



# CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

March 6, 2017

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager

Submitted by: Meg McWade, Acting Public Works Director

**Subject: Provide Direction to Staff to Bid for Construction of Phillips Paw Park (formerly known as Phillips Ranch Park - Dog Park), Project No. 428-2590-XXXXX-71033, with Other County Grant Park Projects**

## OVERVIEW

**Recommendation** – That the City Council provide direction to Staff to bid for construction of the Phillips Paw Park (formerly known as Phillips Ranch Park – Dog Park), Project No. 428-2590-xxxxx-71033, with other County grant park projects.

**Fiscal Impact** – Funding and expenses for this project are shown in the table below:

Category	Funding Amount
Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (LACRPOSD) Grant	\$70,000
Series “W” Bond Proceeds	\$295,298
Total Project Budget (design, construction, construction management, contingencies, and inspection costs)	\$365,298
Expenditures and Encumbrances as of February 21, 2017 (design and construction management-staff time costs to date)	<55,401>
Balance Remaining for construction management, contingencies, and inspection costs	\$309,897

If the City Council opts to terminate the project, the LACRPOSD grant funds (\$70,000) would need to be utilized on another parks project approved through the grant process. Additionally, all costs for design and project management would no longer be eligible for reimbursement through the grant funds or Bond Proceeds. These costs would need to be funded through the General Fund which is currently facing a deficit.

**Previous Council Action** – On June 15, 2015, the City Council amended the FY 14-15 CIP by creating new CIP projects for various park improvements and amended revenues to accept \$500,000 in grant funds from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open

Space District (LACRPOSD) for various park improvements including \$70,000 to the Phillips Ranch Dog project. On May 16, 2016, City Council appropriated \$250,298 of Series "W" from "Excess RDA Bond Proceeds Allocation," Project No. 428-2590-xxxxx-71041 to CIP Project "Phillips Ranch Park – Dog Park," Project No. 428-2590-xxxxx-71033. On August 1 and September 12, 2016, City Council reviewed the project status report of Capital Improvement (CIP) Projects for the various park improvement funded by the LACRPOSD and Park Dwelling Tax funds. On December 19, 2016, City Council appropriated an additional \$45,000 of Series "W" Bond Proceeds from Excess RDA Bond Proceeds Allocation to "Phillips Ranch Park – Dog Park," Project No. 428-2590-xxxxx-71033. On January 9, 2017, City Council approved the name "Phillips Paw Park" for the Phillips Ranch Dog Park.

**Previous Parks and Recreation Commission Action** – On September 15, 2016, the Parks and Recreation Commission considered and recommended "Phillips Paw Park" as the name for the proposed Phillips Ranch Park - Dog Park. On February 16, 2017, the Commission denied approval to formally bid the construction of Phillips Paw Park.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Nine CIP projects for various park improvements (authorized by City Council in 2015) are currently fully funded with a large portion of the funding provided through a Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (LACRPOSD) grant. Three of the projects are close to completion: there are six projects that have completed designs and are slated to be released to obtain construction bids. On Thursday, February 16, 2017, Staff presented the status of the six CIP projects to the Parks and Recreation Commission, along with a brief review of the proposed improvements for each project. The Commission approved five of the six projects, but denied the Phillips Paw Park (formerly known as Phillips Ranch Park – Dog Park) due to concerns discussed below. Staff is requesting City Council provide direction related to Phillips Paw Park. If City Council approves moving forward with the Phillips Paw Park project, Staff will proceed with obtaining construction bids for the project along with the other five park projects. Should the City Council deny the project, the completed design of the Dog Park would be shelved, and the project would not be completed by the grant expenditure deadline of December 2017. Since the project would not be constructed, the design costs would need to be funded by the General Fund which is currently facing a deficit.

## **DISCUSSION**

On June 15, 2015, the City Council amended the FY 2014-15 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget by accepting \$500,000 in grant funds from Los Angeles County Regional Park & Open Space District (LACRPOSD) and creating new CIP Projects for various park improvements. Funding for the new CIP Projects included \$70,000 for "Phillips Ranch Park – Dog Park" and design of the projects commenced. As the design progressed, there was a need for additional funding for the project. On May 16, 2016, City Council authorized \$250,298 of Series "W" Bonds – District 5 from "Excess RDA Bond Proceeds Allocation" for the project. On September 15, 2016, the Parks and Recreation Commission approved the name "Phillips Paw Park" for the proposed project. On December 16, 2016, City Council approved an additional appropriation of \$45,000 in Series "W" Bond Proceeds to fully fund the estimated cost for the

Provide Direction to Staff to Bid for Construction of Phillips Paw Park with Other County Grant Park Projects

March 6, 2017

Page 3 of 3

construction of the dog park project. Most recently, on January 9, 2017, City Council approved the name “Phillips Paw Park” for the Phillips Ranch Dog Park.

Design of six of the grant funded park projects is complete, and Staff is prepared to advertise for bids for construction of the projects immediately. However, the Parks and Recreation Commission, at their meeting of February 16, 2017, voted to deny the Phillips Paw Park (formerly known as Phillips Ranch Park – Dog Park) due to the following concerns:

- Proposed project site location – Concerns were brought forward to and discussed by the Commission regarding the proposed size of the dog park and its potential for consuming park space currently utilized by Decker Elementary students and youth soccer league practices. Referencing Attachment 1 which is the presentation shown to the Commission, the first slide outlined the Park in yellow, may have given a misimpression that the dog park would be utilizing the whole of Phillips Ranch Park. The actual proposed size of the dog park is approximately 290 feet x 100 feet. Attachment 2 shows the approximate outline of the proposed dog park in relation to the larger grass area which will remain available for students and youth league practices.
- Maintenance costs – There were concerns expressed regarding the potential for increased maintenance needs and costs. Detailed costs for maintenance of Phillips Paw Park, once completed, are unknown at this time. However, it should be noted that the City’s current parks landscape maintenance contractor is mowing the proposed project area with a three-person crew once per week (in peak season) with associated equipment. In addition, the contractor is performing irrigation inspections and repairs over the same area. This effort would be replaced by one person performing daily tasks, such as litter and feces removal (not removed by dog owners), and filling of holes in the decomposed granite. These costs essentially cancel each other out and would likely result in no or very little additional costs for the labor and equipment portion. Other materials (i.e. doggie bags) are not inexpensive and often get vandalized or wasted. It is believed an additional \$30 per month to cover these material costs would be necessary.

The project, funded with LACRPOSD grant funds and Bond Proceeds, has been in process since 2015 and has a completed design. Bidding these six projects together is beneficial as it reduces the cost of construction based on mobilization and the effective use of multiple crews with less down time and significant reductions in markups. To keep all park projects on schedule and with the additional information noted above in response to expressed concerns, it is recommended to move forward with advertising for construction bids. As noted earlier, should City Council deny the project, grant funds dedicated to this project would need to be utilized on another project. Since a project would not be constructed, design and project management costs would need to be absorbed by the General Fund which is currently facing a deficit.

Attachments: 1. Presentation to Parks & Recreation Commission – Selected Slides  
2. Map – Project Boundary

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17-278