



# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

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**Title:** Information Only—Sankey Park Bandstand

**Preferred Agenda:** August 11, 2020

**Submitted By:** Blair Larsen, Community & Economic Development Director

**Reviewed By:** Ray Towry, City Manager

**Type of Action:** Resolution \_\_\_\_ Motion \_\_\_\_ Roll Call \_\_\_\_ Other  X

**Relevant Code/Policy:** Sweet Home Parks

**Towards Council Goal:** Goals 1.d and 2.d: Parks Infrastructure Implementation and Community Awareness

**Attachments:** 2019 Sankey Park Bandstand Report

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**Purpose of this RCA:**

The purpose of this RCA is to make the Council aware of the condition of the Sankey Park Bandstand, discuss options, and provide staff direction on the matter.

**Background/Context:**

The Sankey Park bandstand was constructed in the late 1930's or early 1940's as a WPA project. While the structure is quite old, it has never been placed on any historic registry.

In early 2018, a tree fell on the structure, causing damage and concerns about the safety of the structure. Stability Engineering, Inc. was hired to conduct a structural review of the bandstand, and completed their report in July, 2019. The report shows that the structure does not meet current building code, cannot meet snow load requirements for our area. Most concerning, the report shows that the floor beams are inadequate, the main horizontal structural beams are extremely inadequate, and the footings are significantly undersized.

Since then, staff has been attempting to gather more information on the cost to repair the structure but has only managed to come up with very rough, anecdotal estimates. Repairing the structure would likely cost around \$150,000.

Staff investigated a similar structure that the City of Lebanon recently constructed. The materials and labor for that structure was mostly donated, but based on discussions with people who were involved, the cost of the Lebanon structure was approximately \$150,000 to \$200,000.

The current project to add improvements to the park, including walking trails near the structure, necessitate discussion regarding the future of the bandstand.

The Park and Tree Committee discussed the matter at a recent meeting, and recommended that the structure be removed and replaced with a similarly-sized structure that incorporates architectural elements and/or materials from the original.

**The Challenge/Problem:**

Should the City seek to repair the bandstand, or replace it?

**Stakeholders:**

- Sweet Home Residents – Residents benefit from park amenities that add to their enjoyment of parks, such as bandstands and pavilions. Residents may also have interests in preserving historic structures.
- Sweet Home City Council – The City Council is responsible for decisions that affect the available amenities at City Parks.
- City of Sweet Home Staff – City Staff are responsible for implementing the Council’s vision, and maintaining City infrastructure in a safe and financially-responsible manner.

**Issues and Financial Impacts:**

Since the structure was insured, the City is eligible for some reimbursement for repairs. However, because the insurance payment is limited to only the damage caused by the tree, it is rather limited: only \$4,825.

The City of Sweet Home has limited funding for Parks capital improvements, and what we do have has typically been used as a match to grant funding. At this time, the City has no funding allocated for repairing or replacing the structure. If a directive is given to repair or replace the structure, Staff would likely look into grant opportunities and donations from the community.

**Elements of a Stable Solution:**

A stable solution would preserve City history and park amenities in a safe, financially responsible way. This RCA is for information and discussion purposes, and Staff is seeking direction, rather than a vote.

**Options:**

1. Repair the Bandstand – Direct staff to develop options for repairing the structure to meet current building code make it structurally safe.
2. Remove the Bandstand without a Replacement – Direct staff to develop options for removing the Bandstand and leaving the park without a similar structure.
3. Remove the Bandstand and Replace it with a Similarly Sized Structure – Direct staff to develop options for removing the Bandstand and replacing it with a similarly sized structure, possibly utilizing architectural elements or materials from the original.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends any option that results in a safe park.