

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL
THROUGH: FINANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: October 13, 2003

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: USE OF SINGER PARK TRUST FUNDS FOR NEW ARBORS
AND AN IRRIGATION PUMP AT SINGER PARK

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve a journal voucher transferring \$22,580 from the unappropriated Singer Park Trust Fund balance to the Parks and Natural Resources Park Maintenance budget as follows: \$6,500 to Budget Account 8101-101-765100 and \$16,080 to Budget Account 8602-101-765100 for refurbishment of arbors and irrigation pump in Singer Park.

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

The Recreation and Parks Commission recommended that the City Council approve a journal voucher transferring \$22,580 from the unappropriated Singer Park Trust Fund balance to the Parks and Natural Resources Park Maintenance budget.

BACKGROUND:

At the January 29, 1924 meeting of the City Board of Directors, by bequest of Emma Singer, the City accepted the three-acre property located at 290 West California Street for the purpose of establishing a public park. In addition to this property, Ms. Singer's donation to the City included a non-expendable trust of \$30,000, the interest on which is to be used to partially defray the cost of maintaining the park.

Through FY 1988, the interest generated from this Fund was transferred to the General Fund on an annual basis to subsidize the general maintenance of Singer Park. Since that time, the interest that has accrued in this Fund has not been expended and at the close of FY 2003, the Fund's interest available for use was \$31,808.03. Staff is proposing that a portion of the available balance be used for two projects at Singer Park; replacement of the wooden portion of the pergolas (arbors) and the installation of an irrigation pump.

The wooden portions of the pergolas at Singer Park are in a state of disrepair and are in need of replacement. Based on the materials used in the construction and installation of the existing trellis, the work involved in removing the wooden

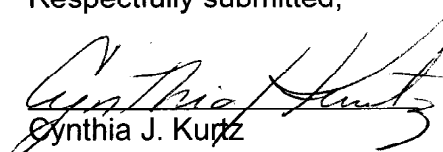
trellis must be performed by a certified lead abatement contractor. Subsequent to the removal of this material, City staff will construct, install and paint the new wood trellis. The arbor's existing concrete pillars will not be impacted by this project. The total estimated cost for this work is \$16,080.

Singer Park is located in an area of the City known to have low water pressure. This low water pressure significantly hinders the maintenance of the turf areas at this park. The existing irrigation system requires long run times in order to adequately water those areas that receive little water; thereby over watering the areas that have adequate sprinkler coverage. This practice wastes water and creates areas of saturated soil that can render maintenance equipment immobile and/or leave turf areas unusable to park visitors. Adding an irrigation pump will increase water pressure and flow capabilities in the existing lines. This will lead to improved "head-to-head" sprinkler coverage, which is critical in proper watering and water management. The estimate cost for the pump and its installation is \$6,500.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Approval of this recommendation will increase appropriations in the FY 2004 Park Maintenance Operating Budget, and decrease the Singer Park Fund Balance, by \$22,580. The Singer Park Trust Fund would be left with a remaining available balance of \$9,228.03 in interest income, along with the \$30,000 non-expendable trust.

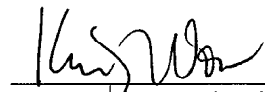
Respectfully submitted,


Cynthia J. Kurtz
City Manager

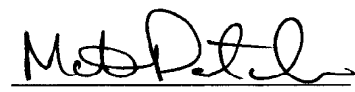
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