



Donna Mullens <donna.mullens@edcgov.us>

Fwd: Parking Requirements at HLP

1 message

Vickie Sanders <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>
To: Donna Mullens <donna.mullens@edcgov.us>

Mon, Jul 27, 2015 at 2:38 PM

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Howard Penn** <Howard@lbcomm.com>
Date: Sat, Jul 25, 2015 at 2:38 PM
Subject: Parking Requirements at HLP
To: Vickie Sanders <vickie.sanders@edcgov.us>

Vickie,

I was forwarded the comments made in the report to the Parks Commission coming up this Monday. I may be able to make it but in my possible absence wanted clarification to the remarks made on parking below. Please forward this to the Park Commissioners and include in the hearing record on this matter.

Henningsen Lotus Park expansion-Fire House Property

Parcel was studied in conceptual plan. Parcel could be used for additional sports fields and courts, new trails and additional parking.

- Public request was made to purchase property for additional parking. Henningsen Lotus Park Conceptual Plan identifies this site as 80 additional parking spaces but also states that parking is adequate except during large special events.

The only place in the Conceptual Plan that a mention of parking is adequate is on page 44 under the HLP Walking/Talking Tour. I was on that tour and those were anecdotal remarks made by an individual and not representative of the community's perspective or of all the stakeholders in attendance. See below:

HLP Walking/Talking Tour (page 44)

The attendees, County staff, and consultants then went on a walking tour of HLP and identified issues and opportunities for various locations in the park. The following is a summary of input collected during this exercise.

Parking

Parking capacity appears to be sufficient, except for very large events such as the American River Music Festival, busy summer weekends, or opening day for soccer.

Overflow parking uses neighboring properties with owners' approval and shuttles bring people to the park.

Other overflow parking sites could include the Marshall Gold Discovery SHP, private campgrounds, Mother Lode Church, etc.

Lotus Road needs "no parking" signs so people trying to avoid fees or overflow vehicles don't park there. It creates a hazard.

Who is responsible for ticketing people who park where they are not supposed to? Sports leagues who use HLP regularly could issue pre-paid parking stickers to their members. How are parking revenues used? Vickie explained they are put back into the HLP Fund.

There are numerous places throughout the Concept document that mention parking as a significant need due to high volume weekends and various special events of which the American River Music Festival is only one. Additionally, the proposed 80 parking spaces in the proposed Lotus Fire House property acquisition presumes that the rest of the proposed facilities are developed. All of those proposed developments were just conceptual ideas of what "can" be done with the property, not what "needs" to be done with the property. It was a "wish list" of facilities and not all of them are necessarily appropriate or possibly feasible. That is up for a discussion in implementation.

Additionally, the State Park has said several times in the past that they we can not use their parking lots for overflow and there are not public resources accessible in the valley that could be used for overflow parking. The private lots that are in close proximity are also very heavily used on the same weekends and event dates that we would need overflow parking. Those recommendations in the Concept plan were not researched or flushed out fully. See page 22 of HLP Concept Plan.

Furthermore, the type of parking and the way in which it can be constructed is open for discussion. Several other jurisdictions and state agencies are developing parking in an innovative and more cost effective and environmentally sensitive way. There are several options that could be executed here that would be significantly less expensive then what is proposed and long term maintenance strategies that are more effective.

In short, the Lotus Fire House property acquisition brings many future options to the most heavily used county and regional park of which parking is only one of the significant additions. I ask that due to the timing sensitivity of this property which is currently on the public market for sale, we move expeditiously to acquire it and alleviate the pressure of losing this public resource indefinitely.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter,

Howard Penn
President, Coloma-Lotus Chamber of Commerce

PLEASE UPDATE EMAIL TO: Howard@LBComm.com

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