

**MOORPARK CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: The Honorable City Council

FROM: Mary K. Lindley, Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Services

DATE: February 4, 2006 (Meeting of February 15, 2006)

SUBJECT: Consider Conceptual Design for Magnolia Park

SUMMARY

In October 2003, the City purchased the property on the southwest corner of Charles and Magnolia streets. On July 7, 2004, the City Council approved the name Magnolia Park. Over the past several months, the Parks and Recreation Commission has been working on the conceptual design of the park and is now forwarding its recommendation to the City Council for consideration.

DISCUSSION

Magnolia Park is approximately .23 acres. It is situated adjacent to residential uses on three sides and a County Fire Station on the fourth side. It is also within a short walking distance to commercial/retail businesses on High Street.

The proposal is to vacate a portion of Magnolia Street from Charles Street to a point just north of the Fire Station on Magnolia Street. The north end of Magnolia will be a cul-de-sac at that point. The vacated section of the street will be incorporated in the park property. Combined with the original property at 296 Charles Street, the vacated street would bring the total park acreage to .23. Public Works staff is in the process of hiring an engineer to survey the utilities and easements prior to bring this matter forward to the Council.

Because of its relatively small size and proximity to residential dwellings, the Parks and Recreation Commission and staff envision dedicating a small area for children to play while balancing the desire for picnic space and passive relaxation. As currently proposed, the conceptual design contains a small playlot area (comparable to the size of the newly constructed playlot at Villa Campesina Park), providing neighborhood youth with a safe place to play. Like Villa

Campesina Park, the equipment would be designed for ages 3 to 12. The Parks and Recreation Commission will be involved in the selection of the play equipment. Due to the topography and drainage swell across the park necessary to effectively move water from the newly created cul-de-sac at the north end of Magnolia Street to Charles Street, the only area adequate to house playground equipment is the northeast section of the site.

The remaining park would be relatively passive. Open turf areas provide youth with space to run and play. Passive areas provide space for people to sit, enjoy a picnic, read, or just relax. As proposed, the park would contain a drinking fountain, several picnic tables and benches, and a concrete walkway following the drainage swell across the park from the end of Magnolia Street to Charles Street. In addition to typical park trees (evergreen and deciduous), Magnolia Park will include a number of Magnolia trees, which have also been planted along the west side of Magnolia Street adjacent to the Fire Station.

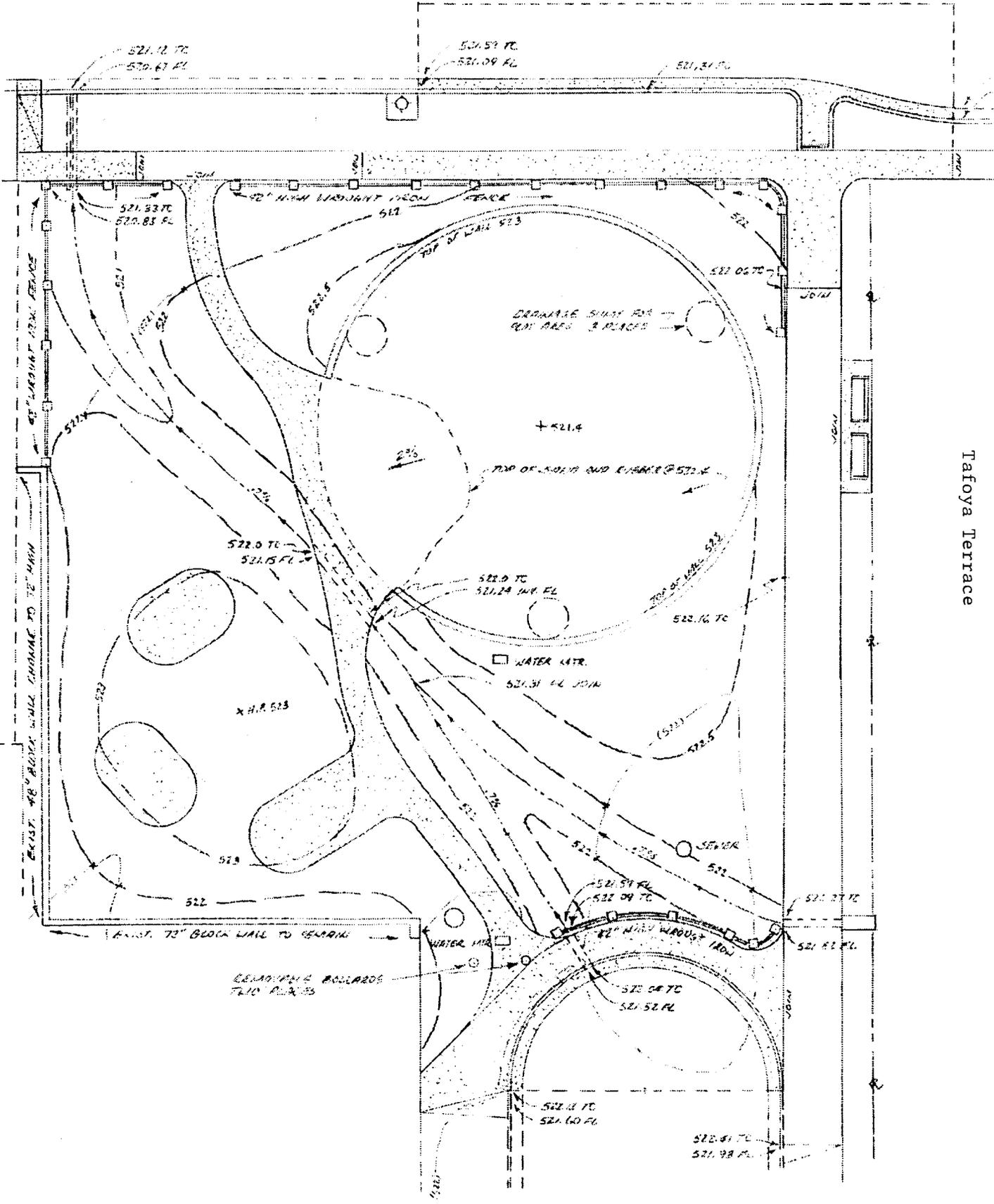
A wrought iron fence, with an offset opening, will be installed along the park's north boundary to prevent young children from running out into Charles Street. The height of the block property-line wall on the west side of the park, adjacent to the single family house, will be increased to six feet.

Once the City Council has approved the conceptual design, the project's landscape architect will proceed with construction plans and specifications. The Council will have an opportunity to review the park plans again when they are presented with the construction documents prior to the solicitation of construction proposals.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve the conceptual plan for Magnolia Park.

Attachment A: Magnolia Park Conceptual Plan.



Tafuya Terrace