



County of San Luis Obispo, California

## **PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION**

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### **COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

**TO:** Parks and Recreation Commission

**FROM:** Parks and Recreation Department/ Curtis Black

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation regarding creating a Department of Parks and Recreation and the position of Director of Parks and Recreation.

**DATE:** 8/28/2014

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Commission:

1. Recommend that the Board of Supervisors take actions to create the Department of Parks and Recreation; and,
2. Recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve the new position of Director of Parks and Recreation.

**Discussion:**

For over twenty years park and golf services have been provided by the Parks Division as a part of all services provided through the Department of General Services and more recently as part of services provided by the General Services Agency.

Over this time period different organizational alignments have been considered with a number of persons and groups supporting a separate department of Parks and Recreation or creating a regional park district. Such groups have included park managers and the SLO County Grand Jury in their report for 2004-05. Recently the San Luis Obispo County Administrative Officer has proposed creating such a standalone department. This proposal will be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors in the month of September 2014.

Staff brings this report forward to determine Parks and Recreation Commission's position on this change and to allow Commission the opportunity to make a recommendation for the Board of Supervisors on this topic.

**Other Agency Involvement:**

None to date; however, other departments will examine the legality, costs and benefits of creating a Department of Parks and Recreation. Such departments include the Auditor/Controller's Office, County Administration and County Counsel.

**Financial Considerations:**

Administrative and support costs may increase nominally as positions will be required for Department Director, administrative staff and support worker(s). However, these costs will be partially offset by decreases in expenditures for staffing assistance through General Services department. Final budget impacts will be determined and budget approval will be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors.

**Results:**

It is anticipated that a separate department would provide a higher profile for parks and recreation services and allow greater focus on service provision with increased accountability to customers.

**Attachments:**

None