

# Agenda Report

**DATE:** June 15, 1998

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** ACTING CITY MANAGER

**SUBJECT:** STATUS REPORT - EATON WASH PARK MASTER PLAN (PHASE I)

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is presented for information only.

**BACKGROUND:**

On January 9, 1995, the City Council approved the Master Plan for Eaton Wash Park. The development of this former nursery and the adjacent City-owned land into a park is an integral part of one of the City Council's goals which is "To invest in parks and parklands." The following elements are included in the adopted Master Plan:

**1) Promote Environmental education**

- Preserve Oaks
- Planting of Native trees and shrubs in the park and the adjacent Los Angeles County settling basins
- Interpretive map system explaining the park environment

**2) Access and Parking**

- Perimeter fencing and gates: *Pedestrian access only* at Orange Grove Boulevard (two entrances) and Avocado Street

**3) Safety and Security**

- Perimeter fencing and gates (wrought iron). Secure gates at night per City Ordinance
- Cycle irrigation at night to discourage park use after closing hours

**4) Provide Park Amenities**

- Separated trails for jogging, cycling and walking. Trails will be surfaced with decomposed granite
- Benches
- Trash Receptacles
- Drinking fountain
- Restrooms

Under the current Municipal Ordinance Section 3.24.110A15, no cycles of any kind are allowed in any public park in Pasadena. In order to complete this part of the Plan, the current City Ordinance would need to be amended.

An Initial Study has been initiated by the Planning and Permitting Department to secure the necessary environmental documentation for the Eaton Wash Master Plan. The process, including the 20 day public review, approvals by the Recreation and Parks, Design, Cultural Heritage, and Planning Commissions, and ultimately by City Council, will take approximately four months. As the result of City Council action, the Planning and Permitting Department will file a Negative Declaration with the Los Angeles County as required by CEQA.

In preparation for the City's intention to develop the site as a neighborhood park, the license agreement with Charles Norman, President of Francis L. Norman Nursery Inc., was terminated effective May 21, 1997. The nursery has vacated the property and has committed to donate several plant species to be incorporated into the park improvements. In addition to this donation, Perry, Thomas and Associates, a general contractor working on a project for the Water and Power Department laying underground conduit between two power stations in the vicinity, has delivered over 1000 cubic yards of dirt for the rehabilitation of the park.

The total cost for implementation of the Eaton Wash Master Plan is \$2,200,000. The current available funding as approved by City Council for Phase I is \$189,699. The schedule for the Eaton Wash Park Improvements (Phase 1) is as follows: planning has been completed as of January 28, 1998; the design phase began February 2, 1998 and will conclude on June 26, 1998; the advertising and awarding of bids will run from July 2, 1998 through October 16, 1998; and construction will begin on October 19, 1998 and conclude on January 15, 1999.

Design of the proposed park improvements (Phase 1) will include the following: soils test, site clearance, walking trails and trail signage, oak tree preservation plan, benches, basic potable water system, and tree planting.

The Eaton Wash Park Planning Committee consisting of neighborhood association community members, Field Representative for City Council District IV, a representative from the Recreation and Parks Commission, and City staff held a community meeting on January 24, 1998 to inform the community and to disseminate information about the park improvements.

Maintenance costs projected for Phase 1 completed projects will be absorbed in Parks and Natural Resources Operating Budget for FY 99. Based on a full year of use, the following maintenance costs have been identified for Phase 1: security costs which include closing the park nightly and repairing the fence as needed, \$6,400; utilities, \$2,700; equipment costs, \$2,000; supplies, \$5,000; and park maintenance staff, \$5,530. Parks and Natural Resources staff will

provide daily inspections of the park grounds, check and remove graffiti, perform irrigation repairs as necessary, and provide pest control. Total annual maintenance costs for Phase 1 improvements has been estimated at \$21,630. City staff has met with the Los Angeles Flood Control District and informed them of the project plans.

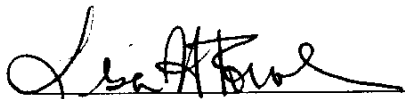
FISCAL IMPACT:

Currently there is \$189,699 available in Budget Account #78289 of the approved Capital Improvement Program to implement Phase 1 of the Eaton Wash Master Plan. The cost to implement the total plan is estimated at \$2,200,000. The estimated cost to maintain the park after completion of Phase 1 in FY 99 will be approximately \$8,000 and will be absorbed in the Parks and Natural Resources Operating Budget. Staff will be requesting an additional appropriation of \$21,630 to maintain Phase 1 improvements in their FY 2000 Budget.


Respectfully submitted,

  
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