

Tulare County Parks & Recreation Lily Pond Project

Mooney Grove Park

April 30, 2019



Overview

Presentation Outline

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Background



Original Concept

- ▶ September 25, 2018, the Board of Supervisors recognized the top three submissions
- ▶ Winner - Garden Street Art Studio: Jessica Smith, Jenny Zeeb, and Robin Meyst
 - Tiled mosaics depicting water lilies and fish in the pond
 - Kindness messages on stones at the base of the existing fountain



Challenges

- ▶ Pre-installation site inspection raised concerns about the structure's ability to withstand the weight of tile mosaics
- ▶ Staff sought professional advice from local architect, who identified significant structural failings. He concluded that the existing structure is dangerously fragile in its current state, and moving forward with the project is not recommended
- ▶ Staff received a second and third opinion from a local pool builder and landscape architect who came to the same conclusion



Project Analysis

1. Fully restore the Lily Pond to hold water and have a functioning fountain. Cost estimates range from \$300,000 to \$450,000.
2. Repair the structure to support the art installation without a water feature. Cost estimates could be as high as \$250,000.
3. Replace the existing structure with a prefabricated monument to support the art installation. This option is the most cost effective at an estimated total cost of \$78,000, which includes:
 - ▶ Removal of the existing structure by Parks staff
 - ▶ \$60,000 Architectural design and installation of a prefabricated monument
 - ▶ \$18,000 Art installation



Recommendation

- ▶ Replace the existing Lily Pond structure and erecting an artistic memorial to the pond on its site
- ▶ Preserve key elements of the originally proposed art project on a smaller scale
- ▶ Seek assistance from the Museum and Historical Society to develop an interpretive display including a narrative and historical photos of the pond and fountain
- ▶ This option is the most cost effective and will require the least ongoing maintenance



Conclusion & Requested Action

1. Approve the staff recommendation to replace the Lily Pond structure with an artistic memorial to the pond on its site.
2. Approve the Public Art Installation Project Agreement with Garden Street Art Studio and the Tulare County Arts Consortium for the fabrication and installation of artwork at the Lily Pond location in Mooney Grove Park and project management services, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.
3. Authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement.
4. Adopt the Categorical Exemption prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State CEQA Guidelines per Section 15061(b)(3) Application by Public Agencies and Section 15303 New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures; respectively, for the Lily Pond Project.
5. Authorize the Environmental Assessment Officer, or designee, to sign and file the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk.

