



Council Agenda Report

From: Freda Berman, Public Works Director

Subject: Approval of New City Park Event – Open Farm Days Farmers Market

CEQA Determination: The City find that this action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State Guidelines Section State CEQA Guidelines, 15304(e)

Date: April 4, 2023

Facts

1. FARMstead ED, a local non-profit organization connecting the community with local farms and agriculture, proposes to stage an Open Farm Days Farmers Market in City Park on Friday, July 14, 2023, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
2. Open Farm Days Farmers Market is the kickoff event for Open Farm Days weekend where local family farms welcome the public to tour, taste and learn about local agriculture.
3. Approximately 20 farmer vendors and artisans will set up on the east side of City Park near the Gazebo to showcase their products. Attendees will have an opportunity to interact with the farmers and learn about local farms and ranches that produce top quality products.
4. Both regularly scheduled Paso Robles farmers markets, the Tuesday North County Farmers Market and the Saturday Country Farm and Craft Market have endorsed this event.
5. FARMstead ED is responsible for all event logistical support.

Options

1. Take no action;
2. Approve the request of FARMstead ED to stage Open Farm Days Farmers Market on July 14, 2023, in City Park, or;
3. Provide alternative direction to staff.

Analysis and Conclusions

FARMstead ED benefits local farms and producers as an agricultural network of likeminded people. Farmers, makers and end consumers are introduced to who is growing what, and where they can be found on the SLO County Farm Trail. Activities throughout the year include Open Farm Days, workshops and tours. The event is an appropriate addition to the standing schedule of community events in City Park and does not conflict with any other planned activities.

Fiscal Impact

No funding is requested for this event. FARMstead ED is responsible for all costs associated with Open Farm Days Farmers Market.

CEQA Determination

The event is exempt from CEQA under Section 15304(e) of the CEQA Guidelines, as a minor temporary use having negligible or no permanent effects on the environment. If Council approves the recommended action, Recreation Services would process the City's standard Facility Use Permit, that includes standard waivers and procedures.

Recommendation

Approve the request of FARMstead ED to stage Open Farm Days Farmers Market in City Park on July 14, 2023.

Attachments

1. Event layout
2. Letters of support