

October 11, 2020

**To: Wayne Lowery, Chair ED Parks and Recreation Commission
Parks and Recreation Commission Members
Vicki Sanders, Parks Manager, ED County**

From: Julia McIver, Parks and Recreation Commission

I can't attend the meeting on October 15, so am sending this and ask that you share it with all Commission members.

We've been asked for CIP projects, and while not all of the discussion below fits in that category, some do and I ask that you include them. Other items are for upcoming agendas.

1. Staffing for the Parks Division

- The River Supervisor position was changed into an admin position - what is the status of filling that position?
 - I'd like to discuss the possibility of staffing the kiosk at Henningsen Lotus Park (HLP) on weekends earlier in the spring and later in the fall, in addition to the daily summer staffing. This is included in the HLP Plan.
 - Neither the River Patrol's function nor that of seasonal river staff is clear, and should be revisited at the beginning of 2021.
2. What's the time frame for the annual reports on the river and the Rubicon trail? Were there impacts to the trail from the recent fires?
3. The HLP concept plan was adopted by the BOS in 2014, and Board direction at that time included implementation of several Tier 1 projects, many of which have been done. Board direction included pursuit of three potential acquisitions in Tier 1 that have not been addressed, and should be revisited. These should be added to the CIP list now as placeholders, pending further examination. Note that review pursuant to CEQA is no longer required for acquisition of public lands.
4. The HLP plan also contains projects that should be on the CIP list, including:
- river access improvements to remediate currently unsafe conditions;
 - additional smaller shade and picnic structures;
 - better delineation of beach use;
 - the new pavilion needs further work around it for safety and appearance; and
 - new restrooms closer to the new pavilion should be considered.
5. If the Monroe Ridge Trail connector on County property has been completed, I ask that the PRC request the BOS to send a letter to CA State Parks urging them to complete their remaining portion of the trail in the park (with copies to legislators and legislative committee staff to bolster our request). I'd be happy to draft that letter and help staff shepherd it through the BOS approval process.

6. The County owns approximately 42 acres adjacent to Cronan Ranch, for which a plan has never been done. The BLM did a minimal management plan for the Cronan Ranch in 2007 that does not mention the County owned property, thus there's been no formal discussion about its best public use. The BLM has plans to improve the parking at Cronan, thus increasing the need for and opportunity within creating a plan for the County-owned 42 acres. This should go on the CIP list.
7. An economic study for the Coloma Lotus valley will begin this winter and be in full swing next summer season. Accurate counts of river and park usage will be needed to work with that study; this should be on our agenda with the river staffing discussion.
8. The PRC should get an update on the proposed schedule for the Chili Bar planning process.
9. In meetings in late 2019 and early 2020, the PRC adopted several items regarding how the Commission operates, such as having an annual calendar for things that are addressed every year (e.g. CIP budget discussions, river management, the river and Rubicon annual reports and what they mean for future decisions) and others. The Commission should revisit these adopted items and get them back on track.