



STAFF REPORT

SAUSALITO CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA TITLE: Gabrielson Park improvements and Jazz By the Bay stage relocation

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Provide direction to staff on: 1. the removal of three trees at Gabrielson Park currently causing damage to pavement; and 2. moving the stage and relocating the power support for entertainment for Jazz by the Bay

SUMMARY

There are three pine trees located in Gabrielson Park which are causing damage to the northern pathway. The trees are depicted on the attached map. Staff is seeking direction from the City Council on the removal of these trees. In addition, staff is seeking direction from the Council on the relocation of the stage and power supply in the Park.

BACKGROUND

Gabrielson Park is located in downtown Sausalito and serves as a critical venue for local community events, including the following:

- The 4th of July Fireworks display
- Jazz by the Bay
- Arias in the Afternoon
- The Nursery School Spring Faire
- The Sausalito Classic Car Show

The Annual Jazz by the Bay Concert Series, which is held in Gabrielson Park, is one of the Parks and Recreation Department's highest revenue generating events. The park is also used throughout the year and is a major portal for disembarking visitors from the San Francisco Ferries. The current layout of the park limits the capacity for the concert series, as well as other events. The North side path pavement has sustained substantial damage over the past few years due to the growth of three Italian Stone Pines. The trees are causing breaks in the pavement, necessitating continual repairs by our Public Works Department. The area under these trees is generally unusable.

Staff is recommending the removal of the three Italian Stone Pines trees, as depicted on the attached map. Following removal of the trees, the area will be seeded, or sod will be installed in the area creating more usable park space. In accordance with the City's purchasing requirements, staff obtained three bids for the removal of the trees. (**See Attachment No. 1**) The lowest responsible bid was received from TreeMasters in the amount of \$2950 (**see**

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Attachment No. 2). Staff is recommending that capital improvement park bond monies be utilized to pay for the cost of the tree removal.

All trees located on City property are considered to be “protected trees” requiring a tree removal permit with the exception of “undesirable trees.” Undesirable trees include Blue Gum Eucalyptus, Monterey Pines, Monterey Cypress and Coast Redwoods. The trees in question are protected trees; therefore, an application for removal has to be submitted to CDD along with an arborist report. The application has to be posted and the trees tagged for at least 10 days prior to removal. The application is then acted upon by the City Arborist.

In conjunction with the tree removal, staff is recommending the relocation of the Jazz by the Bay Concert Series stage, allowing for additional table space. Staff anticipates that moving the stage will result in a reduction of noise complaints by directing the sound eastward. In addition, the lack of electrical power limits the use of the park. Both the new stage relocation and electrical work will be done by Sausalito Rotary as their continued support of Gabrielson Park. Working with the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Arts Commission, the Sausalito Rotary Club will temporarily move the Castillo Sculpture from its current location, directly back 15 feet north, to accommodate the tree removal and lawn sodding. It will remain in that location until it's moved to its permanent location.

1. The three trees slated for removal were planted by Sausalito Rotary over a decade ago and were never intended to grow to the current size.
2. The attached report from TreeMaster indicates the removal of the three Italian Stone Pines is recommended to maintain the safety of the parks paths, reduce the fire hazard that exist with the amount of dead branches, and supports healthy tree growth for the remaining trees and plant material in the immediate area.
3. The proposed plan has the support and recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission, as outlined in their meeting minutes of November 21, 2007. **(See attachment No. 3)**

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact to the City of Sausalito Budget. The funds used for tree removal will be provided by the Park Bond Money from **2000 Parks Bond Act- Project # 00-21-035**.

Additional funds needed for the stage relocation and the electrical wiring will be supported by Sausalito Rotary.

There is an opportunity to utilize the park bond monies for this proposed park improvement. Monies not used and capital improvements not completed and ready for inspection by March 31, 2008 will be lost.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS (options)

1. Provide direction to Staff on actions to be taken in regards to this proposal and readdress at the January City Council Meeting.

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2. Work with the Sausalito Rotary on the relocation of the stage and electrical improvements to be ready for the 2008 Jazz by the Bay Concert Series.
3. Based on outline of proposed remodel to move forward on tree removal, and stage relocation.

ATTACHMENTS –

1. Bid Summary Sheet
2. Winning quote from TreeMasters – Quote \$ 2950.00
3. Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting minutes from November 21, 2007.

PREPARED BY:

REVIEWED BY:

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