



Agenda Item 5.B.
Approvals: _____
Dept. Head 34
Manager _____
Admin. Asst. _____

AGENDA REPORT

BEACHES, PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
Meeting Date: June 10, 2014

Department: Beaches, Parks & Recreation
Prepared By: Aeryn Donnelly, Park Planner

Subject: *COURTNEY'S SANDCASTLE SENSORY GARDEN UPDATE.*

Fiscal Impact: A supplemental appropriation of \$113,030 from the Parks Acquisition and Development Fund was required to fund the Sensory Garden construction. The appropriation was offset by the receipt of \$50,000 from the Courtney's Sandcastle Charitable Foundation.

Summary: On May 20, 2014, the City Council awarded a contract to Micon Construction, Inc. to construct Courtney's Sandcastle Sensory Garden, allocated \$113,030 from the Park Acquisition and Development Fund, and received a donation commitment of \$50,000 from the Courtney's Sandcastle Charitable Foundation.

Discussion: On September 17, 2013, the Courtney's Sandcastle Charitable Foundation (Foundation) reached its fundraising goal of \$340,000, and donated these funds to the City. The City allocated \$110,000 for the project, which was to provide the total cost estimated at \$450,000 at the time.

On October 17, 2013, construction bids were opened for Courtney's Sandcastle Playground Phase II Sensory Garden. Two bids were received in amounts that greatly exceed the costs estimated and budgeted for the project (90% and 112% greater), and were rejected by the City Council on December 3, 2013. The City Council directed staff to further value engineer the project to reduce the scope of work, and to re-bid the project in 2014.

On April 22, 2014, construction bids were opened for Courtney's Sandcastle Sensory Garden. Four bids were received and the lowest responsive and responsible bidder was Micon Construction, Inc. at \$439,579. Including soft costs, items specified as being supplied by the City, and funds expended for park design services, the total cost was \$611,628 (\$161,628 over the existing budget amount of \$450,000). Staff met with the Foundation on April 29, 2014 to discuss possible next steps, and reviewed the bid for cost reduction opportunities. Staff recommended a reduction of the construction contingency from 18% to 10%. Additionally, the Foundation expressed the intention to donate an additional \$50,000 to the project. These items effectively reduced the funding shortfall to \$63,029.

Before its construction in the Vista Hermosa Sports Park, Courtney's Sandcastle was planned to be constructed in Jim Johnson Memorial Sports Park as part of the Marblehead Coastal Development to be paid by the developer. The development agreement related to Marblehead Coastal specified \$600,000 for the construction of

Courtney's Sandcastle. As construction of Marblehead Coastal was delayed, the City opted to relocate and fund construction of Courtney's Sandcastle in its current location in Vista Hermosa Sports Park. Staff received a commitment from the developer to reimburse the \$600,000 to the Parks Acquisition and Development Fund less any improvements made to the previously identified site within Jim Johnson Memorial Sports Park, beginning with an initial payment of \$70,000.

Construction of the Courtney's SandCastle Sensory Garden is expected to begin in July.

Recommended

Action: STAFF RECOMMENDS THAT the Beaches, Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file this report.

Attachments: None.

Notification: None.