



MEMORANDUM

City of Angels City Council

Date: January 21, 2025

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 January 14, 2025.

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

Landscaping

The landscaping plan was reviewed by the park committee on December 4, 2024 and approved as per the PowerPoint provided 12/17/24. A notice of all revisions was sent to the park committee. Irrigation plans have been received and reviewed. The change order related to installing a new irrigation system was approved by the City Council.

Three trees have been sold. Fourteen remain for sale at a cost of \$500 each or, for a veteran, \$350.00.

Lighting and Electric

A draft lighting plan was received. The Park Planning Committee requested a meeting to review those plans; however, this item was not a topic scheduled for review. Staff will, instead, send the committee an update on the plans. The lighting is not “decorative,” but is instead practical emphasizing safety and reducing glare for the neighbors. The plan includes lighting for the flagpole. City Council approved a change order for lighting. The City has submitted a request to the Angels Camp Veterans Memorial District asking if that agency has interest in donating all or part of the costs of the flag pole light. The City met 1/7/25 with Calaveras Public Power Agency (CPPA) and began the process of applying for a grant to assist in funding the proposed replacement lighting.

Mark Twain Statue

Plans are underway to return Mark Twain to the park after the new stairway is installed from SR 49 (i.e., towards the end of the project).

Bocce Court

The bocce courts have been installed. The type of surfacing (oyster shells or, at additional cost, turf), is a question of cost that was presented to the City Council 1/7/25. As per Council request, the following cost information is provided re: surfacing: oyster shells, delivered and installed, are \$5,000 (\$3,500 for material and freight costs, and \$1,500 for install). The artificial turf is \$42,232. The difference in the price is \$37,232 (i.e., would require a change order/additional funds). Boyer received 2 turf quotes and \$42,232 was the cheaper option. Boyer has reached out for a third quote and will inform the city when a response is received.

Hardcourts

The hardcourts are poured. Fencing is completed. Hoops will be installed at the courts shortly.

Outdoor gym

The outdoor gym equipment is on schedule to be shipped January 17, 2025.

Parcourse

The general layout of the parcourse has been established. The course layout and walking/interpretive trail will be refined throughout the coming weeks.

Benches

The completed benches made from black walnut trees removed from the park due to rot have been delivered and are in storage at the park. Approximately six are still available for purchase at a cost of \$1,500 each.

Stage

Amphitheatre footings and wingwalls have been installed.

Kitchen

Staff received authorization on 1/7/25 to proceed with preparing a resilience center application to PG&E to assist with kitchen renovations that would allow for its commercial use during emergencies and to investigate wiring the pavilion to the site generator to provide lighting during public safety power shutdowns.

Rain

Boyer will continue park construction as weather permits.

Financial Impact

See attached budget.

Attachments

- A. Approved Site Layout
- B. Budget