

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS**  
**AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**DEPARTMENT:**      **PARKS AND RECREATION**

**AGENDA DATE:**    **MARCH 25, 2008**

**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:**      **NANETTE SMEJKAL (915) 541-4283**

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:**    **ALL**

**SUBJECT:**

**APPROVE a resolution / ordinance / lease to do what? OR AUTHORIZE the City Manager to do what? Be descriptive of what we want Council to approve. Include \$ amount if applicable.**

Determine the site for the tournament-grade soccer complex and direct the City Manager to proceed with the development of design and improvements utilizing \$4,499,001 from the 2000 Quality of Life general obligation bonds.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

**Discussion of the what, why, where, when, and how to enable Council to have reasonably complete description of the contemplated action. This should include attachment of bid tabulation, or ordinance or resolution if appropriate. What are the benefits to the City of this action? What are the citizen concerns?**

In January 2008, the City of El Paso received notification from Fort Bliss representatives that land on Fort Bliss would not be available for lease to use as a site to develop a tournament-grade soccer complex. On January 29, 2008, City Council directed staff to research locating the tournament-grade soccer complex at either the Northeast Regional Sports Park or the Westside Soccer Complex, and return with a recommendation.

Either site can be expanded to accommodate a 13 field soccer complex with nine lit fields, utilizing the available funding. The primary difference is in the estimated cost, with the Northeast location estimated at \$4,567,800 (slightly over available funds) and the Westside location estimated at \$3,542,288 (well within available funds). Land for the Northeast location can be acquired at no cost from the Public Services Board because it is located within a drainage "greenway." Land for the Westside location can be acquired at no cost from El Paso Community College as long as the City of El Paso constructs a 400 space parking area on the college campus (for shared use) per the terms of an earlier agreement.

The Northeast location, due to the drainage "greenway," is more restrictive in terms of allowable construction. Impervious surfaces and structures that have the potential to impede storm water flow are not allowed. This includes several types of fencing, which is of some concern because access by off road vehicles could cause damage to the developed fields without an ability to install sufficient barriers.

Staff recommends the Westside location for the soccer complex due to the lower cost and the lack of restrictions on fencing and other structures. Staff further recommends any funds remaining from soccer complex construction at Westside be reprogrammed to install lights at existing fields at the Northeast Regional Sports Park. Lighting greatly enhances the amount of use that can be supported at each field, and is an important feature to attracting tournaments.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

**Has the Council previously considered this item or a closely related one?**

No

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

**How will this item be funded? Has the item been budgeted? If so, identify funding source by account numbers and description of account. Does it require a budget transfer?**

\$4,499,001 is available from 2000 Quality of Life general obligation bonds

**BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:**

Enter appropriate comments or N/A

N/A

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**LEGAL:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_ **FINANCE:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** *[Signature]* 3/17/08  
Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager

**APPROVED FOR AGENDA:**

**CITY MANAGER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

CITY CLERK DEPT.  
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