



Meeting Date: January 17, 2012

**TOWN OF MORAGA**

**STAFF REPORT**

**To: Park and Recreation Commission**  
**From: Jay Ingram, Parks and Recreation Director**  
**Subject: January Agenda Items**

**Unfinished Business**

**Prioritize projects for remaining East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) Measure WW funds - (discussion/action)** In 2008 the voters in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties passed an extension of the EBRPD Measure AA to what is now known as Measure WW. This vote allocated money for recreational improvements to cities, towns, special districts and other County Service Areas in Contra Costa and Alameda Counties. Measure WW grant funds available to Moraga total \$737,587.

Of the \$737,587 allocated to Moraga, the majority was spent on the Camino Pablo (CP) School field renovations. The Town has filed a certificate of completion for the CP project and shows a balance of remaining WW funds to be \$141,987.

At its November 15, 2011 meeting, the Park and Recreation Commission created a task force consisting of Chair Faoro, Vice-Chair Reed and Commissioner Lucacher to prioritize Measure WW funding requests. At its first and only meeting on January 10, 2012, the task force invited Hacienda Foundation President, Graig Crossley, Past President, Claire Roth, and Lamorinda Dogs Inc. representative, Jeanne Moreau to participate in the discussion. Commissioner Reed represented the Park Foundation. Task Force discussions concluded with the concept of potentially dividing the remaining funds three ways, up to \$30,000 for the Commons Park, \$42,000 for the Hacienda de las Flores and \$70,000 for Rancho Laguna Park. The Park and Recreation Commission will consider the task force's recommendation at its January 17, 2012 meeting.

Given this recommendation will be considered by the Commission, staff contacted EBRPD to inquire about the grant fund requirements. An excerpt from the EBRPD Grant Guideline Clarification for Applicant Agencies – March 2010 states:

***Construction of the Project - Participating Entities may construct projects themselves with their own forces or hire construction contractors. Participating Entity's contracting procedures and prevailing wage requirements apply.***

In order to be eligible for Measure WW funds for proposed projects at the Commons (Bandshell) Park and Hacienda de las Flores (restrooms) as currently recommended, the Town must follow its own procurement and contracting procedures. For public construction contracts (defined as projects that use public funds), informal procedures are sufficient for projects is \$125,000 or less and if the public project is \$30,000 or less, the project contract may be negotiated.

In November 2011 Town Council approved Resolution 41-2011 authorizing staff to fund the Commons Park pathway improvements, using EBRPD Measure WW Grant funds. Given the requirement of EBRPD to follow the Town's procurement and public construction policies, it will be assumed this portion of the larger Commons Park Bandshell project will be negotiated with the Town, Parks Foundation and contractor, if the grant is approved by EBRPD.

Given EBRPD requirements, the additional up to \$30,000 Park Foundation grant request will be required to follow the Town's procurement and public construction policies. The Park Foundation is close to signing a construction contract with their selected contractor, but is short funds to complete this project. The request of Measure WW funds makes this project more complex.

Using the same EBRPD grant requirements for the Hacienda Foundation funding request, the Town would again need to follow its own procurement and public construction policies. With both projects the WW money is to be given to the applicant and the contract for grant funds is between the Town and EBRPD. If the Hacienda Foundation is willing to follow the Town's procurement and public construction policies for improvements to the Hacienda de las Flores, then it is understood by staff the project request of \$42,000 would qualify given EBRPD grant requirements.

### Recommendation

Given recent developments with staff related EBRPD grant requirements the following options are offered:

- 1) Consider a funding amount for Rancho Laguna Park for off-leash dog area fencing, new play equipment and new play equipment fencing. Submit a request to EBRPD for this project by March 31, 2012.
- 2) Consider a funding amount for Hacienda de las Flores improvements. Submit a request to EBRPD for this project by March 31, 2012.
- 3) Apply for Commons Park pathway improvements as approved by Town Council in Resolution 41-2011 on November 9, 2011. The amount for this project is \$15,000 and would follow the Town's procurement and public construction policies as required by EBRPD.
- 4) Consider a funding amount for the Commons Park Bandshell improvements. Submit a request to EBRPD for this project by March 31, 2012.

Provide a recommendation to the Town Council given the above options.

## New Business

**Rancho Laguna Park – (discussion/action)** On December 14, 2011 the Town Council voted 3-2 to approve the Park and Recreation Commission Recommendation for spatial separation at Rancho Laguna Park. Since approval staff has been securing costs and potential designs for the off-leash dog area fencing, playground and playground fencing. Staff is working with Kit Steven, President of Miracle PlaySystems Inc.. Mr. Steven has provided the four attachments to this report which include a site plan, conceptual drawings, fence plan and cost estimates.

The cost estimates provided are from the California Multiple Award Schedules (CMAS) program. This program, through the California Department of General Services, offers a wide variety of commodities, non-IT services, and information technology products and services at prices which have been assessed to be fair, reasonable and competitive. Cities and Towns often use the CMAS process to purchase playground equipment. Miracle PlaySystems Inc. has a CMAS contract with the State of California and is an authorized supplier. The Town successfully used the CMAS process to install the upper playground in the Commons Park and plans to use the same CMAS process with Rancho Laguna Park.

Miracle PlaySystems will attend the meeting and provide an overview of the playground concepts included in this packet. Moraga Junior Women's Club members provided staff and Miracle PlaySystems with suggestions for a new design and it incorporates most of the Juniors requests. However, a tire swing was requested, but not included due to costs.

Timing is important for this project assuming Measure WW funds will be spent at Rancho Laguna Park. Town Council will need to award a construction contract, a grant proposal must be submitted to EBRPD by March 31, 2012. Volunteer work will also need to be done to prepare the off-leash dog area (removal of Juniper bushes, eight picnic tables and four barbecues) and time will need to be allowed for a community build project. While there is still some time, staff would like to have a recommendation from the Commission by the end of January 2012 in order to meet the goal of installing a playground for the community before the summer begins.

## Recommendation

Staff recommends the Commission review the conceptual design presented, modify the design if desired, provide staff with further direction and possible action.

## Attachments:

- 1 – Playground Site Area
- 2 – Design Concept
- 3 – Fence Plan
- 4 – Cost Estimates