



REGULAR MEETING
Larkspur Parks and Recreation Commission
Thursday, October 18, 2018, 6:30 p.m.
Larkspur City Council Chambers
400 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur, CA

Lisbet Sunshine, Chair
Mike Koeppel, Vice Chair

Sandy Blauvelt
Victoria Harrison

Jeanne Friedel

The Recreation Director certifies that this agenda has been posted in accordance with the requirements of the Government Code.

- 1. ROLL CALL**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Parks and Recreation Commission will hear public comments only on matters over which they have jurisdiction. There will be no Commission discussion. The Chair will allot no more than five minutes to any individual. Unless the Chair determines otherwise, the total amount of time allocated to this agenda item will be 15 minutes
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR:** The purpose of the Consent Calendar is to group items that may be approved routinely. Anyone may request removal of an item for discussion.
 - 3.1 Approval of Minutes of September 20, 2018
- 4. BUSINESS ITEMS:**
 - 4.1 RENOVATIONS TO THE PIPER PARK PICNIC AREA
- 6. DIRECTOR'S ORAL REPORT**
- 7. COMMISSIONER'S REPORTS**
- 8. ADJOURN MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: If you challenge any item on this agenda in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing herein described, or in written correspondence delivered to the Recreation Director at, or prior to, the public hearing. [G.C. § 65009 (b) (2)]

In the interest of time, the Parks and Recreation Commission has established time limits. Public Hearings: applicants and /or appellants shall make their presentations within 10 minutes, and will be allowed a 3-minute summation period. Public participation shall be limited to 3 minutes per speaker per topic. These time limits may be waived by a majority vote of the Commission. [G.C. § 54954.3].

Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the City Council regarding an item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Customer Service Counter at City Hall located at 400 Magnolia Avenue, Larkspur, CA and at the main counter of the Library located at the same address during normal business hours. (SB 343, amending G.C. Section 54957.5)

ACCESS TO MEETINGS: Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please contact any staff member five business days prior to the meeting. An interpreter for the deaf will be made available upon request to the staff five business days or more prior to the meeting.

CITY OF LARKSPUR
Staff Report

October 18, 2018 Larkspur Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

DATE: October 12, 2018
TO: Larkspur Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Dick Whitley, Recreation Director
SUBJECT: RENOVATIONS TO THE PIPER PARK PICNIC AREA

ACTION REQUESTED

That the Commission hear the Staff Report, take any public comment and recommend to the Larkspur City Council the changes put forward by the Recreation Staff.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

The Piper Park Picnic Area has been in place since the early 1970's and has undergone very little change since its installation. The Picnic Area is showing its age and the trees surrounding the 40+ year old facility are suffering from the drought and beetle infestation. Recreation Staff has been working with Staff from Larkspur Public Works and Engineering departments to envision a change which will bring a new look to the Picnic Area and increase usability and revenues.

The three "spoked" picnic areas have always had thirty redwood picnic tables, with the exception of the ten new concrete tables delivered in 2017. The old steel barbeques were replaced with the current concrete barbeques about ten years ago. The trees surrounding the picnic area are in various states of health, with the pine trees presenting as the most stressed species. As of this writing, thirty-plus pine trees are in serious decline, both in the picnic area and throughout the rest of Piper Park.

ANALYSIS

Staff has compiled a list of needs and suggestions for the Piper Park picnic area and for tree replacement throughout Piper Park. This list includes replacement of older wooden tables with new concrete tables. Many tables would be relocated to allow users to have shade during their picnic events. These relocations would allow for the creation of an additional "Bounce House" location, of which there is currently only one. Until now there has only been room in the Picnic Area for one Bounce House Reservation each day.

Reservations for the bounce house space and adjoining tables are already exhausted for the remainder of this calendar year.

Staff is working to improve the reservation process. Currently, renters may request individual tables which results in fewer overall rentals. Staff is working to change the reservations from individual tables to groups of tables. Users will soon be able to make reservations online.

Recreation Staff is working with Public Works and Engineering Staff to discuss potential pitfalls and best practices as pertains to moving tables and planting trees, as well as discovering the best tree species for this purpose and location.

FISCAL IMPACT

Proposed funding sources for these purchases include individual and business donations, temporary diversion of Measure A funding, the City's Tree Fund and/or General Fund. The approximate cost for the picnic table replacement is \$20,000. At this time, it is unknown how much funding will be secured through private donations. As a result, the amount of any resources to be diverted from Measure A funding remains unknown at this time.

The purchase and planting of 20 new trees in Piper Park will cost approximately \$14,000. Most or all of this cost will be covered by the City's Tree Fund.

Purchase and relocation of new picnic tables, combined with adding another Bounce House space and new trees to beautify the Picnic Area will result in more picnic rentals and increased revenue for the Recreation Department.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Commission hear the Staff Report, take any public comment and recommend to Larkspur City Council that Staff move forward with efforts to procure new concrete picnic tables and trees for the Piper Park Picnic Area.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Whitley
Recreation Director

Attachments:
Picnic Area Map (existing conditions)