



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2470

AGENDA ITEM

DATE: March 22, 2017

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TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: GREEN LIGHT FOR COUNTY PARK SYSTEM (DISTRICTS: ALL)

Overview

The County of San Diego's award-winning park system has the distinguished honor of being the first county in the state and one of only 13 counties nationally to receive accreditation from a national commission. Combine this with our local mission to provide exceptional parks, state-of-the-art facilities as well as preserving our unique natural resources and we have created an immense park system that provides our residents with superior services while also improving our region's health, safety and quality of life.

Building and maintaining parks are among the County's core responsibilities. To build on our success, we must look at policy and financial to work toward stripping away barriers that make it tougher to develop new parks and facilities in our communities.

Today's action directs the Chief Administrative Officer to review existing policies and ordinances related to new park development, and establishes a County Parks and Recreation Trust Fund to sustain our parks and facilities now and into the future.

Recommendation(s)

CHAIRWOMAN DIANNE JACOB AND SUPERVISOR GREG COX

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to review existing policies and ordinances related to developing and maintaining County parks and facilities, and return to the Board within 180 days with recommendations that will further encourage new park development, create alternative models for managing and operating new and existing parks, and identify any improvements that streamline the process when it comes to developing new parks and facilities.
2. Authorize the Auditor and Controller to establish a "Sustainable County Parks and Recreation Trust Fund" and Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to appropriate \$15 million in the FY 17-18 Operational Plan, and replenish the fund each fiscal year with available fund balance. The trust fund would be used to fill funding gaps for maintaining new and existing parks and facilities, and address short-term operational challenges.

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3. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to establish guidelines for using future appropriations from the trust fund based on the County’s Parks and Recreation Department’s current revenue sources for operations and maintenance, as well as 5-year capital project forecasts.

Fiscal Impact

Today’s action will establish a “Sustainable County Parks and Recreation Department Trust Fund” supported by an appropriation of \$15 million in the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Operational Plan based on General Fund fund balance. The fund will be replenished each fiscal year with available fund balance. Future costs will also vary based on annual expenditures and on-going County Parks and Recreation Department revenue sources for operations and maintenance, as well as 5-year capital project forecasts.

Business Impact Statement

N/A

Advisory Board Statement

N/A

Background

The County of San Diego’s award-winning park system has the distinguished honor of being the first county in the state and one of only 13 counties nationally to receive accreditation from a national commission. Combine this with our local mission to provide exceptional parks, state-of-the-art facilities as well as preserving our unique natural resources and we have created an immense park system that provides our residents with superior services while also improving our region’s health, safety and quality of life.

Building and maintaining parks are among the County’s core responsibilities. To build on our success, we must look at policy and financial to work toward stripping away barriers that make it tougher to develop new parks and facilities in our communities.

An example is Estrella Park which is located in the community of Casa de Oro, in an underserved area without a park. A conceptual plan has long been in place that calls for the development of a passive park with picnic tables and trails. In addition, money has already been allocated for the preparation of development plans for the park however no maintenance entity is feasible in this community. This has created a major hurdle that has ultimately stymied the park’s development. Today’s action will work toward breaking down barriers like this to ensure that all our residents, regardless of income, are able to enjoy the benefits of a robust parks and recreational system, that provides a healthy and safe environment for all of our communities.

Today’s action directs the Chief Administrative Officer to review existing policies and ordinances related to new park development, and establishes a County Parks and Recreation Trust Fund to sustain our parks and facilities now and into the future.

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Linkage to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan

Today’s proposed action to review existing policies and ordinances related to developing and maintaining County parks and facilities supports the Sustainable Environments Strategic Initiative in the County of San Diego’s 2017-2022 Strategic Plan. In addition, the proposed action supports the Operational Excellence Strategic Initiative through sustainable funding sources and innovative solutions that will enhance the recreational experiences for communities, as well as enrich the quality of life of residents and build a region that is thriving.

Respectfully submitted,

DIANNE JACOB
Chairwoman, Second District

GREG COX
Supervisor, First District

ATTACHMENT(S)
[Click here and type]

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AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED
 Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:
[Click here and type]

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:
[Click here and type]

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:
[Click here and type]

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:
[Click here and type]

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):
[Click here and type]

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: Supervisor Jacob (District 2) & Supervisor Cox (District 1)

OTHER CONCURRENCES(S): [Click here and type]

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