



MEMORANDUM

City of Angels City Council

Date: February 4, 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 28, 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

Landscaping installation (irrigation) begins the week of 1/27/25. Trees have been ordered from PG&E.

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

Lighting and Electric

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 proposed replacement lighting (two streetlights, kitchen lighting, old bathroom lighting, pavilion lighting). The Angels Camp Veteran's Memorial District has generously donated the cost of lighting the flagpole.

Infrastructure

The water line for the kitchen was installed. Much of the electrical infrastructure has been installed. Landscaping irrigation begins installation the final week in January.

Seal coat for driveway and parking

A cost of \$26,582 has been received to seal coat the parking area (and line parking spaces) following city crews performing crack sealing. The activity would be one of the final actions taken by Boyer at the park before completing their work. Staff will present a change order to the City Council on 2/18/25 for consideration.

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 Council elected to use oyster shell surfacing, as originally proposed.

Hardcourts

The hardcourts are poured. Fencing is completed. Hoops will be installed at the courts just before the park opens to discourage trespass. Lining for three pickleball courts was approved with assistance from local pickleball enthusiasts and will be included on the hardcourts.

Outdoor gym

The outdoor gym equipment has arrived and is being installed.

Parcourse

The general layout of the parcourse has been established. Surfacing is pending.

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 wingwalls, walls, and roof have been installed.

Stairway

The new stairway from the highway into the park has been completed.

Trespass

Staff installed twenty "No Trespass" signs on the fencing at the park in response to public comment at the 1/21/25 City Council meeting.

Kitchen

Staff prepared 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