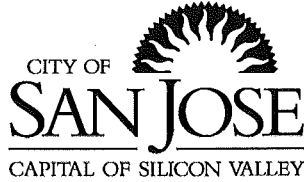


FEB 22 2012

City Manager's Office



# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND  
CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Julie Edmonds-Mares

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON PARK BOND  
PROGRAM**

**DATE:** February 21, 2012

Approved

Date

2/21/12

## INFORMATION

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide a status report on the soccer softball facilities intended to be constructed as part of the "San José Safe Neighborhood Parks and Recreation Bond" ("Parks Bond") passed by the voters in 2000. This memorandum responds to recent questions about the project and provides a brief update on the other projects constructed as part of the Parks Bond measure.

## BACKGROUND

In 2000, the voters of San José (the City) passed the San José Safe Neighborhood Parks and Recreation Bond with over 78 percent of the vote with the following language:

*To improve San Jose's neighborhoods parks' safety and expand recreation opportunities for children, families and seniors by: installing lighting, reconstructing deteriorating playgrounds and restrooms; reserving open space; constructing trails; constructing new recreational sports facilities; improving community and senior centers; and constructing improvements to regional parks like Happy Hollow, shall the City issue \$228,030,000 in bonds, at the best rates possible, with guaranteed annual audits, a citizen's oversight committee and no money for parks administrators' salaries.*

In order to provide oversight over the bond measure, the City established a Citizen's Oversight Committee (COC). The members of the City's Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) serve a dual role as PRC and COC members. Further information, a roster, and agendas for the COC can be found on the following website: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/prns/sjcommissions/pbcoc/default.asp>.

## ANALYSIS

To date, the City has completed 95 of the 97 projects which have been funded as part of the Parks Bond, this includes:

- 73 neighborhood park renovation projects;

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- 9 community center renovations and reconstructions;
- 7 regional park renovations, including the reconstruction of Happy Hollow Park & Zoo;
- 6 trail projects totaling 2.5 miles of new trails.

The two remaining projects to be constructed are the sports facilities; one for soccer and one for softball. A four field, artificial turf, lighted soccer complex is likely to be located at Coleman Avenue, just west of Mineta San José International Airport. The project is currently in the bidding phase and staff anticipates bringing a recommendation to Council to award the project in March 2012.

Available funding for the soccer and softball facilities can be found in the City's Adopted Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Capital Improvement Program Budget, starting on page V-565: <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/budget/FY1112/06AdoptedCapital/05c.NSCSA8PrksCmmntyFacDevEmma-Bond.pdf>. There is currently \$15,100,000 allocated to the soccer complex and \$9,700,000 allocated to the softball complex. Additionally, there is an \$8,000,000 contingency reserve that has been developed in the Parks Bond program that could be made available for these facilities depending upon the final locations, cost estimates, and scopes of work.

Staff is currently evaluating potential locations for the softball facility. Since the bond measure did not provide sufficient funding for land acquisition, the City is limited to working on locations with low or no-cost land deals for the 12 to 15 acres (at a minimum) that would be required for a softball complex. The four locations under evaluation (in alphabetical order) are as follows:

- **Alviso Park:** Near North 1<sup>st</sup> Street just south of Grand Boulevard, in Council District 4;
- **Arcadia Development Site:** At Capitol Expressway and Quimby Road, south of Eastridge Mall, in Council District 8;
- **Columbus Park:** At Taylor and Spring Streets, within the boundaries of the Guadalupe River Park & Gardens, in Council District 3;
- **Shady Oaks Park:** Adjacent to Coyote Creek, near Highway 101 and Coyote Road, near the Edenvale Commercial Area in Council District 2.

Staff is scheduled to bring a softball complex site recommendation forward to the COC in late spring/summer 2012 followed by a recommendation to the full Council in August/September 2012.

/s/

JULIE EDMONDS-MARES  
Acting Director of Parks, Recreation and  
Neighborhood Services

For questions please contact Matt Cano, Deputy Director, at 408-535-3580.