



STAFF REPORT

Motion Appointing A Council Representative to Attend Countywide Special Park District Meetings

Mayor and City Council of the City of Belmont
Belmont CA

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

Earlier this year the County of San Mateo proposed the formation of a Special Countywide Park District with the goal of seeking dedicated revenues for county, city and other local park districts. The effort to create the District was put on hold but has now been restarted. The County is requesting that each city appoint a council member to represent their city at several workshops over the next four months. Staff is requesting Council appoint one member to represent Belmont.

Background and Discussion

Earlier this year the County of San Mateo began an effort to create a Countywide Special Park District to provide additional funding support to county, city and other local park districts. The effort was temporarily put on hold but has now been restarted.

The attached invitation and fact sheet from the County provide details on the proposed process and need to create the special park district.

Supervisors Jerry Hill and Mike Nevin are hosting an initial workshop to review the general park district concept, efforts to date and identification of the key questions and range of solutions to be discussed at future workshops. The Supervisors are requesting City Council members, Parks & Recreation Commissioners and city staff attend the first workshop. The workshop is schedule for Wednesday, November 10th – 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM at the Belmont Sports Complex.

In addition to requesting Council attendance at the first workshop the Supervisors are asking every city to appoint a designated City Council member and Parks & Recreation Commissioner to represent each city at subsequent workshops. The Parks & Recreation Commission appointed a representative at their meeting on November 4th.

The workshop on November 10th is the beginning of a process to create a special park district. The first step is to draft enabling legislation that must be approved by the state. If approved, all voters in San Mateo County will have an opportunity to vote on a measure to establish the district.

This process is expected to include four to six additional workshops. The goal is to come to agreement on the key issues in February 2005 so that the enabling legislation can be developed by March 2005.

The next two workshops are tentatively schedule for:

- Thursday, December 9, 2004
- Thursday, January 13, 2005

Fiscal Impact

None at this time.

Recommendation

It is recommended that Council appoint one Councilmember to represent the City at Special Park District Workshops.

Alternatives

1. Take no action.

Attachments

1. Letter from Supervisors Hill & Nevin
2. "Parks for the Future" fact sheet.

Respectfully submitted,

Karl Mittelstadt
Director of Parks & Recreation

Daniel Rich
Interim City Manager