 1 included the park and bathroom).

## **Playground:**

As of 8/27/24, the last of the playground equipment is expected to be installed by close of business. The underlayment for the poured-in-place surface was installed the week of 8/19. The underlayment will be surfaced with a spongy rubber material that allows ADA access and safe landing zones for children within the playground boundaries. The remaining open areas will be filled with chips. A third-party playground inspector will then inspect the playground.

Following completion of the playground surfacing, Boyer will install fencing and the sidewalks surrounding the playground and ensure ADA access from the sidewalks to the ADA accessible playground.

The City will use CSG's CASP (ADA) inspector to ensure ADA accessibility.

## **Bathroom.**

The new bathroom (two stalls) has been installed.

## **Fencing around New Lightner Shaft (adjacent to highway).**

Fence posts were installed as of 8/27/24. Caltrans approved work within Caltrans' ROW for the fence. The fence will be wrought iron and allowed to rust naturally. Panel installation was to commence 8/27/24.

## **Pad over Old Lightner Shaft (in the pit).**

Fill, compaction and paving a 50 X 50 pad over the Old Lightner shaft commenced 8/27/24.

## **Roofing.**

Metal roofing colors on the Pavilion and Stage will match (as closely as possible) the roofing color on the new bathroom. Colors and materials for roofing have been approved for purchase.

## **Rock.**

Decorative rock material has been approved for the surrounds at the bases of the Pavilion supports.

## **Landscaping.**

Steve Williams and Amy Augustine met with the landscaping consultant team on 8/23/24 to review the City's needs relative to irrigation and landscaping. Once a draft landscaping plan is available, it will be presented to the Utica Park Community Design Review Committee for review. Once established, the City will begin taking reservations for memorial trees to be planted at the park. An estimated 15 trees will be available.

## **Benches.**

Millworkz presented the City with a mock-up of one of the benches created from the black walnut trees from the park. Authorization was given allowing variable sizing (none shorter than four feet) to maintain the natural beauty and shape of the wood milled from the trees. Three of the twelve benches have been reserved @ \$1,500. Benches can be reserved by contacting [cda@angelscamp.gov](mailto:cda@angelscamp.gov).

## **Financial Impact**

See attached budget.

## **Attachments**

- A. Approved Site Layout
- B. Timeline
- C. Budget