



Meeting Date: January 27, 2015

**TOWN OF MORAGA**

**STAFF REPORT**

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

**New Business**

**Item VIII. A. Hacienda Vision Presentation – (presentation/discussion)**

On November 18, 2014 the Town Council received two presentations on a strategic vision for the Hacienda de las Flores property. Activity at that Hacienda has decreased in recent years, resulting in decreased revenues. The first presentation was from the Hacienda Foundation of Moraga and the second one was from Joao Magalhaes, a Moraga resident. Both presentations have been included in this meeting packet for review and will be presented to the Commission as part of this item. As a result of the Town Council presentations on the 18th, staff was directed to work with both the Hacienda Foundation and Joao Magalhaes in developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for comprehensive architectural conceptual plans for the Hacienda property. The conceptual plan will encompass new concepts, preliminary designs and potential solutions to enhance and preserve the character of the asset while increasing the public use of this important property. The Commission is being asked to receive the presentations, discuss and provide comments. The draft RFP is currently scheduled to be presented to Town Council on February 11, for review. If approved by the Town Council, the RFP will be distributed shortly thereafter, soliciting qualified architectural firms.

**Item VIII. B. Commons Park Pathway Update – (discussion/action)**

Town staff recently received first draft plans from the landscape architect for the proposed Commons Park ADA Complaint Pathway. While staff is still reviewing details, the Park and Recreation Commission is asked to make a recommendation on the preferred pathway concept and preferred surface at this time. Concept 1 shows the pathway between the sand volleyball pit and the Cottonwood trees. Concept 2 shows the pathway east of the Cottonwood trees, taking a more direct route up “Grass Ski Hill.”

Pathway costs for the different options still need to be refined, although initial estimates do not show a large difference in price between the three options (decomposed granite, asphalt and concrete). For purposes of maintenance and rutting, the landscape architect does not recommend

a decomposed granite surface, leaving asphalt and concrete as preferred options. Staff supports this recommendation and is recommending a harder, more permanent surface.

With the initial recommendation to Town Council, the Park and Recreation Commission desired this project be completed by the end of May, 2015. In an attempt to keep this target date, staff would like to move forward with direction to the landscape architect before the February Park and Recreation Commission meeting.

#### Recommendation

Due to the desire to potentially install this pathway prior to the 2015 Summer Concert Series, staff recommends moving forward with landscape architectural final schematic plans and costs for Concept 1. This concept:

- has a more gradual and flowing slope up the hill
- keeps the natural turf on the east side of the Cottonwood tree, offering less visual impact
- provides a larger landing area at the top

Asphalt pathway is also recommended because it:

- is easy to maintain
- does not rut after heavy rains or continuous turf irrigation cycles
- is the same surface material of existing Commons Park pathways

#### **Item VIII. C. Mayors Welcome and Volunteer Appreciation – (report)**

Please attend Moraga's annual Volunteer Appreciation Night, Tuesday, February 10, at 6:00 pm at the Moraga Country Club (MCC). Honor all of the volunteers who have completed their terms on Town committees, commissions and boards and learn about the Town's 2015 goals during a presentation by Mayor Roger Wykle. This is a great opportunity to meet and socialize with your local elected officials, fellow community members, and neighbors. Join us as we thank all of the volunteers who make Moraga special! Email [mjmuller@moraga.ca.us](mailto:mjmuller@moraga.ca.us) to RSVP by February 4.