



June 29, 2016

TO: LOCSO Parks and Recreation Committee Members
FROM: Peter J. Kampa, Interim General Manager
SUBJECT: Community Needs Assessment Forum Update

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DISCUSSION

Community needs can be defined as the gap between what a situation is and what it should be. By examining needs we can discover what is lacking and the community can point us in the direction for future improvement. In a community where pet owners want more park space but sports leagues want the same space for playing fields, etc., there is a need to balance competing interests. The Parks and Recreation Committee has been tasked with identifying potential community recreation needs while balancing the broad community of interests.

The South Bay Community Center Board has approved our placement of a booth in their upcoming event. We will be collaborating with the Anniversary Celebration of the Community Center on Saturday, August 13th to host a Community Needs Assessment booth to survey residents about what park or recreation improvements from which the town would benefit. A committee meeting should be scheduled to plan logistics of the Needs Assessment Event.

Once maps are available of properties showing specific existing CSD properties with redevelopment potential, they will be distributed to the committee for discussion of the appropriateness of utilizing unused CSD lots for possible park improvements.

CURRENT TASKS

- Identify what community assets (i.e., organizations, sports leagues, social groups) to survey prior to the event to discover the ways this section of the District can positively impact and support the community.
- Begin planning logistics for the Needs Assessment Event, i.e., advertising, staffing, setup, tools/equipment, etc.
- Created a page on the District website dedicated to the event including a suggestion box to help determine what kinds of facilities the community would be interested in, the results of which we will use as a tool to develop a clear focus for the event.
- CSD staff to complete adequate maps which will show vacant parcels owned by the District which could be available for use.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

An initial budget in the amount of \$1000 is available for the Community Needs Assessment Event.