
FY 2019 PRAC BUDGET MEMORANDUM

TO: JARED GRIFONI, CITY COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

FROM: CARLOS PORTU, PRAC CHAIRMAN

SUBJECT: VETERANS COMMUNITY PARK- BUDGET MODDIFICATIONS

DATE: 4/20/2021

CC: TIM PINTER, PROJECT MANAGER

Dear Mr. Chairman,

Please find the attached notes regarding our Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting regarding items for Veterans Park that has been the subject of Value Management discussions.

Upon Review, your Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee has provided several recommendations for modifications based on public feedback, discussion with additional city staff members, and public debate at our meeting held 4/20/2021.

We appreciate your time and attention in reviewing these recommendations.

ITEM HS1 - **Reduction in size of Saw Palmetto from 15gal to 7 Gal**. PRAC approves of this cost reduction with the exception of any planting at the rear of the bandshell. Given 700+ of these plants planned through the park, the committee felt that prioritizing just the plantings behind the behind shell at a small incremental cost would be the best balance of resources and neighbor concerns.

ITEM HS2 and HS4- **Change from Black Marble Chip to Green Marble Chip ground cover**. The Committee felt that there would be little aesthetic difference between these two types of ground covers and the 8,000+ savings could be better utilized elsewhere in the park. The committee was unanimous in their approval of this added cost reduction.

ITEM HS13- **Replace Synthetic Turf with Bermuda Grass in the Multigenerational play area**. The Committee felt strongly that the cost savings here would be easily spent on the increased maintenance requirements and routine replacement costs of the turfgrass. High traffic areas like these would likely require replacement every 5 years, whereas a synthetic turf product- in addition to eliminating fertilizer and watering requirements- would have a lifespan approaching 30 years or longer. The committee was unanimous in their approval of removing this cost reduction.

ITEM M1- **Substitute Specified Lavatory and Toilets for Commercial Grade fixtures**. The Committee felt strongly that reducing fixture quality in all the restroom facilities would have a material impact on the fit and finish of the park while not providing a significant cost savings. Given the need to manage costs, however, the committee agreed that utilizing commercial grade fixtures in the Bandshell restroom facilities that are unlikely to see routine daily use would be an acceptable compromise and

provide some cost savings to the project overall. The committee was unanimous in their approval of removing only a portion of this cost reduction.

ITEM E6- **Alternate Light Fixture Package within the park.** The committee felt strongly that downgrading the quality and visual appeal of in park lighting would likely have a material impact on the overall aesthetic of the park, particularly during later afternoon and evening activities. Additionally, there was concern regarding an increase in downstream costs for repair and replacement of lower grade lighting components. The committee was unanimous in their approval of removing this cost reduction.

ITEM E11 and E13- **Eliminating Wall Strip lighting and landscape up lighting throughout the park:** The committee felt strongly that eliminating these lighting options and the underlying conduit and cabling required was a big mistake. Uplighting and low voltage strip lighting provide unobtrusive lighting options that are least likely to impact neighbors and surrounding vehicular traffic. “Mood” or ambient lighting should be emphasized, not eliminating and adds an increase level of security and safety throughout the park vs. Dark poorly lit corners. Adding these items later would also likely come at a significant cost and damage to surrounding park features given the necessary infrastructure. The committee was unanimous in their approval of removing this cost reduction.

ITEM G5- **Eliminate 1 set of stairs and 1 ramp from the bandshell structure:** The committee felt that even small events or productions on the bandshell would require two options for ingress and egress. Events like Christmas Island Style with numerous children performing could be impacted with limited access to the stage. The committee was unanimous in their approval of removing this cost reduction.