

COUNCIL AGENDA: APRIL 16, 2013

SUBJECT: IDENTIFYING AREAS FOR POCKET PARKS/LIBRARY USERS ANALYSIS

SOURCE: PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

COMMENT: On April 2, 2013, at the City Council meeting, the Council authorized an item to consider identifying areas in the City for potential pocket parks to recommend to the Parks and Leisure Services Commission for review. City Council also authorized at same meeting consideration of analysis of Porterville Library users to develop or plan for literacy services in under-served areas of the community.

A pocket park is a small park accessible to the general public. Pocket parks are frequently created on a single vacant lot or on small, irregular pieces of land such as drainage basins. Parks and Leisure Services staff is currently working with Public Works to identify potential pocket park sites. Staff is seeking direction on identifying the desired process regarding taking information to the Parks and Leisure Services Commission.

In order to do an analysis of Porterville City Library users, the Library collects borrower information through the library card registration process. Currently, there are 26,434 borrowers on record. The San Joaquin Library System sets system-wide standards for maintenance of borrower records. Inactive borrowers are purged every three years. Btype coding during patron registration is used to identify if the borrower is a permanent resident of Porterville's Library service area. Bstat coding during patron registration is used to identify the service area where the borrower resides. Service areas correlate to the Census Tract map of the Porterville area. Library staff uses street addresses within the City of Porterville to codify Bstats in relation to the Census Tract map.

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council provide further direction on how staff is to proceed with the Pocket Park Project and Library User Analysis item.

MS Director MB Appropriated/Funded MB City Manager

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