

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: October 28, 2002

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE ROBINSON PARK MASTER PLAN AND
NEGATIVE DECLARATION

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1) Approve the Initial Study and Adopt the Negative Declaration prepared for the Robinson Park Master Plan;
- 2) Adopt the De Minimis Finding of No Impact on Fish and Wildlife;
- 3) Adopt the Robinson Park Master Plan;
- 4) Direct the City Clerk to certify the Notice of Determination, Negative Declaration, and Certificate of Exemption from Fish and Game fees with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

REVIEW BY COMMISSIONS:

The Robinson Park Master Plan was presented to the Recreation and Parks Commission, the Fair Oaks Project Area Committee, the Design Commission, the Northwest Commission, the Accessibility and Disability Commission, the Planning Commission, the Human Services Commission, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Senior Commission and the Arts Commission during August, September and October of 2001. None of the comments received at any of the Commission and Committee presentations necessitated any modification to the proposed plan and the recommended plan is identical to the draft plan that was presented to the City Council on July 16, 2001. On October 2, 2001 the Recreation and Park Commission recommended that the City Council grant conceptual approval of the Robinson Park Master Plan.

BACKGROUND:

On December 10, 2001 the City Council conceptually approved the Robinson Park Master Plan (Attachment A) pending completion of an environmental review of the plan. An initial environmental study recommending a Negative Declaration was prepared (Attachment B). The study included both the complete Master Plan and

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a potential alternative for less intensive development and usage. This less intensive alternative would not include the expansion of the park through the development of the 2-½ acre parcel (formerly the Highland Plastics factory) located south of the park.

The Recreation and Parks Commission received comments on the Initial Study on October 1, 2002. Only one public comment was made at the meeting and it was in opposition to the use of the Highland Plastics property as a school. The Commission made no comment on the Initial Study. No written comments on the study were received. The public review period closed on October 20, 2002.

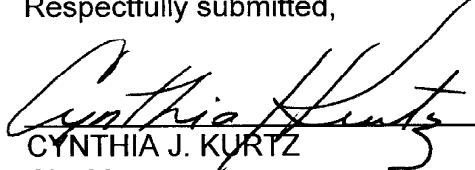
The process of revising the Robinson Park Master Plan began in January 2000 with the formation of the Robinson Park Master Plan Steering Committee. Three community workshops were held and the need for a new recreation center at the park was the main issue at each of the workshops.

When the plan is implemented, the total square footage of the indoor recreational facilities at Robinson Park will increase from 18,910 square feet to 38,275 square feet. The new facilities significantly expand upon existing uses such as music, exercise, classrooms and the gymnasium. New types of facilities that will be provided in the proposed center include a clubroom, youth center and computer lab. These facilities will significantly expand recreational and developmental opportunities for residents.

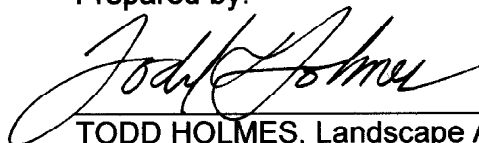
FISCAL IMPACT:

This project is recognized in the FY 2003 Capital Improvement Program with a total estimated cost of \$15,500,000. To date, \$30,000 has been appropriated for the completion of the environmental review. The \$3,948,750 that has already been spent on the 2001 purchase of the adjacent property at 965 N. Fair Oaks Avenue is not included in these costs.

Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

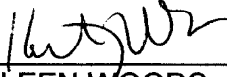
Prepared by:



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Parks and Natural Resources Division
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Reviewed By:



KATHLEEN WOODS, Administrator
Parks and Natural Resources Division
Department of Public Works

Approved by:



JULIE GUTIERREZ, Director
Department of Public Works

Concurred by:



PATRICIA A. LANE, Director
Human Services and Recreation
Department

Attachments:

Robinson Park Master Plan
Initial Study and Negative Declaration