

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA**

For the Agenda of:
February 21, 2014
9:00am

To: American River Parkway Advisory Committee

From: Department of Regional Parks

Subject: Discovery Park MOU between the American River Parkway Foundation and the Department of Regional Parks

Supervisory
District: Serna

Contact: Jeff Leatherman, 875-6132

Overview

The Department of Regional Parks (Parks) is proposing to enter into a Partnership with the American River Parkway Foundation (Foundation) to rehabilitate Discovery Park. The work includes sewer system repairs, picnic shelter repairs, picnic table replacement and a number of other repair and replacement projects great needed to provide a quality recreation experience at Discovery Park.

Recommendation

The Department recommends the American River Parkway Advisory Committee (ARPAC) approve the MOU and forward it to the Recreation and Park Commission for consideration.

Measures/Evaluation

The success of this project will be attributed to the strengths of each organization. The Department will be coordinating the significant infrastructure and construction projects while the Foundation will coordinate volunteer groups to perform valuable restoration to picnic tables, BBQs, restrooms and other work to enhance the appearance and experience at Discovery Park.

Fiscal Impact

The Department will fund its projects through grants obtained by the Department from various state and federal programs.

BACKGROUND

Discovery Park is the western most entry to the American River Parkway and is mile “0” of 31 miles that represent the Jedediah Smith Memorial Trail and the American River Parkway. Discovery Park provides access to the confluence of the American and Sacramento Rivers and offers views of the Sacramento skyline. Visitors experiences a large open park area including a beach, launch ramp, picnic areas, archery as well as offers an ideal location for large special events as defined in the American River Parkway Plan. Over the past few decades the park

infrastructure has reach its useful life and is in need of repairs. Through this Partnership the Department will realize its goal of rehabilitating Discovery Park to ensure that our current and future visitors have a quality park experience representative of the community and the American River Parkway.

DISCUSSION

The proposed MOU defines the roles and responsibilities of the two Partners and provides expectations for coordination, insurance, Parkway Plan compliance and a realization of common goals we share as a community. Visitors from all over our Valley and beyond visit Discovery Park and is often a first impression of the American River Parkway. In 2012 the Department identified the following goals for Discovery Park.

- Sewer system repairs to ensure the restrooms were in good working order.
- Bridge repairs to the Jibboom Street Bridge to ensure safe, reliable access across the American River.
- Picnic shelter repairs to ensure that the community had a safe reliable picnic shelter for birthday parties, community events, special events and family gatherings.
- Picnic table and BBQ repairs to ensure families had picnic facilities to experience the park.
- Clean and safe restrooms for the community.

Additionally, the Department identified the need for volunteer coordination for many small projects that improve the overall first impression of Discovery Park ensuring that customers feel safe and welcome in the park.

Regional Parks staff sent the proposed MOU to County Labor Relations, who met and conferred with the affected Recognized Employee Organizations (REO). The REOs were not opposed to this MOU.

MEASURES/EVALUATION

The success of this project will be attributed to the strengths of each organization. The Department will be coordinating the significant infrastructure and construction projects while the Foundation will coordinate volunteer groups to perform valuable restoration to picnic tables, BBQs, restrooms and other work to enhance the appearance and experience at Discovery Park.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

The Department will fund its projects through grants obtained by the Department from various state and federal programs.

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Respectfully submitted,

JEFFREY R. LEATHERMAN, Director
Department of Regional Parks

Attachments: MOU