

**City of Culver City, California
Agenda Item Report**

Meeting Date: <u>12/04/12</u>		Item Number: <u>A-2</u>	
PRCS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM: (1) Receive and Review Public Input Regarding the Proposed Fox Hills Park Basketball Court Improvement Project (PZ-960); and (2) Consideration of a Recommendation to Staff Regarding Implementation of the Project.			
Contact Person/Dept.: Dan Hernandez, PRCS Director		Phone Number: (310) 253-6655	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☐ No ☒	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: (Postcard Mailing) Occupants of Residences Adjacent to Fox Hills Park along Buckingham Parkway and Green Valley Circle (518 postcards; 11/13/12); (Email) Subscribers of Culver City News and Events, Parks, Recreation & Community Service Department Updates, Meetings and Agendas – Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Commission, Senior Citizens (11/21/12 and 11/29/12); (Cable Slide) Channel 35/37 (11/26/12 through 12/04/12); (Posted Notices) Fox Hills Park (11/27/12 through 12/04/12).			
Department Approval: Dan Hernandez (11/27/12).		City Attorney Approval: N/A	
Chief Financial Officer Approval: N/A		City Manager Approval: N/A	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends that the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) Commission (1) receive and review public input regarding the proposed Fox Hills Park Basketball Court Improvement Project (PZ-960); and (2) consider making a recommendation to staff regarding implementation of the Project. <u>BACKGROUND:</u> Over the past few years, staff has been approached by members of the Fox Hills community who have requested that local youth have the opportunity to play regulation youth basketball at the Park. Currently, such play cannot be accommodated since the basketball court is configured as two half-courts. In past years, the topics of both basketball and organized youth sports at Fox Hills Park were high profile issues that sparked spirited debate among area residents. During the years of 1980 and 1981, there were numerous problems at Fox Hills Park relating to noise, group size, violation of park rules and excessive use of the basketball court by drop-in players late into the night. In order to address the concerns voiced by residents, the City Council voted to relocate the picnic areas, limit the size of picnic groups, eliminate the basketball hoops and provide more enforcement of park rules. Since that time, measures have been taken to increase opportunities for organized youth sports at Fox Hills Park. Below is a summary of some of the changes that have occurred at the Park over the years:			

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Date	Organization	Action
07/21/81	PRCS Commission	A Public Hearing regarding resident complaints at Fox Hills Park is held
08/24/81	City Council	Several Council Actions are taken to restore order at the Park, including the removal of the basketball standards, an earlier closing time and the prohibition of large groups/activities.
07/16/96	PRCS Commission	Sends letter to City Council recommending that basketball be allowed to resume at Fox Hills Park.
09/24/96	City Council and PRCS Commission	During a joint-meeting, the Council directs Commission to conduct extensive public outreach and hold a public meeting on the issue.
09/09/97	PRCS Commission	Hears testimony from the community and once again recommends that the City Council consider allowing the resumption of basketball at Fox Hills Park. The Commission notes the establishment of the Park Patrol and the development of the Hauptman Hoop Lock as factors that will mitigate the previous negative impacts to the neighborhood.
01/12/98	City Council	Approves a 90-day trial period for one basketball standard at Fox Hills Park with play be limited to the hours of 3:00 to 7:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.
03/16/98 – 06/13/98	PRCS Department	90-day trial period held at Fox Hills Park; monitored by Recreation staff.
06/29/98	PRCS Commission	Results from the trial period are favorable and the one half-court is left in the Park to remain open during the specified hours. A follow-up was scheduled to investigate adding another half-court.
09/14/98	City Council	Approves the addition of another basketball half-court and the implementation of a Park Permit system at Fox Hills Park.
September 2000 through December 2000	City Council	The American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) is allowed to practice on the field at Fox Hills Park for a limited time due to the closure of the High School fields for renovations.
06/05/01	PRCS Commission	Recommends to the City Council that Departmental sports activities and special events and picnic use by permit for large groups is allowed at Fox Hills Park.
04/14/03	City Council	The City Council approves organized youth sports at Fox Hills Park on a six-month trial basis. As a result, AYSO is allowed to practice on the field again.
10/13/03	City Council	Approves continuing the permitting of local, organized youth sports activities at Fox Hills Park.

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DISCUSSION:

The Fox Hill Park Basketball Court Improvement Project (PZ-960) was funded and approved by the City Council during the Fiscal Year 2012/13 Budget Hearings. The project proposes to convert the existing half-courts at Fox Hills Park to one oversize full court incorporating two smaller side-by-side youth basketball courts within the larger court to allow for improved recreational use (Attachment A). However, before the project is implemented, the City Council, the City Manager's Office and PRCS Department staff want to ensure that community residents have had sufficient opportunity to make their opinions of the court renovations known to the City of Culver City through this meeting of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission. Over the past two years, some City Council members, the PRCS Director and the Parks Manager have attended Fox Hills Neighborhood Association meetings and spoken to past and present members of the Association Board and other Fox Hills neighborhood residents regarding the upcoming project. Although there is some dissention, it seems that the time has come to renovate the basketball court at Fox Hills Park to allow for improved recreational use, including PRCS Department-organized or permitted youth basketball at the Park.

As noted in the Public Notification section of this report, extensive public outreach was done to notice this evening's discussion; a map detailing the postcard mailing area is provided as Attachment B. All public comment received by staff by 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 regarding the issue of basketball court renovation is provided as Attachment C. Any public comment on the issue received since that time will be placed on the dais for the Commissioners and/or be read into the record at this evening's meeting.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Expenses for the public notification for this item were nominal and are typically considered as regular operating expenses, as follows:

NOTIFICATION METHOD	DEPARTMENT(S)	EXPENSE
Postcard mailing to occupants of residences adjacent to Fox Hills Park (518 postcards).	• PRCS Administration • IT Graphic Services	Staff Time / \$181.00 for mailing
Printed notices posted at the Park.	• PRCS Administration • PRCS Parks	Staff Time / Materials
Email notifications, website postings and a public notification slide on Channel 35/37.	• PRCS Administration • City Manager's Office	Staff Time

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Should the PRCS Commission make a recommendation to staff to proceed with the implementation of the Fox Hills Park Basketball Park Improvement Project, the Project will entail purchasing new basketball standards and hiring a contractor to resurface and re-stripe the court, with the total cost estimated not-to-exceed \$20,000. There are currently sufficient funds available in Account Number 41980000.730100.PZ960 (Park Facilities Fund - Quimby Fees/Fox Hills Park Basketball Court Renovation)for this expenditure.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Aerial View of the Proposed Fox Hills Park Basketball Court Improvement Project (PZ-960).
- B. Map detailing Public Notification postcard mailing area.
- C. Public Comment Regarding the Fox Hills Park Basketball Court Improvement Project Received by 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 27, 2012.

MOTIONS:

That the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Commission:

- 1. Receive and review public input regarding the proposed Fox Hills Park Basketball Court Improvement Project (PZ-960); and,
- 2. Make a recommendation to staff to begin implementation of the Project;

OR

- 3. Take no action regarding the issue at this time;

OR

- 4. Provide staff with alternate suggestions.