



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Sara L. Hensley

SUBJECT: FULLER AVENUE PARK
MASTER PLAN

DATE: 06-09-04

Approved

Date

Council District: 6
SNI Area: Greater Gardner

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the Fuller Avenue Park Master Plan.

BACKGROUND

Fuller Avenue Park is a proposed new 1.6-acre park located in the Greater Gardner Neighborhood area of San José. It is comprised of three linear segments bounded by Fuller Avenue to the south, an active Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) line to the north, Bird Avenue to the west and Prevost Street to the east. The residents of Fuller Avenue have informally developed portions of the frontage between Bird Avenue and Delmas Street.

As a result of the Strong Neighborhoods Initiative (SNI) process, the Greater Gardner Neighborhood identified this property as a potential park site, and prioritized it as number three in their top ten list of desired neighborhood improvements. The *Greenprint: 20-Year Strategic Plan for Parks and Community Facilities and Programs* identifies Council District 6 as needing an additional 70 acres of parkland by 2020.

ANALYSIS

The park is intended to be used for passive recreation in response to community input. Proposed improvements include turf, safety fencing to address safety concerns associated with the active railroad spur, distinctive white railing along the street, pathways, landscaping, irrigation, a bocce court, a horseshoe pit, and site furnishings. The removal of some existing trees is necessary to promote the health of the most notable specimen trees on the site. Tree removal will be mitigated through replacement-tree plantings strategic to the location of the new improvements.

City staff is actively negotiating an agreement with the UPRR and CalTrain to allow the City to use a small portion of UPRR property adjacent to the City-owned site along the rail line as additional open space for the proposed park. Negotiations are expected to be complete by December 2004. The Fuller Avenue Park Master Plan allows for development of the park project with or without the agreement.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Over the past three years, two project-specific meetings were held by the Greater Gardner Neighborhood Action Committee; and two by the North Willow Glen Neighborhood Association. In addition to these meetings, a community meeting was held in March 2004 to confirm the final Master Plan. Residents within 1000 feet of the park were notified.

On May 12, 2004, Parks and Recreation Commission voted to recommend the Master Plan for approval by the City Council.

COORDINATION

This project has been coordinated with the Council District 6 Office, the Police Department, the City Arborist, the City Attorney's Office, the Public Works Department, the Planning, Building, and Code Enforcement Department, and the San José Redevelopment Agency.

COST IMPLICATIONS

1. AMOUNT OF RECOMMENDATION: None
2. COST OF PROJECT (Master Plan): None
3. FISCAL IMPACT: The San José Redevelopment Agency is funding final design and construction of the project. The City will provide for ongoing operations and maintenance costs, assisted by the Adopt-a-Park program. Operations and maintenance costs will be reported at the time of construction bid award. The proposed operating and maintenance costs of this project have been reviewed and estimated to be approximately \$25,100 annually beginning in 2005-2006.

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Exempt, PP03-04-089.

SARA L. HENSLEY
Director of Parks, Recreation
and Neighborhood Services