

# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH DEPARTMENTAL COMMUNICATION **COMMUNITY & LIBRARY SERVICES** DEPARTMENT

TO:

Robin Estanislau, City Clerk

FROM:

Chris Slama, Director of Community & Library Services

DATE:

November 16, 2021

SUBJECT: ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION REGARDING

**NOVEMBER 16, 2021, COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM 21-877** 

Please find attached a revised Recommended Council Action (RCA) and attachments for item 21-877, for the November 16, 2021 City Council agenda regarding the Edison Park Reconfiguration Conceptual Plan.

Following the Community & Library Services Commission (CLSC) meeting on November 10, 2021, City Council and staff have received additional feedback from park user groups and residents adjacent to Edison Park. While RJM and staff conducted a thorough public outreach process, it is apparent that the park reconfiguration discussions have only recently come to the attention of certain neighbors of Edison Park. Staff has continued to work with the City's consultant, RJM Design Group, to propose a total of three options for City Council consideration based on new public feedback.

The significant changes to the revised RCA are highlighted in the attached revised document. Additionally, Attachment 4 (Option C) is being submitted as described in the revised RCA.

SUPPLEMENTAL

Meeting Date:

#### REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

**SUBMITTED TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

**SUBMITTED BY:** Oliver Chi, City Manager

PREPARED BY: Chris Slama, Director of Community & Library Services

Subject:

Consider Approval of the Edison Park Reconfiguration Conceptual Plan ...body

#### Statement of Issue:

In May 2021, the City began coordinating an extensive public outreach process related to developing a conceptual plan for the reconfiguration of Edison Park. Staff and our design firm consultant, RJM Design Group, solicited public input in the form of two virtual on-line surveys, an in person community survey meeting, and an in person design charrette conducted at the Edison Community Center. Additional details related to the local community input and conceptual planning process are available on the dedicated Edison Park Conceptual Plan website, available online at:

#### bit.ly/hbedisonpark

The Community & Library Services Commission (CLSC) convened on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, to review and consider approval of a final design concept for Edison Park. At that meeting, the proposed concept was approved unanimously (5-0, with 3 Commissioners absent). The full CLSC agenda report, along with the proposed conceptual plan diagram, are included as Attachment 1 & 2 to this report. Of note, during public comment and CLSC deliberation, there was significant discussion regarding the need for additional space that would be exclusive to youth soccer play. Following CLSC approval, staff coordinated with local AYSO representation and RJM Design Group, resulting in the proposed design of a second conceptual plan option, submitted via supplemental communication on November 12, 2021, and included as Attachment 3 to this report. After submittal of that second option, several neighboring residents to Edison Park reached out to staff and City Council, expressing certain concerns regarding impacts to those that live close to Edison Park. Option C (Attachment 4), has been submitted by staff in response to this new feedback, and as such, provides City Council with three alternatives for consideration to proceed with design and planning to reconfigure and rehabilitate Edison Park.

### Financial Impact:

Funding in the amount of \$300,000 has been included in the City's FY 2021/22 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Edison Park design services, which is sufficient to begin the design development process. Additional funds will need to be identified and budgeted as the project proceeds through the design and construction phases.

## **Recommended Action:**

..recommendation

Approve one of the following:

Option A: Final Edison Park reconfiguration conceptual plan as approved by the Community & Library Services Commission (Attachment 2), and authorize staff to move forward with initiating development of the design and bid package for construction of the updated facility; or,

Option B: Revised Edison Park reconfiguration conceptual plan, exhibited as Option B (Attachment 3), and authorize staff to move forward with initiating development of the design and bid package for construction of the updated facility; or,

Option C: Revised Edison Park reconfiguration conceptual plan, exhibited as Option C (Attachment 4), and authorize staff to move forward with initiating development of the design and bid package for construction of the updated facility.

..end

#### Alternative Action(s):

Do not approve any of the recommended actions and direct staff accordingly.

#### Analysis:

Edison Park, located at 21377 Magnolia Avenue, was constructed in the early 1970's and was opened to the public in 1974. Since that time, the 40 acre park has functioned as one of the main recreation facilities in the City. With multiple sports facilities and a community center building, Edison Park offers a wide range of programs for sports leagues, cultural and recreation classes to meet the recreational needs of the public.

Based on the public outreach efforts engaged by the City as part of the Edison Park reconfiguration process, a variety of proposed improvements are included in the conceptual master plan as approved by the CLSC at their meeting on November 10, 2021 (Attachment 2). Elements that are incorporated into that plan include:

- Reconfigured parking lot with enhanced entries
- New basketball courts (4 full and 4 half-court)
- New dedicated tennis courts (2)
- New dedicated pickleball courts (8) on two of the existing tennis courts
- New dual striped courts (2 tennis, or 8 pickleball)
- New sport court plaza with seating and shade
- Enclosed dog area with water, seating, and shade
- Reconfigured walkways
- New trees
- New shade shelter
- New outdoor exercise stations
- New tot lot with rubberized surfacing, equipment and shade
- 4 new U-10 youth soccer overlays, with 2 full size overlay options
- Enlarged skate area
- New pump track
- Reconfiguration of existing batting cages
- New park restrooms and concession stand near softball fields
- Expansion of the exterior community restrooms

Although the initially proposed conceptual plan was approved by the CLSC at their November 10, 2021 meeting, members of the public and CLSC discussed the need for additional space specifically for youth soccer within the southeast area of Huntington Beach. In response, following the CLSC meeting, staff consulted with RJM Design Group in effort to address these concerns. As a result, staff submitted a supplemental communication on November 12, 2021, providing for City Council consideration, Option B (Attachment 3), which essentially features the CLSC approved plan as exhibited in Option A, but with the addition of one U-10 sized youth soccer field overlay in the area adjacent to Hamilton Avenue.

Since the communication on November 12, City Council and staff have received additional feedback from residents currently living adjacent to Edison Park. While RJM and staff conducted a thorough public outreach process, it is apparent that the park reconfiguration discussions have only recently come to the attention of certain neighbors of Edison Park. Those neighbors have expressed concerns regarding the addition of parking stalls along Stillwell Drive, and the removal of mature trees within the park space. Staff has continued to work with the City's consultant, RJM Design Group, to propose an Option C (Attachment 4) for City Council consideration based on this new public feedback. This concept incorporates all amenities as reflected in Option B, while removing the initially proposed additional 57 parking spaces along Stillwell Drive. This option would preserve a significant amount of mature trees and open space, thus addressing the concerns of nearby residents. While there have been opposing public concerns expressing that additional parking would be needed to increase accessibility to the park during peak park usage, if Option C is approved, staff would be committed to exploring other offsite parking alternatives throughout the process of refining the reconfiguration design.

Pending approval by City Council of one of the options as proposed, the next step in the process would be the development of detailed engineering plans and specs, including preparation of a bid package for construction.

#### **Environmental Status:**

The project will go through appropriate CEQA clearances as identified in the entitlement process.

#### Strategic Plan Goal:

Enhance and maintain infrastructure.

#### Attachment(s):

- Community & Library Services Commission Staff Report Edison Park Reconfiguration Conceptual Plan
- 2. Edison Park Conceptual Plan Diagram (Option A)
- 3. Edison Park Revised Conceptual Plan Diagram (Option B)
- 4. Edison Park Revised Conceptual Plan Diagram (Option C)

# Attachment 4 Option C - Revised Edison Park Conceptual Design by RJM Design Group





REFINED CONCEPTUAL PLAN - OPTION C EDISON PARK CONCEPTUAL PLAN CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH, CALIFORNIA