



CITY OF SALINAS COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: JULY 2, 2019
DEPARTMENT: LIBRARY & COMMUNITY SERVICES
FROM: KRISTAN LUNDQUIST, DIRECTOR
TITLE: PARKS, RECREATION & LIBRARY MASTER PLAN

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

A motion to approve a resolution adopting the Parks, Recreation and Library Master Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council approve a resolution adopting the Parks, Recreation and Library Master Plan.

BACKGROUND:

In October 2016 the Salinas City Council authorized the City to enter in to a Professional Service Agreement with Conservation Technix to complete a Master Plan for Park, Recreation and Libraries with the goal of developing a community-supported plan that provides guidance for future development and redevelopment of the City's recreation and sports facilities, and libraries. The Master Plan will guide policy development, prioritize demands and opportunities, and generate a strategic action plan to be updated every five to ten years. The plan will seek to incorporate energy efficient strategies and environmental remediation opportunities and will include elements that ensure the consideration of racial equity in resource allocation and service development.

Also included was the review and update of the 2009 draft of the City of Salinas Park Classifications and Sports Facility Standards. The Park Classifications and Sports Facility Standards will provide guidance for acceptance of park land, collection of park fees, or provision of in lieu improvements and provide criteria for design of public and private parks.

Furthermore, the Master Plan will serve to inform the City of Salinas General Plan. It is envisioned that the information contained in the Master Plan will ultimately be incorporated into the Conservation/Open Space Element (of the General Plan) as part of the update, as well as inform the Park Nexus Study which is currently underway.

DISCUSSION:

In November 2016 the Library and Community Services Department initiated a Parks, Recreation and Library Master Planning effort with the goal of developing a community-supported plan that provides guidance for future development and redevelopment of the City's parks, recreation and sports facilities and libraries.

Equity has been at the center of the Master Plan community engagement with the goal of working towards building community capacity and resident empowerment. A Steering Committee made up of residents and stakeholders was established to help lead the community outreach effort.

Parks, Recreation and Library Master Plan Steering Committee:

Recreation Staff: Vivian Salinas, Ana Ambriz	Library Staff: Ernesto Lizaola, Mila, Rianto	Sports Staff: Sheila Molinari	Parks/Open Spaces Staff: Eda Herrera
Kayla Bumba, Salinas Senior Center	Ernesto Yzquierdo, LCS Commissioner	Amparo, Saldana, GBA	Danny Montenegro, UAC
Joshua Alfaro, ACFA	Ken Allen, FOSPL	Gerry Barrera, Soccer	Rachel Saunders, BSLT
Fernanda Ocana, CASP	Tom Lilliman, FOSPL	Tyrone Ward	Laura Lee Link, Return to the Natives
Berniz House, Arts	Al Espindola	Marisela Mendoza, Little League	Robin Lee, Santa Rita Watershed
Anthony Rocha, Youth	Kristi Burns, SCESD	Steve Striffler, Tennis	Andrea Manzo, BHC
Linda McGlone, Monterey County Youth Violence Prevention Initiative	Jyl Lutes	George Grimm, Pony Baseball	Elmer Dolero, LCS Commissioner
Joel Hernandez, CCA	Walter Rice, FOSPL		Jordin Simmons, CSUMB Service Learner
Patterson Emesbe, Door to Hope			

From February 2017 to February 2019, the City in collaboration with Steering Community members engaged community residents and stakeholders to develop plan content. Over a two-year period over 2700 residents and stakeholders participated in an on-line/paper survey (797 responses), eleven (11) community meetings, six (6) stakeholder discussions and fifty-six (56) pop ups.

Throughout the community engagement effort, residents and stakeholders were asked to provide their vision for what a vibrant park, recreation and libraries system would look like. Residents identified priorities for Salinas' park, recreation centers, sports and athletic facilities and libraries. In addition, they also identified a criterion by which the recommended infrastructure projects could be ranked. Throughout this process, the priorities and data collected through the community engagement process has been reported to the Library and Community Services Commission and to the Master Plan Steering Committee.

Over the last two and a half years, the consultant team has conducted a full assessment of our facilities to include all parks, recreation centers and libraries. Following this assessment and the community engagement process, the consultant team then proceeded to develop chapter content, key project recommendations, implementation strategies and a capital investment plan. In addition, the Park Classifications and Sports Facilities Standards have been updated and were ultimately adopted by the City Council on May 15, 2018.

In late 2018, staff received the chapter content and capital investment plan for the Master Plan. Over the next year, the content was vetted through Library and Community Services, Public Works and Community Development staff. The capital investment plan is significant totaling over \$176 million dollars. In an effort to establish a fair and equitable ranking process, the staff developed a criterion that would be used to score each project, which would ultimately result in a ranking of each project. This ranking would be used to prioritize projects and seek funding accordingly. In February 2019, three additional community meetings were held to obtain resident feedback on the criterion developed by staff and rank them by importance. Following these meetings, our consultants took this data and ranked the projects accordingly as outlined in the draft Master Plan.

Staff received the draft Master Plan on May 30, 2019 for public review and comment. The consultant team will incorporate staff comments and comments received from the broader community following presentations to the Library and Community Services Commission, Planning Commission and the City Council.

On June 12, 2019, the Draft Master Plan was presented to the Library and Community Services Commission. In this session, the plan goals, recommendations and overview of the capital investment plan were reviewed. Following the discussion, the Library and Community Services Commission endorsed the current Draft Parks, Recreation & Library Master Plan and recommended that it be presented to the City Council for adoption. On June 19, 2019 the Draft Master Plan was also presented to the Planning Commission as an informational item.

CEQA CONSIDERATION:

Not a Project. The City of Salinas has determined that the proposed action is not a project as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (CEQA Guidelines Section 15378).

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVE:

The preparation of the Parks, Recreation & Library Master Plan will guide the development and redevelopment of parks in support of the City Council's goals (2016-2019) of:

- Safe, Livable Community
- Well Planned City and Excellent Infrastructure
- Quality of Life

DEPARTMENTAL COORDINATION

Throughout the Master Plan process, the Library & Community Services Department has coordinated & collaborated with the Public Works and Community Development Departments. In addition, through Vision Salinas, this plan document has incorporated the Guiding Principles and similar framework as the Alisal Vibrancy Plan and the Chinatown Revitalization Plan to align these efforts and allow for seamless integration into the General Plan update.

FISCAL AND SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The Park, Recreation & Library Master Plan outlines the community's priorities and will allow the City to seek available funding sources to support implementation.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

Draft Parks, Recreation & Library Master Plan

Draft Plan Appendices