



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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DATE: FEBRUARY 7, 2012
TO: RECREATION COMMISSION
FROM: JEN DAUGHERTY, ASSOCIATE PLANNER
RAY JARVIS, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
ELAINE SMITH, HIGH SIERRA STRIDERS
CC: PLANNING COMMISSION
TOWN COUNCIL
RE: WHITMORE PARK TRACK & SPORTS FIELD PROJECT UPDATE

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update to the Recreation Commission on the Whitmore Park Track & Sports Field Project ("Project").

The Project is an effort by the High Sierra Striders and the Town to bring a high performance track and field facility to the Eastern Sierra. The Project is located within the Whitmore Regional Park in Mono County on land leased by the Town from Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP). The Town and High Sierra Striders (HSS) continue to work closely together to get the Project ready for construction starting in Spring/Summer of 2012.

Permits and Approvals

Mono County Use Permit

On December 8, 2011 the Mono County Planning Commission unanimously approved the Whitmore Track and Sports Field Project (5-0)! This approval included the adoption of the Project's California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation, which includes mitigation measures to reduce the potential environmental impacts associated with the Project. One of the CEQA mitigation measures requires sage grouse surveys to be conducted by a qualified biologist in compliance with California Department of Fish and Game protocol prior to ground disturbance. The Town will coordinate with the County to ensure the standard conditions of approval of the use permit and environmental mitigation measures are complied with throughout construction and operation of the Project.

LADWP Lease Revisions

Now that the Mono County Planning Commission has approved the environmental review and use permit for the Project, the revised LADWP 30-year lease (including the existing ball fields and animal shelter) will be forwarded to LADWP's Board of Water and Power Commissioners for approval. We anticipate LADWP's Board's approval on February 21, 2012.

Construction

Construction documents are being prepared for Phase 1 of the Project by Brett T. Long Landscape Architecture. Phase 1 consists of the track and infield, field event facilities (e.g., long jump, pole vault, etc.), landscaped terrace seating, fencing, fitness trails, drainage, irrigation, accessible parking and pathways, and utilities and lighting conduits. The schedule for the construction of subsequent two phases (e.g., concessions building, paving parking areas, lighting, etc) is dependent on funding.

HSS and Town Parks Maintenance and Engineering staff have held meetings with track and infield surface providers to evaluate different products and their construction to determine the best product for this Project. The polyurethane track and synthetic turf infield will be purchased utilizing the \$112,404 awarded to the Town from CalRecycle for the use of California recycled tires in these products.

Complete (100%) construction documents are anticipated to be prepared by the end of February 2012. We anticipate publicly bidding the Project from mid-March through mid-April, and selecting a contractor in early May 2012. Site work is targeted to begin in May 2012.

Funding

The estimated budget for Phase 1 is approximately \$1.8 million, of which approximately \$1.5 million has been secured, including the \$112,404 CalRecycle grant. HSS continues to aggressively pursue funding from corporations, individuals, grants, local businesses, planned events, the project website, and others from the favorable vantage point of having secured significant funding for the Project. We anticipate an application for Spring 2012 Measure R to close any funding gap remaining to get shovels in the ground!

Construction of the Project, or any phase of the Project, will only begin once full funding covering that construction is secured.

Target Schedule Summary 2012

The schedule for the construction of subsequent phases (e.g., concessions building, paving parking areas, signage, lighting, etc) is dependent on funding.

- January/February: Construction documents developed
- February: LADWP lease approval
- End February: 100% construction documents completed
- March/April: Advertise contractor bid
- Early May: Select contractor/award contract
- May/June: Start construction of Phase 1
- September: Complete construction of Phase 1