

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

WORK SESSION WITH PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Agenda date: October 17, 2005

Reviewed by: _____

Subject: Park rehabilitation and improvement projects for Memorial, Ocean View and Terrace Parks.

From: Beth Pollard, City Administrator
Melinda Chinn, Recreation & Community Services Director

RECOMMENDATION

Conduct work session with the Parks & Recreation Commission on the proposed plans for improvements to Memorial Park, Ocean View Park, and Terrace Park. Action on the proposed plans is recommended on regular agenda item #5-1.

BACKGROUND

The 2004 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Plan identified priorities for improvements to Memorial Park, Ocean View Park, and Terrace Park. At the direction of the City Council, and with public ideas, review, and comment, the Parks & Recreation Commission, staff, and John Cahalan, Landscape Architect have developed proposed plans for park improvements.

DISCUSSION

The proposed improvements to Memorial Park include:

- A re-design of the walkway promenade leading to the front entrance of the Veterans Building.
- Improvements to the plaza area immediately in front of the Veterans Building entrance.
- The construction of a unified picnic area with BBQ's located just south and east of the baseball backstop.
- Complete renovation of the grass ball field area on the north side of the park, including re-grading, leveling, irrigation repair, and improved fencing.
- Relocation and improvements to the batting and pitching cages.
- Addition of a skinned infield and backstop for softball practice into one of the three available corners of the ball field.
- New entry features at the three entry points into the park.

The proposed improvements to Ocean View Park include:

- Adding a wheelchair/ADA accessible restroom facility.
- Improving the play area next to the Teen Center with the addition of play structures.
- Improving the ball field lighting while reducing glare cast on the neighborhood.
- Improving the group picnic area with new equipment and thinning the trees to introduce more light.
- Improve the unused area south of the tennis courts with a mix of community gardens, open grassy area, volleyball, and bocce courts.
- Overall improvements to lighting in the parking lot, picnic area walkways, etc.
- Addition of a second, small skinned diamond for softball practice.
- Improving the park entryway off Buchanan Street.

The proposed improvements to Terrace Park include:

- Replacement of the existing restrooms with wheelchair/ADA-accessible facilities.
- Improving the drainage and stability of the grass area.
- Repaving of the asphalt walkways and basketball court.
- Renovating the group picnic area.
- Pending funding, incorporation of a community room in between the two restrooms

At the work session, staff, the Parks & Recreation Commission, and project architect will present the proposed plans, and discuss issues and options with the City Council.

Please see the staff report for Agenda Item #5-1 for more information.