

**MOORPARK CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: The Honorable City Council

FROM: Jeremy Laurentowski, Landscape and Parks Superintendent *J.L.*

DATE: May 24, 2010 (CC Meeting of June 2, 2010)

SUBJECT: Consider Retrofitting Existing Fountain at the Police Service Center to a Raised Planter

BACKGROUND

The slate stone that was used for the Police Service Center water feature is deteriorating and flaking off of the exterior of the fountain. It was determined that the slate used in the construction of the fountain was not the correct type of stone for this type of application. Slate is a shale-type sedimentary stone with varying densities relative to the actual composition of the stone. The slate used at the Police Service Center most likely has a high composition of clay and when subject to standing water, has broken down and deteriorated. Most 'soft' slates are sealed with a chemical sealer to minimize this problem. However, it is likely that the chlorine used to keep the fountain clean has prematurely broken down the sealer and accelerated the problem.

In addition to the problems associated with the slate stone, staff is concerned that a fountain at this location may not be the best use of the space. The prevailing afternoon wind has made it difficult to minimize the over-spray onto the building walls, windows, adjacent paving and fountain structure itself. This has caused some discoloration and damage to the stucco surface and staff feels that a planter at this location would be a better use of the space.

DISCUSSION

Staff is proposing to retrofit the existing fountain and utilize the existing structure as a raised planter. Staff proposes to remove the existing slate and replace it with a ceramic tile similar in appearance and texture to the original slate that was used. In addition, the existing plumbing, electrical and lighting will be removed and a new drainage and irrigation system installed. The planter basin will be installed with appropriate top soil and drought tolerant plant material.

FISCAL IMPACT

Staff anticipated replacing the exterior slate on the fountain this fiscal year and has included \$5,000 to replace the slate in the FY 2009/10 Facilities Division (7620), Police Service Center Property Maintenance expenditure account. However, staff has obtained bids to completely retrofit the fountain and has discovered that the total cost for this project is \$10,625. Currently, the Police Service Center Property Maintenance expenditure account has a balance of \$11,520. Staff proposes to use the additional funding needed from the Property Maintenance expenditure account and feels confident that the remaining balance of \$895 is adequate to maintain the Police Service Center as there are not any pending maintenance procedures that need to take place prior to the end of the current fiscal year. The following is a summary of the costs associated with the Police Service Center fountain retrofit:

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| Exterior Tile: | \$4,464.00 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove existing slate from the exterior of the water feature.• Replace with 13"x13" ceramic tile (to be determined). | |
| Fountain Retrofit: | \$2,950.00 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove and dispose of existing interior tile.• Elevate base of fountain with an acrylic/mortar mix to drain.• Seal interior walls and base with (2) coats ThoroSeal.• Install 4" perforated drain line wrapped with filter fabric and core wall to drain.• Repair stucco exterior on building and paint to match.• Remove lights, water standards and cap fountain plumbing. | |
| Planting: | \$1,500.00 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Install 15 cu. yds. clean topsoil.• Install 140 1-gallon drought tolerant shrubs. | |
| Irrigation: | \$325.00 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Install (8) 6" pop-up spray heads and tie into the existing irrigation system in adjacent planter. | |
| | Sub-total: \$9,239.00 |
| | 15% Contingency \$1,386.00 |
| | Total: \$10,625.00 |

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve the retrofit of the Police Service Center fountain to a raised planter.