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## City of Sebastopol Planning Commission Staff Report

Meeting Date: February 9, 2021  
Agenda Item: 6A  
To: Planning Commission  
From: Ives Park Subcommittee  
Subject: Report out on Ives Park Subcommittee work  
Recommendation: Receive report, discuss items

### **Introduction:**

This fall, the Planning Commission held two discussions on Ives Park and potential improvements (October 27 special meeting, and November 10 regular meeting). At the November meeting, the Commission elected to form an ad-hoc subcommittee to work on Ives Park potential improvements which has met several times since then. This item will be a report-out by the Ives Park Subcommittee.

### **Discussion:**

The Ives Park Subcommittee has been reviewing potential improvements at Ives Park. One of these items included meeting with the Public Art Committee (PAC) to discuss potential art in Ives Park, other city parks, or other parts of town. This meeting occurred on February 3, 2021.

Committee members have also been reviewing items in the Ives Park Master Plan and the maintenance items discussed at prior Planning Commission meetings, to review potential 'low hanging/low cost' items that could be part of upcoming budgets, fundraising items, etc. The Subcommittee members will provide a report-out at the Planning Commission meeting.

### **Public Comment:**

No public comments have been received as of the writing of this staff report.

### **Recommendation:**

Receive the update from the Subcommittee, discuss and provide direction as appropriate.

### **Attachments:**

Ives Park Subcommittee report  
Photos

## **Ives Park Sub-committee Report**

**February 3, 2021**

*Prepared by Kathy Oetinger*

The Ives Park Sub-committee thanks Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director and Dante Del Prete, Superintendent of Public Works at Ives Park for meeting with us in Ives Park on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. Along with answering our many questions about specific improvements, we learned more about the issues of homeless and vandalism in all of our city parks, public spaces, and municipal buildings, and we were reminded of our city's budget constraints —pandemic and otherwise. In addition, we learned that we had been mistaken in thinking that the entire Ives Park Pathway Re-paving project as presented in the recent plans reviewed by the Planning Commission was fully funded with current Measure M funds.

In light of the new information we will definitely be meeting to re-think the ideas on the list below. We are sharing this outline of our original collection of thoughts so Commissioners may add items for consideration as we re-evaluate and prioritize the list.

We are encouraged that Dante and staff will be reviewing the items on the list, and that some of the improvements could be implemented.

### **Draft Ives Park Improvements** (with photo PDF)

1. Clean, or remove two “Do not feed” signs in the fenced creek area (Photos A, B)
2. Repair wood skirting on stage front. Power wash and stain. (Photo C)
3. Replant hedge where missing along Jewell Ave. and Willow St. (Photos D - H)
4. Paint lamp poles black
5. Continue replacing garbage and recycling cans with black metal cans
6. Straighten and paint existing parking bollards, if needed(Photo J)
7. Remove unreadable signs and posts (Photos J, K, L)
8. Remove some of the asphalt circling the Onion Patch, leave western section for access to future benches (Photo M)
9. Change fencing near Children's Play Area at NE corner of Vets' parking lot
  - a. Make fencing all the same height
  - b. Repair or replace bent sections of chain link fencing
  - c. Remove signs and posts, if possible (Photo N)
  - d. Per Master Plan, add a tree and greenery, move the fence corner about 5'south (See fence location image O)
10. Add benches in various locations TBD
  - a. Near the sculpture garden for viewing
  - b. North side of Onion Patch, facing south (Photo M1)
  - c. West side of Onion Patch, facing east (Photo M2)
11. Can the wooden fence at Willow and Jewel be removed?
12. Change or replace the white PVC curb at Youth Play Area.
13. High St. Parking Lot:
  - a. Remove 6 unused signposts

- b. Add plants in bare planting bed areas along High Street.
- c. Add trees and/or shrubs along the east side boundary to help cover buildings and large trash bins used by the commercial tenants

#### High Priority Items for Measure M and/or other Funding

1. Fencing - Start at High Street Entrance and move toward Jewell
  - a. Replace chain link fencing (the elephant in the room)
  - b. Propose options with safety, durability and visibility in mind
  - c. Measure each section for estimating costs
  - d. Can any be replaced when asphalt is removed, there are some sections of asphalt designated for removal which are very close to existing fencing
  - e. Phase if necessary over a 3 year period using Measure M funding
  - f. Children's area and steep portions of creek could be replaced first
2. Safe pedestrian access at Willow and Jewel, coordinate with hedge planting  
Construct temporary steps at one of the locations where pedestrians currently enter at the corner of Jewell and Willow.
  - a. Plan for an additional entrance with steps or improve the grade.
  - b. A new entrance should be designed to establish a connection between the existing park and a future parklet.
3. Bathrooms and Pool Building
  - a. Refresh existing bathrooms by swapping out toilets, vanities, mirrors
  - b. Repair dry rot on bathroom exterior walls
  - c. Add high windows or sky light to bathrooms
  - d. Power wash Ives Pool building
4. Work with Public Arts Commission for a spray-paint mural on the west wall of pool fence
5. Create a temporary parklet at Willow and Jewel

#### **Mission Statement Draft**

The mission of the Ives Park Sub-committee is to work with City Staff and the Planning Commission to make recommendations, using the Ives Park Master Plan as a guiding document, to upgrade and improve Ives Park. The Ives Park Sub-committee seeks to create maintenance priorities in conjunction with Public Works, produce a priorities list for Ives Park upgrades from Measure M funding, work with Public Works and the Planning Department to maximize use of funds that are already allocated to achieve coordinated and efficient park improvements. The Ives Park Sub-committee seeks to work with other park interested entities such as the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, Ives Pool and the Sebastopol Public Arts to see if a collaborative and coordinated effort could bring about mutually beneficial park improvements.

The Ives Park Sub-committee is concentrated on Ives Park improvements and upgrades. If there is significant achievement with Ives Park over the next 2 years 2021 and 2022, there is a possibility that the Sub-committee could work with the City and other interested partners towards improvements in other parks or other public recreational areas.

Recommendations for Ives Park Improvements - Photos  
January, 2021



A  
It looks like the signs have recently been cleaned.

Gaps along Jewel Avenue





Above: Gaps at the corner  
Below: Gap at Willow



Note concrete pad under  
trash container



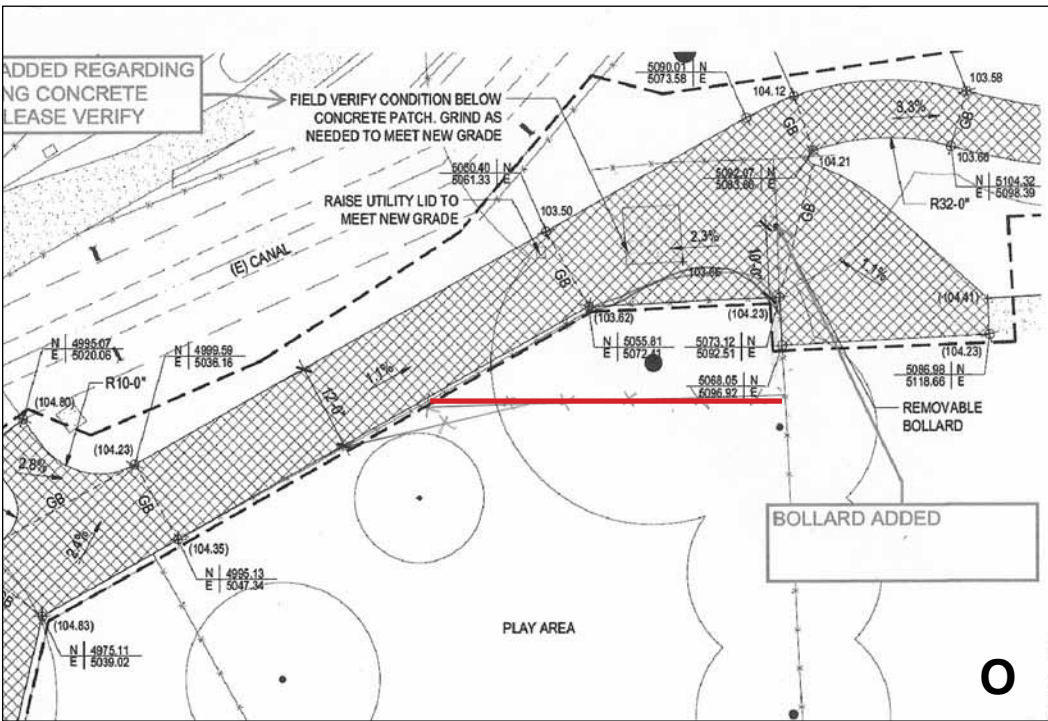
Both sides of the unreadable sign on the post above



View from weestern side of onion patch to sculpture garden



View from eastern side of onion patch





Above: Parking Log



White PVC curb



Memorial bench



Ives Pool west fence, a potential site for a spray-paint mural