



RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
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## **PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT**

Meeting: April 5, 2018

### **Subject**

McClellan Ranch – Community Garden Improvements – Conceptual Planning & Design

### **Recommended Action**

Review the Conceptual Design for the Community Garden, provide feedback or comments, and advise staff to proceed with Design Development and preparation of Construction Documents for bidding.

### **Description**

The Community Garden at McClellan Ranch Preserve has been around since 1974 and has been a popular and sought-after amenity in the City. However, over the years, the garden has fallen into a state of disrepair and the local wildlife, i.e. ground squirrels and other rodents, have proliferated forcing gardeners to take extensive measures, such as installing wire cages and screens, to protect their plots and their produce.

The existing fence around the Community Garden is failing in many places and is unreliable as a secure enclosure. The impact of rodents on the garden produce is pervasive and persistent. The garden irrigation system is old, maintenance-intensive and insufficient to meet the needs of the garden. The existing garden plot sizing is variable and should be reconfigured for regular plot sizes.

### **Discussion**

The purpose of this project is to develop a new vision for the garden which will include more regular-sized garden plots, new irrigation, new fencing and other features such as vegetable and hand wash stations, education areas and composting demonstration areas.

Staff met with the gardener community on several occasions between September 2017 and January 2018 to solicit input and feedback to determine what features in a new community garden are most important to the users. The resulting conceptual design (see Attachment A) represents a synthesis of the desired features that the community, current gardeners and staff wish to see in the garden, while maintaining the same footprint and square footage as the existing garden. A presentation regarding the

process and the resulting proposed conceptual design will be provided at the Commission meeting.

The current time line is to solicit bids for the construction of the improvements in or around October 2018 and to complete the project by the beginning of Spring 2019.

**Sustainability Impact**

The design phase of the Community Garden Improvement project does not have any sustainability impact.

**Fiscal Impact**

Funds for the redesign of the Community Garden are allocated in the FY18 Capital Improvement Program. Funds for the construction of improvements are proposed in the FY19 Capital Improvement Program.

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Prepared by: Alex Acenas, Public Works Project Manager

Reviewed by: Jeff Milkes, Director of Recreation and Community Services

Approved for Submission by: Jeff Milkes, Director of Recreation and Community Services

Attachments:

A – Revised Concept, March 2018