

Agenda Report

February 4, 2013

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: RECOMMENDED AMENDMENT TO PASADENA MUNICIPAL CODE CHAPTER 3.23 TO ADD DESIDERIO PARK TO LIST OF DEDICATED PARKLANDS AND TO CHAPTER 4.17 TO ADD DESIDERIO PARK TO LIST OF PARK AND OPEN SPACE AREAS ON WHICH RESIDENTIAL IMPACT FEES MAY BE EXPENDED

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Acknowledge that the recommended changes to Titles 3 and 4 of the Pasadena Municipal Code are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4); and
2. Direct the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance within 60 days that will amend Chapter 3.23.10 of the Pasadena Municipal Code to add Desiderio Park to list of dedicated parklands and Chapter 4.17.060 to add Desiderio Park as a neighborhood park as depicted in Attachment A.

BACKGROUND:

On January 13, 2013, the City received notification from the United States Department of the Interior (National Park Service) that the City's application to acquire the surplus federal property consisting of 3.976 acres at the Desiderio Hall U.S. Army Reserve Center was approved by the National Park Service and accepted by the Department of the Army. The letter (Attachment B) asks the City to accept "constructive possession" within fifteen days of receipt of the letter. The National Park Service will provide a quit-claim deed that conveys the property title to Pasadena as soon as possible.

To facilitate the possible future expenditure of Residential Impact Fees on the development, acquisition, construction and/or installation of park or recreational facilities at this location requires the amendment of two sections of the Pasadena Municipal Code. Chapter 3.23.10 needs to be amended to include Desiderio Park as dedicated

parkland. Chapter 4.17.060 of the Residential Impact Fee Ordinance needs to be amended to include Desiderio Park as depicted in Attachment A. Desiderio Park would be categorized as a neighborhood park in the west park district. These actions would make the site dedicated parkland and allow Residential Impact Fees to be used for improvements.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The following Council goals and policies would be advanced under the proposed action:

- General Plan Green Space, Recreation and Parks Element, Objective 4 – Use traditional and creative strategies to preserve and acquire open spaces in order to enhance the quality of life of all Pasadenans;
- General Plan Open Space & Conservation Element - Preserve, Acquire and Create Open Space;
- City Council Strategic Planning Goals (2009-2012) – Increase conservation and sustainability; and
- Green City Action Plan, Action 10 – Ensure convenient access to public parks and recreational open space.


ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The adoption of the proposed Pasadena Municipal Code amendments are exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) as CEQA only applies if the City is undertaking or approving a “project.” Pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), excluded from the definition of “project” is the creation of government funding mechanisms which do not involve any commitment to any specific project. The actions proposed herein would allow the expenditure of Residential Impact Fees on the Desiderio Park but do not propose a specific construction project. When such a construction project is proposed, the project would be subject to appropriate environmental review.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The approval of the proposed Pasadena Municipal Code amendments would expand the amount of parkland and open space on which Residential Impact Fees may be expended. No appropriation is recommended at this time.

Respectfully submitted,



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Concurred by:



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Approved by:



For MICHAEL J. BECK
City Manager

Attachment A – Proposed Desiderio Park
Attachment B – Letter Re: Desiderio Hall U.S. Army Reserve Center, Pasadena
California