

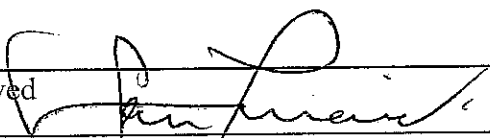
Memorandum

TO: MAYOR REED

FROM: Councilmember Sam Liccardo

SUBJECT: PARK RANGERS

DATE: May 25, 2011

Approved  Date 5-28-11

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: One Park Ranger for Guadalupe River Park Conservancy

Amount of City Funding Required: \$71,640

Fund Type: General Fund

Anticipated Outcomes: Requested funding changes would affect benefits or services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc., as described below:

The current proposal is to eliminate the Park Rangers who are based in Guadalupe River Park. The Park Rangers in Guadalupe provide an invaluable service to the residents of San Jose. They are our front line defense to the many issues that arise in our regional parks, including incidents involving narcotics, fires, and medical emergencies. Our park rangers are a specialized unit of law enforcement officers, and should be treated as such.

By restoring a single FTE, I leave it to the discretion of the City Manager whether it makes more sense to allocate two Rangers for half of a day (presumably, they would rotate to other parks such as Alum Rock), or to allocate a single Ranger for the entire park.

Funding Source

Program/Project Title: Park Trust Fund – District 3, Fund #375, Newhall Park

Amount of City Funding Change: \$ 71,000

Fund Type: Park Trust Fund—District 3, Fund #375

Anticipated Outcomes: Requested funding changes would affect benefits or services for San José residents, businesses, community groups, etc., as described below:

In November of 2010, the Council appropriated \$1,542,000 for the construction of Newhall Park in District Three. On May 24, 2011, Council reviewed bids and awarded a contract that resulted in a total remaining project cost of \$1.47 million, including contingency, meaning that almost \$71,000 remains unencumbered.

We are fully aware that capital money in the Park Trust Funds cannot be utilized for operating expenditures. However, at Newhall Park, we are "piloting" an approach in which we waive some portion of the developer's park fees at the Sobrato project on Campbell Avenue, and the developer agrees to pay an amount into a reserve to be utilized for park maintenance at Newhall.

A similar approach could be utilized with the remaining dollars left from this project, in light of the low bids. The remaining \$70,000 could be refunded to the developer, who could then make a contribution to the Parks Foundation, which could in turn fund an additional FTE for a Ranger to cover Guadalupe Park.

Department or Organization: PRNS

Department or Organization Contact:

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This change is:

One-time Ongoing

The City Service Area to which the change best relates:

- Community and Economic Development Services
- Environmental and Utility Services
- Neighborhood Services
- Public Safety
- Strategic Support
- Transportation and Aviation Services