



DATE: June 17, 2020

AGENDA ITEM # 2

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Donna Legge, Staff Liaison

SUBJECT: Halsey House Update

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a presentation from the Historical Commission Staff Liaison Sean Gallegos regarding the status of the Halsey House and consider forwarding a recommendation to City Council

BACKGROUND

The Friends of Historic Redwood Grove raised funds to have a feasibility study be conducted for the Halsey House located in Redwood Grove. In November 2014, the City of Los Altos issued a Request for Proposals to perform a study to analyze the renovation and adaptive re-use of the Halsey House or the demolition and construction of a new facility. Work on the study began in spring of 2015 and was completed by December 2015

At its regular meeting of December 8, 2015, City Council received an update on the Halsey House Feasibility Study and requested a future Study Session to review additional options to include the review of ADA parking (Attachment A).

City Council held a Study Session on June 14, 2016, receiving an update on the Halsey House Feasibility Study including alternatives for adaptive re-use/renovation (\$3.2M), partial renovation (\$1.5M+), preservation (\$500K-\$700K), and demolition (\$115K). Council encouraged the proponents of restoring the Halsey House to determine what potential outside funding exists.

At its regular meeting of January 23, 2018, Council received a presentation on the Halsey House Feasibility Study from the Engineering Department (Attachment B).

Council directed staff to use the \$25,000 intended for the Initial Study to take protective measures for the Halsey House, directed the Historical Commission to work with community members and staff to develop an application for the 2018 Santa Clara County Historical Heritage Grant for an initial project towards preserving the Halsey House, and directed the Historical Commission to make a recommendation on the next steps following the initial preservation measures.



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At its regular meeting on September 24, 2019, staff facilitated the prioritization of the Capital Improvement Plan with City Council. The following projects are listed as tabulated and approved by Council:

1. Police Department Renovation
2. Annual Pavement Improvement
3. Grant Park Community Center
4. Los Altos Youth Center
5. Parks Renovation
6. City Hall Renovation
7. Garden House Renovation
8. Public Pool Study
9. Halsey House

On March 24, 2020, Council reviewed and adopted the 2020 City Council Strategic Priorities Workplan for FY 2020-21, including the following categories. The Halsey House is not included in the Work Plan.

1. Land Use
2. Housing
3. Downtown Vision
4. Asset Management
 - a. Financial Capacity
 - b. Community Center
 - c. Council Chambers
 - d. Emergency Operations Center
 - e. Police & Fire Stations
 - f. Main Library
 - g. Roadways
5. Public Safety
6. Roadway Safety
7. Environment
8. Community Engagement

DISCUSSION

City staff from the Municipal Services, Engineering and Community Development Departments will provide an update on the Halsey House. Representatives of Friends of Historic Redwood Grove have been invited to provide additional background and feedback.



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Attachments:

Attachment A - December 8, 2015 City Council Staff Report

Attachment B - January 23, 2018 City Council Staff Report

Attachment C - December 2019 Halsey House Historic Structure Report