

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda date: July 7, 2008

Reviewed by: BP

Subject: Acceptance of the work of Contract 07-19, Burrowing Owl Habitat Project

Report by: Ann Chaney, Community Development Director
Barry Whittaker, Project Manager

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution No. 08-45 accepting the work of Contract 07-19, Burrowing Owl Habitat Project, as complete, and direct the filing of a Notice of Completion.

BACKGROUND

On April 01, 2008, the City entered into construction contract 07-19 with T.S. Brickley Construction, Danville, in the amount of \$54,499.00 to construct a fenced-in enclosure, complete with gates, and construct three artificial burrow habitats for burrowing owls on the Albany Plateau at Eastshore State Park. The establishment of an 8.8-acre burrowing owl habitat was a mitigation measure for the Gilman Sports Field project.

On May 23, 2006, the East Bay Regional Park District gave “Approval of the Albany Plateau Burrowing Owl Mitigation Project, and Authorization to Execute an Agreement to Construct the Mitigation Project and Accept Maintenance Funds from the City of Albany (Resource Enhancement Program): Eastshore State Park.”

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

The work was completed satisfactorily. Staff of the East Bay Regional Park District was involved throughout the project, inasmuch as the property is in its possession, and the City was working under an encroachment permit from the District.

Features of the project included the following:

- 8.8 acres of fence area located in the northeast portion of the Plateau was enclosed with a perimeter fence of 10-gauge, 4 foot high no-climb woven wire fence (as required by EBRPD), with four entrance gates around the perimeter of the habitat area for mowing and emergency access purposes (per EBRPD standards)
- Three artificial burrows were constructed, with an elevated perch in front of each burrow

- A 40-ft wide grassland buffer was preserved for walking trail and maintenance/emergency vehicles outside the fenced area with minor grading performed to allow for maintenance and emergency vehicle turning.
- An interpretive signs was installed at the main entrance to the Plateau from the parking lot per EBRPD specifications. Additional signs were installed along the fence itself.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The final construction cost for this project is \$ 59,697.51. The cost is being shared by each of the five cities that constitute the joint powers group sponsoring the Gilman Street Playfields, which includes Albany. This group has also agreed to share in the maintenance costs to be transferred to the East Bay Regional Park District for that purpose; that amount totals \$30,000 for the five-year period.

Attachments:

1. Resolution #08-45 and Notice of Completion