



City Manager's Report

July 12, 2016 City Council Meeting

Prepared by: Steve Youel, Director of Community Services
Cleve Morris, City Manager

Item #: 12.1

Subject: Approve the proposed Garden Development Plan for the Monument Garden project located at the corner of Bedford and Main Street in Placerville. Authorize the Director of Community Services to manage the project through to completion.

Discussion: The Community Pride Committee was established in 1990 by the City of Placerville and is staffed by volunteers. Since its inception, this group of dedicated volunteers has planted and maintained 20 gardens on public property throughout the City. In keeping with Community Pride's goal to improve the grace and charm of Placerville, the Committee desires to make site improvements to the pocket park located adjacent to the District Attorney's Office at the corner of Main Street and Bedford Avenue. Improvements to the park will include reinstallation of the Bell; installation of park benches, walkways, a trash receptacle, additional landscaping and lighting (see attached conceptual design). In addition, Community Pride would like to construct a monument displaying the Vietnam Memorial Plaques that were once placed along Main Street (see attached rendering). The proposed location of the monument is in front of the District Attorney's office facing Main Street.

A considerable amount of time and effort has gone into the conceptual design of this garden. Community Pride Committee engaged the architectural services of Foothill Associates who assisted Community Pride with a public workshop held on December 20, 2011 and attended monthly discussions regarding potential design elements over the past four months. With assistance from Foothill Associates, Community Pride Committee members feel the current proposed design best represents the wishes of our community at large. The City of Placerville Recreation and Parks Commission reviewed the project and unanimously endorsed the Committee's efforts to complete the proposed project.

All work on this community project will be performed in a professional manner. The practices and procedures employed will be according to accepted industry standards (e.g., Association of Landscape Contractors of America); installations and applications will be made with technical expertise; all vehicles and equipment will be operated both skillfully and safely within the project site. Construction over-sight will be provided by City staff. Community Pride Committee will make every effort to assist City staff in keeping construction costs to a minimum by continuing to solicit donations, volunteer labor, donate material and services.

Once the park is complete, Community Pride Committee will be responsible to maintain all landscaped areas and remove litter from the site. All other park maintenance and operations will be the City's responsibility.

Budget Impact: Community Pride Committee pays for ongoing maintenance of existing projects and new capital improvements through proceeds derived from fundraising and State of California mitigation funds. Construction costs associated with project development are estimated to not exceed \$120,000. The Committee has spent \$17,000 on the Conceptual Design and Plan Specifications thus far.

The cost of project development will be completed in phases. Community Pride Committee will make every effort to assist City staff in keeping construction costs to a minimum by soliciting donations, volunteering labor and donating material and services. The Committee is confident that construction costs can be kept to a minimum, well below construction cost estimates.

Development Plan Time Line

Phase I – Completed August 2016

Installation of Historic Bell performed by City staff and volunteers at no cost to the City.

Phase II – Completed November 2017

Installation of Veteran Monument performed by City staff and volunteers. An estimated \$20,000 is needed for fabrication and installation of the monument. Through the efforts of the Community Pride Committee, \$1,111 has been raised towards this expense. The remaining balance of approximately \$19,000 has not yet been secured. However, staff has been informed that an anonymous donor has committed to a \$5,000 donation. This leaves a total of \$14,000 to be secured for this phase.

Phase III – Completion pending available funding

Installation of Landscape and Lighting performed by City staff, volunteers and Contracted Services. An estimated \$50,000 is needed to complete the project and will be requested by City Staff as part of the City's 2017-2018 Capital Improvement Annual Budget.

Phase IV – Upon Completion of project

Ongoing Maintenance – Annual routine maintenance associated with the tasks assigned to Community Pride Committee is projected to be \$300 and will be allocated as part of the Community Pride Committee Annual Operating Budget. The remaining costs associated with annual maintenance and operation conducted by the City is estimated to be \$2,000 and will be identified within the City's Annual Operating Budget for Parks.

Options

1. Continue to allow funding efforts at this time.
2. Fund the project up to the \$20,000 for the monument only.
3. Fund the remaining amount of the project up to \$69,000.
4. Continue to push fund raising efforts through May of 2017. At that time direct staff to report back on the progress and provide recommendation on how to proceed.

Recommendation:

Approve the proposed Garden Development Plan for the Monument Garden project located at the corner of Bedford and Main Street in Placerville. Direct staff to continue and assist with fund raising efforts through May of 2017 and report on progress and direction forward. Authorize the Director of Community Services to manage the project through to completion.

Attachments:

Conceptual Design Rendering and Plan Specifications
Monument Rendering



Steve Youel, Director of Community Services



M. Cleve Morris, City Manager