



Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Agenda Report

From: Angelica Fortin, Community Services Director

Subject: Review and Endorse the Beechwood Community Park Concept Plan

Date: September 9, 2024

Facts

1. On [October 6, 2020](#), the Beechwood Specific Plan was adopted by City Council.
2. The Beechwood Specific Plan lays out how 234 acres in the southeast corner of the City of Paso Robles will be developed. The plan includes the construction of 911 residential units; 40,000 square feet of neighborhood commercial/mixed-use development; 20 + acres of open space that include an 8-acre public park, smaller public green spaces and conserved open space; and a 2.9-mile multi-use pathway network.
3. The design concept for the park was presented to the community at a City hosted open house on May 15, 2024. The open house, hosted at Virginia Peterson Elementary School across the street from the future location of the Beechwood Community Park, provided the opportunity for community members to ask questions, provide feedback, and submit preferences for the future park.
4. Using the feedback collected at the open house, the park concept plan was updated. The concept plan features ball fields and multi-use athletic fields that will provide space for a variety of youth sports activities. The concept also includes picnic areas, gazebos, a playground, and parking along the park's perimeter.
5. The builder for the Beechwood project is Harrod Built Construction with Rick Engineering attached as the civil engineers.

Community Outreach

On May 15, 2024, the City hosted an open house at Virginia Peterson Elementary School, across the street from the future park location, to gather community feedback on the proposed park concept. Bilingual postcards announcing the event were mailed to neighborhood residents and a press release was sent to local media. In addition, City staff notified key stakeholders including youth sport group representatives. Representatives from Rick Engineering as well as councilmembers and staff from the city's Recreation Services Division, Community Development, Parks and Trails, Public Works and the City Manager's office were in attendance as well. Bilingual staff was also present at the event to assist with translation.

Options

1. Endorse the Beechwood Community Park Concept Plan and forward recommendation to City Council to adopt the plan;
2. Endorse the Beechwood Community Park Concept Plan with changes;
3. Provide alternative direction to staff.

Analysis and Conclusions

Approved by City Council on October 6, 2022, the Beechwood Specific Plan lays out how 234 acres in the southeast corner of the City of Paso Robles will be developed. The plan includes the construction of 911 residential units, including at least 150 multi-family residential units; 40,000 square feet of neighborhood commercial/mixed-use development; 20 + acres of open space that include an 8-acre public park, smaller public green spaces and conserved open space; and a 2.9-mile multi-use pathway network.

The Project also includes improvements to Creston Road, Beechwood Drive, and Meadowlark Road and proposes the extension of Airport Road from Meadowlark Road to Creston Road as well as a new collector road from Beechwood Drive east to Airport Road (Ridge Road). Multiple off-site improvements to the city road network are also planned.

Approved Beechwood Specific Plan



Specific Plan – Community Park Concept

FIGURE 3B: COMMUNITY PARK CONCEPT



The approved Specific Plan included an initial concept for the 8-acre Beechwood Community Park. On May 15, 2024, City staff hosted an open house at Virginia Peterson Elementary School, across the street from the future park, to provide the opportunity for community members to ask questions, provide feedback, and submit preferences for the future park. The open house was attended by approximately 70 people including neighborhood residents and youth sports advocates. Participants provided their preferences for elements such as play structure color schemes, furnishing styles, and field options. Additional feedback received included a desire for:

- Lighting on fields
- 3 ball fields instead of 2
- Shade elements on the play area and dugouts
- Emergency call stations
- Storage for user groups
- Increased restroom capacity

2024 Refined Community Park Plan and Program



The feedback received at the community open house was taken into consideration and incorporated into the updated plan. Once the plan is endorsed, City staff will work with the builder and engineering firm to update project costs to amend the development agreement as needed. This will be brought before City Council for final approval.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact associated with endorsing the Beechwood Community Park Concept Plan.

Recommendation (Option 1)

Endorse the Beechwood Community Park Concept Plan and forward recommendation to City Council to adopt the plan.

Attachments

1. 2024 Updated Beechwood Community Park Concept Plan