



**City Manager's Report**  
**October 9, 2018, City Council Meeting**  
**Prepared By: Steve Youel, Director of Community Services**

**Item#: 12.1**

**Subject:** Direct staff to proceed with Lumsden Park short-term site improvements that can be accomplished without a special budget appropriation.

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**Purpose:** Improve site conditions at 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 continues to experience an increase in vandalism, litter and illegal drug activity. On September 25, 2018 at the request of the City Manager, staff and the Placerville Recreation and Parks Commission provided the City Council with a list of recommended short-term site improvements and long-term options for consideration:

Short Term Recommendations:

- Trail 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 Recreation and Parks 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.

During the City Council meeting, staff was directed to provide cost estimates for short term site improvements to the Park and report back to the Council.

The cost estimate of each site improvement excluding functions performed by the Placerville Police Department is as follows:

Improvement	Scope of Work	Cost Estimate
Trail Repair	Materials (D.G. Wood, Rebar)	\$1,500
	Volunteers (Eagle Scout)	\$0
Park Boundary Signage	Temporary Signs	\$50
	City Park Staff	\$0
Close Restroom Facilities	Lock Restrooms	\$0
Move Existing Park Gate	Materials (Concrete)	\$120
	City Staff/Equipment	\$0
Fence Park Boundaries	Fence South/West End of Park	\$27,000
Reduce Fire Fuels Within and Around the Park	Remove understory and raise the tree canopy within the park and neighboring properties.	\$1,500 / Acre

#### Options:

1. Postpone efforts to make site improvements at Lumsden Park.
2. Implement some or all of the recommended short term site improvements.
3. Close the park to the public and work on possible long term options.

**Cost:** Staff is confident that a majority of the proposed short-term site improvements can be accomplished without a special budget appropriation. Trail improvement projects have been popular Eagle Scout Projects in the past. We are optimistic that an Eagle Scout can be recruited to make the necessary trail improvements. Eagle Scouts are required to raise the necessary funds to complete their project. The existing restrooms can be locked and the portable restroom removed. Posting temporary signage and moving the existing park entrance gate can be performed by City park maintenance staff. Costs associated with signage and relocation of the gate can be absorbed within the exiting maintenance and operations budget for Lumsden Park.

Funding for fencing the park boundaries and reducing fire fuels within the park boundaries has not been identified and should be considered for future Capital Improvements Program projects assuming the park remains open to the public.

**Budget Impact:** Although there is no established budget for short term site improvements at Lumsden Park staff is confident that a majority of the improvements can be completed within the adopted operating budget.

**Recommendation:** Direct staff to proceed with Lumsden Park short-term site improvements that can be accomplished without a special budget appropriation.



M. Cleve Morris, City Manager



Steve Youel, Director of Community Services



Dave Warren, Director of Finance