



Staff Report

File #: 19-2305, **Version:** 1

Yountville Town Council Staff Report

DATE: October 1, 2019

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Joe Tagliaboschi, Public Works Director

TITLE

Vineyard Park Tree Plan Update

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND

Recently the Town completed the removal of the Pine Trees at Vineyard Park. Town Parks and Recreation and Public Works staff has been evaluating options to address this condition and to better utilize the area adjacent to the Sports Court Facility. Staff has developed a plan to replace the trees which were in decline and to also provide a new area that includes a place to sit and enjoy the view. This updated plan is the result of feedback from Town Council and was recently reviewed by Parks and Rec Advisory Committee (PRAC) on September 19, 2019. Feedback from the PRAC meeting was supportive of the plan. Positive comments and support were also voiced by members of the public at the meeting.

The majority of these trees were pine trees which have a life expectancy of between 25-30 years. These trees were well within that range. The Town had arborists evaluate the condition of the trees. The existing pine trees were in such a deteriorated state the town arborists had recommended removal of the trees. The additional challenge with the pine trees at the south end of the sports courts is that they drop their needles onto the court surface which contribute to an ongoing maintenance issue and over time decrease the useful service life for the court surfaces.

The plan as presented would allow for replacement of the 13 pine trees with trees planted so that the vegetation can grow in for a more mature look as the other features are added. The proposed 14 replacement trees will include 2 Valley Oaks, several Red Maple trees, and a variety of native species including Crepe Myrtle and Strawberry trees that were collected from seeds and grown here in the Napa Valley at tree farms as well as other mature species from local nurseries and tree farms.

This plan was also shared with a local resident from the neighborhood adjacent to Vineyard Park who is also supportive of the selection of trees and the planting plan.

Future CIP project features include an ADA compliant walkway that accesses the southern end of the park parallel to Beard Ditch. This area could also include a picnic table so that visitors could enjoy the view at that end of the park while having a place to rest, or enjoy a bite to eat or drink. This end of the park is also well away from homes in the Vintage HOA and the neighboring Rancho De Napa Mobile Home Park.

This Path and bench project and process would occur over the course of a year or two and will be on a future

CIP. The replacement trees will be replanted based on our budgets, arborists recommendations, and as weather allows for successful planting. The majority of the trees will likely be planted in mid to late October or early November this year to allow for the trees to get some rain and growth before spring.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Categorically Exempt per California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guideline; Class 2, Replacement or Reconstruction

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? Yes

Is it Currently Budgeted? Yes

Where is it Budgeted? 01-4320-4210 Parks Operations- Contract Services

Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Discretionary

Is there a Staff Resource Impact? Nominal

STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Is item Identified in Strategic Plan? Yes

If yes, Identify Strategic Goal and Objective. **Quality of Life:** The Town enhances the livability of Yountville by providing well-maintained public facilities, parks, and trails, and quality programs and events.

Briefly Explain Relationship to Strategic Plan Goal and Objective. A well planned and maintained urban forest contributes to the overall livability, health and wellness of our community

ALTERNATIVES

Receive Presentations

RECOMMENDATION

Provide feedback to staff