

- **Diamond Valley Recreation Program Monthly Report for the month ending September 2005**

Summary

This report provides an update on active projects for the Diamond Valley Recreation (DVR) Program for the month ending September 30, 2005. The current active DVR projects include construction of Searl Parkway Phase I Improvements; design of Searl Parkway Phase II Improvements; design of Salt Creek sewer protection; design of Searl Parkway landscaping; design of East Marina utilities; technical assessment of the East Recreation Lake; planning for the Trails Program; selection of firms from RFP 760 – Recreation and Land Development; real property appraisal and disposition; and tenant construction activities.

Description

Searl Parkway Improvements

Phase I

Metropolitan's contractor is nearing completion of the Searl Parkway Phase I improvements. The contract is 98 percent complete based upon contract earnings, and approximately 94 percent of the contract time has elapsed through September.

During the month of September, the contractor completed installation of the underground utilities, except for the sewer line crossing of Salt Creek Channel. Early this year, due to heavy storms, the Salt Creek channel was vertically eroded to a depth of approximately eight feet, causing the new sewer line to be exposed. Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) requires temporary and long-term protection of the sewer line to be developed prior to the line entering service. Although the sewer line was installed with a temporary berm to protect the site from erosion, staff is working with EMWD to identify an economical long-term solution. The long-term solution will require modification of the project's existing CEQA documentation. In order not to impact the project schedule, protection of the sewer line will be designed and constructed as a separate contract. Staff is evaluating alternative concepts for a long-term solution for protection of the sewer line at the Salt Creek Channel crossing. A consultant will prepare a scour analysis and the design

Phase II

Staff completed the Phase II construction documents and received approvals from the city of Hemet, EMWD and various utility agencies. The Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan has been approved by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board. The project will be advertised for bids in October, and bids are planned to be opened in December. A recommendation to Metropolitan's Board for award of the construction contract is planned for January 2006.

East Marina Utilities

Staff selected a design consultant and the final scope of work is being defined. The consultant will investigate three alternatives to extend dry and wet utilities to the East Marina. A recommendation to the Board for authorization of final design is planned for January 2006.

Landscaping for Searl Parkway

Preliminary design of the landscaping for Searl Parkway will be completed in October. The design is being coordinated with the city of Hemet and the East Recreation Area tenants. The tenants are planning a joint grand opening of their facilities in Summer 2006.

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East Recreation Lake

A technical assessment of the recreation lake within its existing footprint, along with a separate one-acre swim lagoon, is in progress. The consultant's scope of work includes assessment of future design issues including groundwater modeling; evaluation of water sources to fill the proposed lake; water treatment for incidental and full contact use; aeration; optimum lake depth; definition of geotechnical parameters and lake lining. The draft conceptual design report is under review and the final conceptual design report is scheduled to be completed in November 2005.

Trails Program

The current trails program consists of improving the existing Lakeview Trail and planning the DVL-to-Lake Skinner Trail system.

At the September 2005 meeting, Metropolitan's Board authorized submittal of a grant application to the State of California to partially fund improvements to the Lakeview Trail. Staff has submitted this grant application to the State. If approved, staff will return to the Board for acceptance and approval of specific grant-related projects prior to accepting the grant money. Grant projects related to the Lakeview Trail will be reviewed and approved by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

In September, fencing to protect sensitive equipment along the Lakeview Trail was installed. Staff is also studying the potential for the Lakeview Trail to remain open for the same hours as the marina. Currently, the Lakeview Trail is only open on weekends. In October, staff will review sample signage for the Lakeview Trail. Following approval, it will take about 30 days to install the signage.

Recreation and Land Development

Metropolitan has requested proposals from private development firms for construction and operation of recreational facilities in the East Recreation Area. The Request For Proposals (RFP) invited respondents to include development of the North Property as a basis for financing construction, operation, and maintenance of recreation facilities. RFP 760 closed on September 15, 2005. Six of the eight previously short-listed firms submitted. As part of the evaluation process, the six respondents were provided an opportunity to further expand their vision for the development of the East Recreation Area through interviews with the evaluation team. A recommendation to the Board to initiate negotiations with the successful respondent is planned for November 2005.

Real Estate Appraisal and Disposition

The North Area appraisal process is scheduled to be completed in November. The two remaining surplus residential properties located on the east end of Diamond Valley Lake will be listed for sale in November 2005.

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Tenant Construction Activities

Valley-Wide Recreation and Park District

Metropolitan’s construction contract was completed, and as-constructed drawings and a soil density report have been provided to the city of Hemet and Valley-Wide Park and Recreation District for their records. This project was completed on schedule and within budget. Valley-Wide is managing its own construction contract for its aquatic center and administration building. These facilities are approximately 70 percent complete.



Valley-Wide Regional Aquatic Facility – Looking East

Center for Water Education and Western Center for Archaeology and Paleontology

The Center for Water Education and Western Center for Archaeology and Paleontology construction projects are independently managed and directed by their respective boards. Both projects are approximately 70 percent complete. Site utilities for sewer, storm drain, water lines, fire service lines, and steel frames for both buildings have been erected.



Center for Water Education and Western Center