



PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Meeting: February 18, 2020

Subject

Adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration, mitigation measures, a mitigation monitoring and reporting program, and adoption of the Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan

Recommended Action

Conduct a public hearing, consider the recommendations of the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Environmental Review Committee, and:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 20-___ adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan; and
2. Adopt Resolution No. 20-___ adopting the Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan.

Background

In January 2019, a draft Citywide Parks and Recreation System Master Plan (“Master Plan”) was issued for public comment. The draft Master Plan was presented at public workshops and was reviewed by several City commissions. The City Council reviewed the draft Plan at meetings on February 5, April 16, and May 21, 2019 and provided additional guidance. The January 2019 draft Master Plan was then updated to reflect input. Environmental clearance documents were thereafter prepared and completed in October 2019.

The updated October 2019 draft Master Plan and its appendices were published on October 23, 2019 (see Attachments A and B). For convenience, a redline/strikeout version was prepared identifying the changes and was posted on the City’s website at www.cupertino.org/parksmp. Environmental clearance documents which evaluate the Master Plan project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) were published on that date as well. The CEQA documents included an Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (“IS/MND”) (see Attachment C) plus associated technical appendices (see Attachment D).

The Initial Study concluded that with incorporation of mitigation measures, there is no substantial evidence that the Master Plan project will have a significant effect on the

environment. The mitigation measures would be adopted as part of the MND and would be implemented via a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program (see Attachment E). The areas in which mitigation measures have been identified include

- *Aesthetics*: New exterior lighting shall be designed in a manner that addresses potential light and glare impacts on adjacent land uses.
- *Biological Resources*: Future park and recreation projects that could potentially affect biological resources shall be reviewed by a biological professional, and measures shall be incorporated to minimize effects on biological resources and avoid impacts.
- *Cultural Resources*: The project shall implement identified measures in the event any cultural or archaeological resources are found on the site.

The opportunity to comment on the October 2019 draft Master Plan and the CEQA documents was appropriately noticed. Copies of the documents were provided at the Cupertino Library, City Hall, and Quinlan Community Center. Electronic copies were posted on the City's website. A notice of intent was posted with the County Clerk and a legal notice was advertised. The documents were also filed with the State Clearinghouse. Email notifications were sent to those on the Master Plan email noticing list. Lawn signs were placed at all City parks and recreation facilities.

The thirty-day public comment period on the CEQA documents concluded on November 22, 2019. No comments were received by the State Clearinghouse. Four comments from members of the public were received. These public comments related to Master Plan or to City park and recreation facilities; the comments did not relate to the CEQA documents (see Attachment F).

The Environmental Review Committee ("ERC") reviewed the Master Plan CEQA documents on December 5, 2019, after the close of the comment period. The ERC recommended changes to the IS/MND. They requested adding a phrase to one sentence, and removal of a sample list of small improvements plus minor edits relating to removal of the list. These changes were not substantive. They were addressed by noting the changes in a Text Revisions document (see Attachment G) that will be adopted as part of the IS/MND. With inclusion of the requested edits, the ERC voted unanimously to find that the Initial Study is appropriate for the Master Plan and to recommend that the City Council adopt the IS/MND.

On December 2, 2019, the Planning Commission received a courtesy presentation and update on the October 2019 draft Master Plan (see Attachment H, meeting minutes). On December 5, 2019 the Parks and Recreation Commission received a presentation on the October 2019 draft Master Plan. They reviewed the document and the community's input. The Parks and Recreation Commission concluded by unanimously recommending that the City Council adopt the October 2019 draft Master Plan (see Attachment I, meeting minutes).

Discussion

The Initial Study found that with incorporation of mitigation measures, adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration is appropriate for the Master Plan project. There were no public comments on the CEQA documents. With incorporation of minor text revisions to the Initial Study, the ERC has unanimously endorsed adoption of a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Master Plan project.

A draft Resolution is provided that will implement adoption of the IS/MND (see Attachment J). It addresses the IS/MND with mitigation measures, the February 2020 Text Revisions and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, and associated actions needed to address CEQA as it pertains to this project.

The draft October 2019 Master Plan has been developed with extensive community input. Its adoption is recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission. A draft Resolution is provided that will implement adoption of the Master Plan (see Attachment K). If the Council chooses to adopt the Master Plan, it will be finalized with a February 2020 adoption date on the cover and title pages.

Summary

Adoption of the attached draft Resolutions would adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration, mitigation measures, and a mitigation monitoring and reporting program; and would adopt the Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan.

Sustainability Impact

The project will support the City's sustainability and environmental policies and objectives.

Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Gail Seeds, Park Improvement Manager

Reviewed by: Randy Schwartz, Interim Director of Parks and Recreation

Approved for Submission by: Deborah Feng, City Manager

Attachments:

A – Draft Parks & Recreation System Master Plan, October 2019

B – Draft Parks & Recreation System Master Plan Appendices, October 2019

C – Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, October 2019

D – Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration Appendices, October 2019

E – Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program, Parks & Recreation System Master Plan, February 2020

F – Public Input on Oct. 2019 Draft Master Plan, Oct. 23-Nov. 22, 2019

G – Text Revisions to Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration, Parks & Recreation System Master Plan, February 2020

H – Meeting minutes, Planning Commission, Dec. 2, 2019

I – Meeting minutes, Parks and Recreation Commission, Dec. 5, 2019

J – Draft Resolution No. 20-___ A Resolution of the Cupertino City Council Adopting a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan

K – Draft Resolution No. 20-___ A Resolution of the Cupertino City Council Adopting the Cupertino Parks and Recreation System Master Plan