



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Councilmember Sylvia Arenas

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: March, 26, 2019

Approved

Date

3.26.19

SUBJECT: ACTIONS RELATED TO THE USE OF FUNDS FROM THE SALE OF THE COLEMAN A VENUE PROPERTY AND ADOPTION OF APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE AND FUNDING SOURCES RESOLUTION AMENDMENTS

RECOMMENDATION

1. Accept staff report and supplemental
2. Recommend that in the budget process the administration consider focusing the \$3.0 million proposed allocation for Re-Use Facilities Capital Improvements and PRNS Strike Team to address the deferred maintenance at the lowest PCA scoring re-use facilities and parks.
3. Recommend that in the budget process the administration consider prioritizing efforts to address the unfunded parks maintenance backlog with the funds currently designated in the supplemental memo as "Other General Fund Priority Projects and Programs"

BACKGROUND

I'd like to thank all the staff at our Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services Department for their diligent work on the item in front of us and their work on the Measure P bond projects more generally.

For the last three years, the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee has heard the Report on Sustainable Park Maintenance, but the item has not been referred to council. As the NSE chair, I've requested the item be cross listed.

It's critically important that the full council be aware that the current funding levels for parks maintenance is similar to the situation in street maintenance before Measure's B and T and SB1. We have deep unmet maintenance needs, and despite PRNS's best efforts to shift resources internally we're not currently on a track to bringing our parks back to where they should be.

Dedicated funding is clearly needed to support our parks, and the supplemental item in front of us today shows a first possibility for some funding to address these needs. Similar to how the Council cobbled together funding for roads before we had SB1, Measure B, and Measure T, it's time to start cobbling together funding to address this differed maintenance in our parks.

Most acute are parks and re-use sites that have low PCA scores and are circling the drain. While the overall average PCA score has remained at 3.3 year-to-year, many of our parks and re-use sites are in acute disrepair. Each year that passes makes repairing them harder and costlier.

There are now 11 parks that have PCA scores well below average (3.3), with scores between 1.0 and 2.5:

Boys and Girls Club Smythe Field (Re-use) -- 1.0
Meadowfair Community Center (Re-use) -- 1.7
Alviso Park -- 1.9
Goesbeck Hill Park -- 2.1
Guadalupe River Park - Courtyard Garden -- 2.2
Meadowfair Park -- 2.2
Welch Park -- 2.2
Guadalupe River Park -- 2.3
Townsend Park -- 2.4
Columbus Park -- 2.5
Doerr Par -- 2.5

Many more are just above 2.5, and well below the 3.3 average.

I recommended that the administration continue with the allocation proposed in the supplemental, but use the budget process to provide additional direction to staff to prioritize the lowest scoring parks as the priority for this funding.

Additionally, I recommend that we listen to the input that we're receiving from parks advocates and recognize how substantial the need is for the reinvestment in our parks. I recommend that in the budget process the administration consider prioritizing efforts to address the unfunded parks maintenance backlog with the funds currently designated in the supplemental memo as "Other General Fund Priority Projects and Programs". This funding will be needed if we're going to successfully address the unfunded deferred maintenance.