

**City Manager's Report****September 25, 2018, City Council Meeting****Prepared By: Steve Youel, Director of Community Services****Item#: 12.3****Subject:** Direct Staff to Prepare Cost Estimates for Short Term Improvements to Lumsden Park

Purpose: Improve site conditions for visitors to Lumsden Park.

Discussion: Lumsden Park is located at 3144 Wiltse Road in Placerville. The park consists of a duck pond, picnic area, restrooms and tot-lot. The park has recently experienced an increase in vandalism, litter and illegal drug activity. On June 20, 2018, at the request of the City Manager the Recreation and Parks Commission entertained a discussion regarding the current status of the park to help identify what should be done to improve conditions now and in the future. In summary, the discussion can be broken down into short and long term improvements. The Commission's observations and recommended site improvements are as follows:

Short Term Recommendations:

- Trail around pond is becoming unsafe due to erosion and is need of repair.
- Park boundary and interpretive signage should be added.
- Close the restroom facilities and place a portable toilet next to the play feature.
- Eliminate homeless camps surrounding the park.
- Move the existing park gate further into the park to allow car access to the play feature and picnic area. Once relocated keep the gate closed during the week and open only on the weekends.
- Fence the park boundaries.
- Increase police foot patrols.
- Reduce fire fuels within and around the park.

Long Term Options:

- Close the park, if short term suggestions cannot be met.
- Pond water aeration to improve pond water quality.
- Resurface the street and turn-a-round.
- Convert park site to a Dog Park.
- Remove pond in order to provide for new park amenities.
- Sell the park and use the funds to make improvements at other City park sites.
- Move the play equipment to another City park site and close the park.
- Trade park property for more usable park land within the City.
- Sell a portion of the park and keep the play area.
- Improve wheelchair access.

It was the overall consensus of the Commission that if some or all of the short-term improvements could be made, the park should remain open to the public. The Commission was not in favor of closing the park prior to identifying a short and long term plan for the site.

Options:

1. Postpone efforts to make site improvements at Lumsden Park.
2. Close the park to the public and work toward long term recommendation.

Cost: None

Budget Impact: There is no budget impact associated with developing a cost analysis for short term site improvements.

Recommendation: Direct staff to prepare cost estimates for short term improvements to Lumsden Park.



M. Cleve Morris, City Manager



Steve Youel, Director of Community Services