



## AGENDA REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** March 13, 2012

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** Council Ad Hoc Redwood Grove Committee

**SUBJECT:** Recommended Next Steps on Redwood Grove

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve six recommendations as outlined in the Council Ad Hoc Redwood Grove Committee's report.

---

### **SUMMARY:**

#### **Estimated Fiscal Impact:**

**Amount:** N/A

**Budgeted:** N/A

**Public Hearing Notice:** N/A

**Previous Council Consideration:** February 28, 2012

**CEQA Status:** None

#### **Attachments:**

---

Douglas J. Schmitz, City Manager

---

Date

**DISCUSSION:**

As directed by Council at their February 28, 2012 regular meeting, the Council Ad Hoc Redwood Grove Committee met on March 5, 2012 to review the following Parks and Recreation Commission recommendations:

1. Provide facilities in Redwood Grove consistent with its current use, including:
  - a. Two meeting spaces, each to accommodate a group of 25 to 30 people, to meet requirements for the average size of school tours and designed to meet Group E Occupancy requirements for buildings used for children under 18 years of age
  - b. Public restrooms that are ADA-compliant with exterior access
  - c. Boardwalks and pathways
  - d. One ADA parking space
  - e. Signage for fire safety and dog rules
  - f. Outdoor gathering circle of rough-hewn design, integrated into landscape and potentially reflecting Ohlone customs
  - g. Administrative office with supplies storage
  - h. Teaching garden; may include raised vegetable beds, native landscape demonstration area, early 20<sup>th</sup> century garden
  - i. Pathway connection to Los Altos Hills
  - j. Animal safe trash receptacles
  - k. Kitchen to enhance program potential
2. Request the Los Altos Historical Commission to provide comprehensive documentation of the Halsey House and Caretaker Residence history.
3. Engage an architecture firm with expertise in adaptive reuse and ecological and environmental design to provide a building assessment and comparative cost analysis for facilities at Redwood Grove.
4. Fund bridge and boardwalk improvements, pedestrian circulation pattern changes and other creek bank stabilization concerns in conjunction with the current creek bank erosion study being conducted by Acterra.

The Council Ad Hoc Redwood Grove Committee would like to thank the Parks and Recreation Commission for their recommendations, which complete their work on this project for Council.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Council Ad Hoc Redwood Grove Committee recommends that Council:

1. Direct staff to consider including the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendations on Redwood Grove in the draft Parks Master Plan that is currently being finalized for Council review and approval.

March 13, 2012

Recommended Next Steps on Redwood Grove

Page 3

2. Direct the Los Altos Historical Commission to: (1) work with previously-approved consultant Circa: Historic Property Development to create or update the primary record for the Halsey House; (2) research the caretaker residence for possible inclusion on the Historic Resources Inventory; and (3) recommend to Council a process for evaluating the feasibility and cost of adaptively reusing the Halsey House to meet the facilities requests recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission, as follows: (a) two meeting spaces, each to accommodate a group of 25 to 30 people, to meet requirements for the average size of school tours and designed to meet Group E Occupancy requirements for buildings used for children under 18 years of age; (b) public restrooms that are ADA-compliant with exterior access; and (c) a kitchen to enhance program potential.
3. Not take any action on engaging an architecture firm pending the Historical Commission's recommendations to Council.
4. Be advised that the Santa Clara County Fire Department has put in place a plan to access Redwood Grove from Manresa Lane in the event of an emergency, and therefore, no bridge improvements are required at this time.
5. Direct staff to create a CIP for boardwalk improvements, pedestrian circulation pattern changes and other creek bank stabilization work for consideration during the June 2012 budget review.
6. Direct staff to create a CIP, if necessary, based on the Historical Commission's recommendations.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Council could decide not to approve the Council Ad Hoc Redwood Grove Committee recommendations.