



## Item No. 17 Town of Atherton

### **CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT – REGULAR AGENDA**

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
GEORGE RODERICKS, CITY MANAGER**

**FROM: ROBERT OVADIA, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

**DATE: MARCH 21, 2018**

**SUBJECT: PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON THE RECENT VISIT TO THE  
STORMWATER CAPTURE FACILITY PROJECTS IN  
LAKEWOOD; AND PROVIDE DIRECTION TO STAFF ON NEXT  
STEPS FOR PUBLIC OUTREACH FOR THE ATHERTON WATER  
CAPTURE FACILITY PROJECT**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

Discuss and provide feedback on the Special Meeting held on February 28, 2018, in Lakewood California, and provide direction on public outreach for the Atherton Water Capture Facility Project.

#### **BACKGROUND**

The need for a stormwater detention facility was identified in the Town-wide Drainage Study Update prepared in 2015 to reduce flooding associated with the Atherton Channel. The update identified three possible sites for the detention facility including Las Lomas Elementary School, Holbrook-Palmer Park, and the Menlo Park Circus Club (JL Dixon Stables). Due to the complexity of working with a privately-owned site at some distance from the Channel, the Town chose not to locate the project at the JL Dixon Stables. The Town next attempted to work with the Las Lomas Elementary School District on a water capture project at the school. This opportunity ultimately proved unsuccessful after the Town and District were unable to come to agreement on funding and approval of a traffic signal at Walsh Road, continued maintenance, and the Town's ability to terminate the project prior to construction, if desired.

The remaining alternative was Holbrook-Palmer Park. The Town learned of a collaborative funding opportunity with Caltrans to not only provide the Town with the needed flood control project; but also, an opportunity to address the Town's requirements under the Regional Water Quality Control Permit. After being selected by Caltrans for the Project, the Town hired Tetra Tech Inc. to investigate the feasibility of installing a water capture facility in Holbrook-Palmer Park and to prepare preliminary concept designs.

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### **DISCUSSION**

The City Council held a special meeting in Lakewood, California on February 28, 2018 in order to visit three water capture facilities at various stages of development. At that meeting, the Council received a presentation by the City of Lakewood and Tetra Tech Inc. regarding two stormwater capture projects located in the City of Lakewood, which would be similar to the concept under consideration in the Town. The presentation was followed by site visits to the following project locations:

- Bolivar Park – nearing completion of construction
- Mayfair Park – bid for construction
- Long Beach Airport – under construction

Aerial location maps and photos taken at the project sites area attached to this report.

The project team and a representative from the San Mateo County City/County Association of Governments (C/CAG) made a presentation to the Park and Recreation Committee on March 7, 2018 regarding the project and approximately 50 members of the public attended the meeting. In addition to expressing their concerns regarding the proposed project, there was a concern regarding the public input process.

This item has been prepared to provide Council the opportunity to discuss and provide feedback on the sites visited in Southern California, types of facilities incorporated into the water capture projects and their applicability in the Town of Atherton, and how or where the facilities may be sited to allow staff to complete the conceptual design of the project.

Staff is also requesting direction on additional public outreach efforts related to the potential project in Holbrook-Palmer Park. Staff suggests that there be some additional outreach and educational efforts while Tetra Tech Inc. completes its 20% design effort. The Council will ultimately be presented with the 20% design work for a decision whether to move forward with this Project. Depending on the timing of additional outreach efforts, this Project could be presented to the Council in April or May 2018 for next steps after 20% design. This is the commitment point with Caltrans for the collaborative funding opportunity. If the Town does not commit to complete this Project, Caltrans funding is no longer available.

Allowing the 20% design effort to complete prior to making a decision on proceeding with the project allows the Town to gather detailed flood control information that will inform current and future flood control decisions that will need to be made by the Town for this or other potential projects.

### **POLICY FOCUS**

The need for a stormwater detention facility was identified in the 2015 Town-wide Drainage Study Update as a Tier 1 project. The Town is also required to improve the quality of stormwater discharges from its municipal stormwater drainage system.

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As was mentioned at the March 7 meeting, flood control is the Town's primary objective with this proposed facility. Water quality, while still a State-mandate, may be achieved regionally. The Town may be requested and/or required to contribute to regional project in order to achieve the water quality objective if a facility is not located within its jurisdiction.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The Town has entered into a Cooperative Implementation Agreement with Caltrans which reimburses the Town for the cost of the development of conceptual design plans for a stormwater capture and treatment project in the Town, as well as the costs of final design and construction if authorized by the Council.

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Public notification was achieved by posting the agenda, with this agenda item being listed, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting in print and electronically. Information about the project is also disseminated via the Town's electronic News Flash and Atherton Online. There are approximately 1,200 subscribers to the Town's electronic News Flash publications. Subscribers include residents as well as stakeholders – to include, but be not limited to, media outlets, school districts, Menlo Park Fire District, service providers (water, power, and sewer), and regional elected officials.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1. Photographs of Bolivar Park Capture Facility Construction

Attachment 2. Photographs of Mayfair Park Site - Preconstruction

Attachment 3. Photographs of Long Beach Airport Stormwater Capture Facility Construction

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**Attachment 1 – Photographs of Bolivar Park Capture Facility Construction**



Photograph 1: Rubber Dam Installed in Channel



Photograph 2: Site Restoration Work at Bolivar Park (Picnic Shelter)

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**Attachment 1 – Photographs of Bolivar Park Capture Facility Construction**



Photograph 3: Site Restoration Work at Bolivar Park (Field)



Photograph 4: Access Manholes in Bolivar Park

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**Attachment 1 – Photographs of Bolivar Park Capture Facility Construction**



**Photograph 5: Irrigation Water Treatment System in Bolivar Park**

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**Attachment 2 – Photographs of Mayfair Park - Preconstruction**



Photograph 1: Channel at Mayfair Park



Photograph 2: Channel at Mayfair Park

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**Attachment 2 – Photographs of Mayfair Park - Preconstruction**



Photograph 3: Proposed Location of Capture Facility at Mayfair Park (Ballfield and Tennis Courts)

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**Attachment 3 – Photographs of Long Beach Airport Capture Facility Construction**



Photograph 1: Excavation for Pretreatment at Long Beach Airport



Photograph 2: Pretreatment Screens at Long Beach Airport

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**Attachment 3 – Photographs of Long Beach Airport Capture Facility Construction**



Photograph 3: Precast Pieces for Pretreatment Units at Long Beach Airport



Photograph 4: Excavation and Top of Stormwater Capture Facility at Long Beach Airport

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**Attachment 3 – Photographs of Long Beach Airport Capture Facility Construction**



Photograph 5: Excavation and Construction of Stormwater Capture Facility at Long Beach Airport