

**LIVERMORE AREA RECREATION AND PARK DISTRICT  
GENERAL MANAGER'S MONTHLY UPDATE  
TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON ISSUES AND PROJECTS**

May 7, 2012

Information contained in this report is intended to help keep the Board of Directors informed on current issues and projects. Reported below is the most current information to date. Since work on these items is ongoing, the information is subject to rapid change. If a project or issue has not changed from the previous month's report, the information provided may be the same as was previously reported. Please note that some projects are not directed or managed by LARPD, but they are included below as informational only.

**AGREEMENTS AND PLANNING PROJECTS**

1. **Sycamore Grove Extension RMP** (former Bobba Property) –The Draft Final Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND), being developed by the URS Corporation, will be ready for public comment in late May, pending an agreement on a trail alignment with East Bay Regional Park District at the southern end of the Park.

**CAPITAL PROJECTS**

2. **Coastal Conservancy Grant Projects at Sycamore Grove** – The projects are located in Sycamore Grove Park along Upper Drainage B. They are: 1) Pond restoration work which includes the construction of a dam and minor trail realignment, 2) Design and construction of an observation deck and interpretive panels; and 3) Habitat restoration and re-vegetation work along Drainage B. For Task 2, staff has been working with NRCS biologists and DC&E/Hanford ARC to finalize the design and construction plans for the observation area and the interpretive panels. Construction of the Observation Deck is scheduled for May/June of 2012, due to delays in procuring the custom metal work for the railing. The deck construction is not subject to a County building permit.
3. **Robertson Park Trail/Respite Area** – Construction for this project is planned for summer 2012.
4. **Robertson Park Sports Field Conversion to Synthetic Turf** – At their meeting on April 13, 2012 the Board awarded the contract to Goodland Landscaping and Construction and approved an additional appropriation of up to \$177,000 of reserve funds (if necessary) to complete the project. Construction was started in late April and will be completed in late summer. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on May 1, 2012.
5. **City of Livermore Mitigation in Sycamore Grove Park for Isabel/I-580 Interchange.** This project is required mitigation work for the City's Isabel/I-580 Interchange project, and includes a three to five year monitoring period for the plantings. The City is in the process of soliciting bids for the maintenance of the mitigation planting. Prior to the start of the

Maintenance Period, the District is scheduled to collect fees from the City for the Mitigation Monitoring fund.

6. **Wireless Facilities in LARPD Parks (on City owned properties)** – The City is preparing a draft revenue sharing agreement which, when completed, will be forwarded on to LARPD for comment.
7. **Cayetano Park** - Staff and representatives of Shea Homes are in the process of reviewing the Improvement Agreement between LARPD and Shea Homes and continue to finalize specifications for the park.
8. **Monument Sign for Robert Livermore Community Center** – The project is completed, with minor clean-up and re-planting around the sign to be done by the Parks Division. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the sign is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.
9. **Robert Livermore Park Irrigation Pump Replacement** – Following CUPCCAA informal bid procedures, the contract for this project was awarded to the successful low bidder on April 12, 2012. The project will replace the old irrigation pump with a new, more efficient model and provide for a new exhaust system and improved vault access for ease of maintenance. The new pump should be installed and ready for operation by the end of summer.
10. **Sycamore Grove Restrooms** – Plans are underway to install new restroom facilities at Sycamore Grove Park with redistributed funding from the Ranger Station project. The new restroom building near the Wetmore entrance will be connected to the City’s sanitary sewer system per the Out of Area Service Agreement concluded with the City of Livermore in 2011. New vault toilets at the Arroyo entrance parking lot will replace the existing units which are no longer supported for replacement parts by the manufacturer.
11. **Sycamore Grove Nature Education Facilities (NEF) Grant Project** – CIP Administration staff and Ranger staff held a kick-off meeting in mid-December to discuss site layout and key components of the grant approved facilities. In order to maximize grant funding for construction and fabrication of the nature education facilities, we are utilizing in-house staff for design development and preparation of the construction documents. Open Space staff are in the process of evaluating content for the interpretive and educational displays.

## **TRAILS**

12. **Trail T-11: Segment N (also called Segment B - from Sycamore Grove Park west to Vineyard Ave.)** – This is a City and EBRPD Project - The City’s “East Vineyard Ave. Realignment Project” involves a new signalized intersection about 400 feet southwest of the existing intersection of Vineyard and Vallecitos. This project will allow the trail to bypass several private properties and provides an at-grade crossing at the new signalized intersection. Zone 7 is funding the realignment of the private access road to the south of the intersection. Staff from LARPD, EBRPD, Alameda County and the City met on March 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss plans to move forward with this project. To utilize the Prop 1 B funding, the

City must have the realignment project out to bid by June of 2012. EBRPD is developing a map to identify all of the property owners and the various easements that might be impacted by this trail development.

13. **Trail T-10: Del Valle Extension (along the CEMEX quarry property).** This is a City/EBRPD Project – LARPD asked the City to consider taking on the responsibility for connecting the trail through or by private property. The City agreed and asked EBRPD to take the project on because of its regional connectivity. EBRPD has indicated that they are not interested in doing this connection. EBRPD is instead, working on the trail connection on the south side of Lake A, along Vineyard to Vallecitos (see item #12 and 14).
14. **Trail T-11 Segment A: (from Vallecitos northwest along Vineyard Ave.)** – This is a City and EBRPD Project. Also see comments for #12. The City’s “East Vineyard Ave. Realignment Project” includes the construction of a trail running northwest from Vallecitos to connect to EBRPD’s existing trail easement on the southwest side of Lake A. EBRPD is proceeding on development of that trail between Isabel and Vallecitos. The City is working with CalTrans to include widening a bridge on Isabelle to accommodate the trail over the Arroyo del Valle.
15. **Holdener Park Internal Trail System** –A volunteer group, “The East Bay Trail Dogs” has completed over 800 feet of new trail construction. Additional trail work will be planned after design work for the small bridge crossings is completed.
16. **Improvement Agreement with Ponderosa Homes for the realignment and construction of T 10-J2 (a section of the Vinsanto Trail, or SLVT Segment G extension) trail segment along San Felice and Caldeira Drives.** A section of the proposed trail is on District property in Robertson Park. The Developer is also placing a five-foot wide sidewalk along Robertson Park Road within park property. The improvement agreement with Ponderosa will address easement and encroachment rights and maintenance responsibilities for these new sections being constructed by Ponderosa.

In order to provide for the increased demand for gas for the new development, the District has been approached by PG&E. PG&E is interested in sharing LARPD’s existing trail easement along Concannon (Trail Segment E2), which includes attaching the gas main to the trail bridge. The new gas main will be installed under the roadway (County) on Wente and Marina, with minimal impact on the District’s trail on those streets.

17. **Re-pavement of the Arroyo Del Valle Regional Trail in Sycamore Grove Park** – CIP staff is now preparing construction documents for reconstructing the 2.5 mile asphalt trail. Due to the extensive scope of the project, which includes two sections of trail that need to be rerouted, construction work will likely be phased subject to availability of funds.

## UPDATES and ADDITIONAL NOTES

### Grants

1. SSC applied for \$1,000 from Soroptimist International of Livermore

### Donations

1. Wattenburger Park memorial tree in honor of Clark Radewan
2. Wattenburger Park memorial tree in honor of Trevor Douglas Carter
3. Robertson Park memorial trees in honor of Wayne Woodruff
4. SHARES check for \$323.62

### Other

With the late rain and warm weather, you may observe some noticeable changes in the appearance of some vegetation in our parks.

Fungi spore are present in our turf and some trees virtually all of the time, and it is only when the environment is right for them to grow that we notice their presence. This year, because it has been wet with some periods of warmth, we are experiencing noticeable fungi in our turf and in our Sycamore trees.

1. Fairy Ring is growing in the lawns at the Sports Complex (Ernie Rodriguez fields). Fairy ring can cause circular or semi-circular green bands of grass followed by light brown grass in the turf. They get larger as time progresses. The fungi prevents water penetration, which stresses the turf, thus the light brown area directly behind the green ring. Penetrating the fungi layer by aerating the turf is helpful; we aerated the turf about a month ago. We do not have a severe condition, but a severe condition can cause the turf in the area of the fungi to die. We will continue to monitor and to treat, if necessary. Treatment will probably be more aeration of the turf and, as a last resort, applying fungicides.
2. Anthracnose on our Sycamores. Sycamores, such as the ones in front of the RLCC, are susceptible to the Anthracnose fungi. In this case, it has affected the tender new growth of our Sycamore trees. The damage is done and the tree should recover by shedding these diseased leaves and growing new leaves. These new leaves will not be as affected by the fungi, because the temperature and the environment will not be as favorable as they were, for the fungi to grow.

Tim Barry, General Manager  
TB/JL/s