

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

Date: April 5, 1999

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: Adoption of the Amended Memorial 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 Amended Memorial Park Master Plan;
- 2) Adopt the De Minimis Finding of No Impact on Fish and Wildlife;
- 3) Adopt the Amended Memorial 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;
- 5) Direct the Parks and Natural Resources Division to file the Notice of Determination, Negative Declaration, and Certificate of Exemption from Fish and Game fees with the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

SUMMARY:

It is the intent of this amendment to the current adopted Memorial Park Master Plan to allow installation of a permanent 6-foot fence located at the northern boundary of the Senior Center and southern portion of park land, and to approve the environmental analysis and documentation prepared for the Master Plan according to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

BACKGROUND:

The City of Pasadena adopted a Master Park Plan for Memorial Park in June of 1995. The approved Master Plan contains a list of program elements, proposed projects, tasks and issues. Specifically, the Plan indicates that the fence between the Senior Center and the balance of the park may be redesigned and removed "when adequate park activities

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impart a greater sense of security than what presently exists.” Included in the current adopted Master Plan is a removable 36-inch high fence with permanent sleeves set flush to the ground between the Senior Center and the park to accommodate fund raising events at the Senior Center.

On September 29, 1997, the Pasadena Senior Center wrote a letter to the City Council requesting the installation of a 6-foot permanent fence between the Center and the Park. The letter indicated that safety for patrons of the Senior Center is an ongoing issue, and it is felt that a 3-foot fence would not be a sufficient intrusion buffer.

At their October 6, 1997 meeting, the City Council requested the Recreation and Parks Commission review the Senior Center’s request. The Recreation and Parks Commission at their October 7, 1997 meeting voted 5 in favor and 3 opposed to amend the Memorial Park Master Plan to include a permanent 6-foot wrought iron fence at the same location in place of the current adopted 3-foot fence.

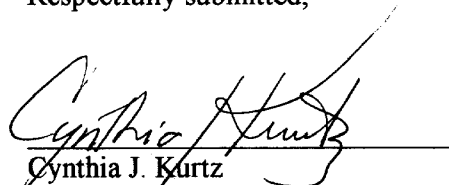
The Amended Memorial Park Master Plan was reviewed by the Planning Commission at their March 24, 1999 meeting. Although no formal action was taken, an informal poll on the proposed 6-foot fence resulted in 1 in favor, 5 opposed and 1 abstention, with the Commission expressing the opinion they would prefer a more open appearance to the park.

Staff has prepared an Initial Study to allow for CEQA analysis and documentation. The Initial Study determined that there were no impacts on the environment, and that a Negative Declaration could be prepared. The public review period for the Negative Declaration and the supporting Initial Study began March 8 and ends April 5, 1999.


FISCAL IMPACT:

Funding for this project in the amount of \$30,000 has previously been recognized and appropriated in the FY 1999 Capital Improvement Program Budget and adopted by Council on December 8, 1997.


Respectfully submitted,


Cynthia J. Kurtz
City Manager

Prepared by:


Janet L. Christmann
Management Analyst II
Parks and Natural Resources

Approved by:


Robert C. Baderian, Director
Parks and Natural Resources