

**Council Meeting: June 29, 2010****SUBJECT: Update #2 Regarding Morse Avenue Park Site Development
(Information Only)**

On May 25, 2010, the City Council was notified of the preliminary findings from the environmental analysis conducted on the future Morse Avenue Neighborhood Park site. (See RTC #10-132: Update Regarding Morse Avenue Park Sites Development – Information Only). The findings showed lead and arsenic in shallow soil on the site at concentrations above regulatory screening criteria, most likely from applications of lead-arsenate as a pesticide when the site was previously used as an orchard.

The Council report noted there would be noticeable delay in the project while staff prepared a more detailed report to explore the available options to remove or mitigate the soil contaminants. At the City Council's request, this report is presented to serve as a progress report on the actions that are underway to keep the project moving forward.

On June 29, 2010, the agenda of the City Council will have a Consent Calendar item to approve additional consulting and testing services from Erler & Kalinowski, Inc. (EKI), the environmental consultant for the Morse Avenue Park project, to better determine the extent of the soils contamination and remediation options. When the contract is approved, EKI will take samples from various locations through out the site including the collection of soil samples from various depths beneath each of the five existing building floor slabs. Such sampling will help quantify the contaminants. After the samples are collected and analyzed, EKI will prepare a report with revised engineering cost estimates for remediation options. Once the report is complete, staff will report back to the Council with the recommended strategies and probable costs for moving forward and assemble a more definite plan of action to submit to the State regulatory agencies for approval.

Meeting with Neighborhood Association

On Thursday, June 17, 2010, at the invitation of the Morse Avenue Neighborhood Association, staff from the Departments of Public Works and Community Services met with Association members to answer questions regarding the environmental assessment, noted in the May 25, 2010 report mentioned above. Resident concerns were focused on the potential impact from soils underneath their own properties near the planned Morse Avenue Park.

They also asked about the status of the park development, delays and associated costs. Staff provided information from the EKI report, noting that although these composite results indicated presence of contaminants above screening levels, this prompted the need for more detailed testing. Staff also indicated that there is little opportunity for exposure to these metals under buildings and pavement.

When additional tests are complete and more information is known about the extent of the soil contamination, the information will be available and may answer many questions. It would not be productive to speculate about the outcome of the proposed testing when the results will be available within the next few months.

Staff also reminded the attendees that City Council requested status reports on the project, and email notifications of upcoming reports regarding Morse Avenue Park will be sent directly to Neighborhood Association Presidents as well as citizens who request to have their email address on the mailing list.

PUBLIC CONTACT

Public contact was made by posting the Council agenda on the City's official-notice bulletin board outside City Hall, at the Sunnyvale Senior Center, Community Center and Department of Public Safety; and by making the agenda and report available at the Sunnyvale Public Library, the Office of the City Clerk, Senior Center, Community Center, Department of Community Services Administration, and on the City's Web site.

Copies of this report were also provided to the presidents of the nearby Neighborhood Associations, to local residents who have contacted the City in regards to the status of the Morse Avenue Park project and to the "Friends of Parks and Recreation" email list (a list of organizations and individuals who have expressed an interest in Parks and Recreation issues).

Staff also met with the Morse Avenue Neighborhood Association on June 17, 2010.

Reviewed by:

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