



City Council Staff Report

Subject: Sunset Whitney Recreation Area Pickleball Courts Project

Date: October 28, 2025

Submitted By: Kristen Van Groningen, Associate Civil Engineer
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Department: Community Development

Recommendation:

Adopt a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Rocklin Approving the Plans and Specifications for the Sunset Whitney Recreation Area Pickleball Courts Project and Authorizing City Staff to Call for Bids.

Background:

In 2018 the City of Rocklin completed the purchase of approximately 184 acres of land, formerly known as the Sunset Whitney Country Club, and which is now the Sunset Whitney Recreation Area (SWRA). After purchasing the property, the City opened the trails, conducted public outreach to identify preferred recreational uses of the land, and implemented public safety measures. Furthermore, the Parks, Recreation, and Arts Commission as well as the City Council desired a master plan be developed for the area.

The Master Plan was approved by the City Council on February 14, 2023, and provides for a multi-phased approach to implement various amenities, including a 16-court pickleball facility in Phase One. In 2024 the Master Plan was revised to relocate the pickleball courts from the original proposed location adjacent to residences on Midas Avenue to where the former clubhouse was located.

On February 27, 2024, the City Council awarded a professional services contract to RSC Engineering (Resolution No.2024-060) for the preparation of design documents for the pickleball courts. Since that time, City staff from various departments have been coordinating with the owners of on-site utilities (SPMUD, PG&E, wireless providers) and RSC Engineering for the preparation of the final construction plans (Attachment 2) and specifications (Attachment 3) outlining the proposed 16-court pickleball facility, fencing, accessibility improvements, and other ancillary elements.

The facility will include sixteen (16) pickleball courts, divided by fencing and gates, and designed with overhead lighting. Two of the courts will have bleachers to provide for an enhanced viewing experience for spectators and enable tournaments to be held at the facility. The concrete of the existing tennis courts on the east end is being preserved as a gathering or

staging area for players and observers. Pathways leading to and away from the court complex are designed to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and facilitate a safe travel way between the courts and the existing parking lot.

Staff recommends the City Council adopt a resolution to approve the plans and specifications and authorize staff to call for bids. A contract to construct the pickleball courts will be presented to the City Council for formal approval and award at a future meeting.

Environmental Analysis:

The proposed approval of the plans and specifications for the SWRA pickleball courts project is not subject to review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or is exempt from CEQA. Pursuant to Sections 15060 (c)(2) and 15061 (b)(3) of the California Code of Regulations Title 14, Division 6, Chapter 3 ("CEQA Guidelines"), an activity is not subject to CEQA if it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and the activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment and where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA, respectively.

A CEQA document is being prepared for the overall SWRA Master Plan and will be presented for consideration of approval by the City Council in conjunction with the award of the contract for the construction of the pickleball courts.

Fiscal Impact:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the staff recommendation.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Resolution](#)
2. [Resolution Exhibit A - Plans](#)
3. [Resolution Exhibit B - Specifications](#)