



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Jon Cicirelli
Jim Shannon

SUBJECT: TULLY ROAD BALLFIELDS
DOG PARK

DATE: June 15, 2021

Approved  Date 06/17/21

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 7

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) Accept the staff recommendation to install fencing at Tully Road Ballfields to create an interim dog park.
- (b) Adopt the following 2021-2022 Appropriation Ordinance amendments in the Subdivision Park Trust Fund:
 - (1) Establish the Tully Road Ballfields Dog Park Improvements appropriation to the Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department in the amount of \$100,000; and,
 - (2) Decrease the Future PDO/PIO Projects Reserve appropriation by \$100,000.

OUTCOME

This action will allocate funding in 2021-2022 to install a limited set of improvements that can be used for an interim dog park at the Tully Road Ballfields.

BACKGROUND

Located south of Tully Road, east of the Coyote Creek Trail and behind the Tully Road Library, the Tully Road Ballfields and surrounding open space is underutilized. In recent years, visitors to the ballfields and trail have faced numerous challenges with blight, illegal camping and illegal dumping, illustrated by the removal of 19 tons of garbage from the site during a recent community clean up event.

The Tully Road Library and Ballfields serves as one of few public amenities at the nexus of several high-density communities, with children and families as far away as the Santee Neighborhood (near Story Road and McLaughlin Avenue) depending on this community resource.

ANALYSIS

The Office of Councilmember Esparza, on behalf of the community, has requested a dog park at the Tully Road Ballfields. Development of a dog park on the site is expected to promote activation by serving many dog owners in the community who will visit on a regular basis and will likely assume a sense of ownership for the space. A well-used dog park would be one tool to bring more activity and positive energy to the area and would be expected to discourage the negative social behavior currently seen in the area.

In addition to the immediate benefits to the surrounding community, this dog park will serve to activate an important junction along the City's regional Coyote Creek Trail. As the City plans to invest tens of millions of dollars in developing this regional trail asset, the dog park will ensure activation and positive community use along the heart of the trail. Activation of the Ballfields, trail, and surrounding areas is critical to reducing blight and ensuring the continued community benefit of the site and Coyote Creek Trail going forward.

PRNS has developed many dog parks across the City. Permanent dog parks require substantial infrastructure over the long-term to support safer usage by owners and their dogs, support routine maintenance and hygienic cleaning, and ensure that they do not present an environmental challenge.

If approved, this action will provide the funding allocation needed to install an interim dog park which is expected to include chain link boundary fencing, gates, informational and regulatory signage, path improvements compliant with the ADA, and modest grading. Development of the interim dog park will require investigation of the site, as land between the trail and ballfields appears to have been left intentionally undeveloped. This may have been for prior mitigation landscapes, stormwater management or other purposes. Findings from this investigation will inform the project plans.

Staff will monitor the interim dog park installation and may survey users from time to time to determine rate of usage, customer satisfaction and pet well-being, as well as gauge the impact the dog park has upon the ballfields, trail and other public spaces in the area. Staff will communicate findings that may guide future budget proposals for upgrades to potentially include power and water supply, irrigation, alternative surface materials, upgraded fencing, perimeter curbing, etc.

CONCLUSION

There is community interest in a dog park at the Tully Road Ballfields and the budget adjustment action will provide funding for fencing and basic amenities for an interim dog park that is expected to bring positive activity to the area.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

This project will be delivered through the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Division of PRNS. The Council Office will be notified prior to commencement of construction.

CLIMATE SMART SAN JOSE

The recommendation in this memorandum has no effect on Climate Smart San José energy, water, or mobility goals.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

This memorandum will be posted on the City's Council Agenda website for the June 29, 2021 Council Meeting.

COORDINATION

The memorandum was coordinated with the City Attorney's Office.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION/INPUT

No commission recommendation or input is associated with this action.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

It is estimated the annual operations and maintenance costs for the interim dog park at the Tully Road Ballfields is \$3,500 per year for routine maintenance in the General Fund. Additional one-time costs may occur should there be damage to the fencing or other unanticipated costs. Ongoing operations and maintenance costs will be factored into the 2023-2027 Five-Year General Fund Forecast, which will be released in February 2022. The interim dog park is expected to be completed by July 2022.

BUDGET REFERENCE

The table below identifies the fund and appropriations recommended to fund the actions included in this memorandum.

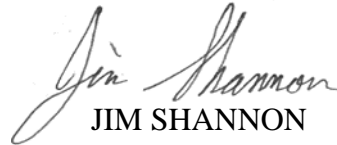
Fund #	Appn #	Appn Name	Current Total Appn	Requested Budget Action	2021-2022 Proposed Capital Budget Page*	Last Budget Action (Date, Ord. No.)
375	NEW	Tully Ballfields Dog Park Improvements	N/A	\$100,000	N/A	N/A
375	8845	Future PDO / PIO Projects Reserve	\$10,131,760	(\$100,000)	V-415	N/A

* The 2021-2022 Proposed Capital Budget is scheduled to be adopted by City Council on June 22, 2021.

CEQA

Categorically Exempt, File No. ER21-106, CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

/s/
JON CICIRELLI
Director of Parks, Recreation
and Neighborhood Services


JIM SHANNON
Budget Director

For questions, please contact Nicolle Burnham, Deputy Director, at nicolle.burnham@sanjoseca.gov.