

**MOORPARK CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA REPORT**

TO: Honorable City Council

FROM: Jeremy Laurentowski, Parks & Recreation Director *SL*

BY: Emilio Blanco, Landscape/Parks Maintenance Superintendent *EB*

DATE: August 15, 2014 (CC Meeting of September 17, 2014)

SUBJECT: Consider the Purchase of a Mete-R-Matic XL Topdresser and Approving a Resolution Amending the Fiscal Year 2014/15 Budget

BACKGROUND

On April 20, 2011, the City Council approved the restoration of approximately forty-four (44) acres of turf at Arroyo Vista Community Park (AVCP) in accordance with the recommendations provided by Guise and Associates, the turf management consultant hired by the City to provide a long term turf management and restoration program. The turf restoration program was first successfully completed on August 15, 2011. On October 9, 2011, staff recommended to the City Council the implementation of a long term turf maintenance program for AVCP, and purchased an aerator and tractor to enable the City to complete the work with in-house staff at lower costs, as compared to renting the equipment. Additionally, the Parks Division added a mechanical spreader to assist with additional fertilizer applications that are not included in the general contracted landscape specifications. The turf management program has been successfully completed by staff every year since the initial application in 2011.

DISCUSSION

The long term turf maintenance program provided by Guise and Associates included general maintenance, a mechanical aeration schedule, fertilization, and topdressing as summarized below:

General: Completed by the Landscape Contractor.

- General agronomic recommendations at Arroyo Vista Community Park will include mowing the fields at least once per week during the growing season, and soil testing. In addition, slow release fertilizer applications with low nitrogen rates will be applied.

Mechanical Soil Aeration: Completed by park staff, with City purchased aerator.

- Mechanical soil aeration is a key component in providing and restoring turf grass-playing surfaces.
- A minimum of four (4) times per year aeration practices are needed and approximately eight (8) times per year in high wear and high use areas.

Soil Fertility: Completed by park staff, with City purchased fertilizer spreader.

- April 15, apply sulfur-coated urea fertilizer (36-0-0) at a rate of 150 lbs. per acre.
- June 15 and August 15, apply 16-6-8 fertilizer.

Topdressing: Completed by park staff with city tractor and the rental of a topdresser.

- Topdress the fields with sand to ¼ inch depth as required for drainage.
- Topdress with a treated compost mixture derived from a soil test at 1.5 inch depth.
- Topdress over seeded areas with a treated compost mixture at ½ to 1 inch depth.
- Topdress with a 50-50 mixture of sand and top soil to fill in divots and holes created by a constant traffic of organized sports.

Due to the relatively high cost of the rental equipment required to top dress the fields at AVCP, staff feels that the purchase of a topdresser will reduce the overall long term costs associated with the turf restoration practices at AVCP. On average, the rental of a topdresser for AVCP costs the City approximately \$4,200/year. Staff has listed below the quotes obtained from several vendors and has determined that the total cost to purchase this equipment is approximately \$17,000. The return on investment (ROI) for this equipment is approximately four years.

Staff has estimated that the life expectancy of this equipment is in excess of twenty (20) years and recommends the purchase of a Mete-R-Matic XL Topdresser. Staff anticipates utilizing this equipment and implementing a similar turf maintenance program at other parks where sports activities are held, or the turf is in need of restoration. These parks include Campus Canyon Park, Miller Park, Mammoth Highlands Park, Peach Hill Park, and Tierra Rejada Park. Staff anticipates utilizing this equipment at the remaining City parks to reduce turf divots and holes, as well as layering decomposed granite along trails.

Staff recommends the purchase of the Mete-R-Matic XL Topdresser from Stotz Equipment in order to continue the turf maintenance program outlined by Guise and Associates, at an overall lower cost to the City, as compared to renting the equipment. Topdressing with organic nutrients reduces the use of chemical fertilizers and increases the penetration of water, minerals, air, and vital nutrients to the soil.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost of the Mete-R-Matic XL Topdresser was not included in the FY 2014/15 budget. A budget amendment of \$17,000.00, which includes a contingency of

approximately \$880.00, from the General Fund (1000) to the Parks Division (7800) is required to purchase this equipment.

Topdresser Quotes:	Location:	Total Cost:
Stotz Equipment	4811 Brooks Street Montclair, CA 91763	\$16,119.63
Cal-Coast Machinery	2450 Eastman Avenue Oxnard, CA 93030	\$16,716.25
Belkorp Ag, LLC	1120 W. Charter Way Sacramento, CA 95206	\$17,201.63

STAFF RECOMMENDATION (ROLL CALL VOTE)

1. Approve the purchase of a Mete-R-Matic Topdresser from Stotz Equipment; and
2. Adopt Resolution No. 2014-____ amending the FY 2014/15 budget to appropriate \$17,000.00 from the General Fund (1000) to the Parks Division (7800).

Attachments:

1. Resolution No. 2014 - ____
2. Mete-R-Matic XL Topdresser specifications

ATTACHMENT 1

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-_____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOORPARK, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2014/15 BUDGET TO ALLOCATE \$17,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL FUND (1000) TO THE PARKS DIVISION (7800) FOR THE PURCHASE OF A METE-R-MATIC XL TOPDRESSER

WHEREAS, on April 20, 2011, the City Council approved the restoration of approximately forty-four (44) acres of turf at Arroyo Vista Community Park; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2014, the City Council adopted the Operating and Capital Improvement Budget for Fiscal Year 2014/15; and

WHEREAS, a staff report has been presented to said Council recommending the need to purchase a Mete-R-Matic XL Topdresser for various parks in the amount of \$17,000.00; and

WHEREAS, an additional appropriation of \$17,000.00 is requested from the General Fund (1000) to the Parks Division (7800) to fund the purchase of this equipment; and

WHEREAS, Exhibit "A" hereof describes said budget amendment and its resultant impact to the budget line item.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOORPARK DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. A budget amendment allocating \$17,000.00 from the General Fund (1000) for the purchase of a Mete-R-Matic XL Topdresser more particularly described in Attachment 2 attached hereto is hereby approved.

SECTION 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this resolution and shall cause a certified resolution to be filed in the book of original resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of September, 2014.

Janice S. Parvin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Maureen Benson, City Clerk

Attachment: Exhibit A - Budget Amendment

EXHIBIT A

**BUDGET AMENDMENT FROM GENERAL FUND TO
 THE PARKS DIVISION FOR THE PURCHASE OF
 A METE-R-MATIC XL TOPDRESSER FOR
 USE IN VARIOUS CITY PARKS**

FUND ALLOCATION FROM:

FUND TITLE	FUND ACCOUNT NUMBER	AMOUNT
General Fund	1000-5500	\$17,000
Total		\$17,000

DISTRIBUTION OF APPROPRIATION TO EXPENSE ACCOUNTS:

BUDGET NUMBER	CURRENT BUDGET	REVISION	ADJUSTED BUDGET
1000-7800-0000-9504	\$0	\$17,000	\$17,000
Total	\$0	\$17,000	\$17,000

Finance approval:  _____



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The ultimate in topdressing productivity: The Mete-R-Matic XL is part of the industry's best-known brand in topdressing. At 60.75 cubic feet, the hopper capacity of this topdresser is three-times the size of the Mete-R-Matic III. With less loading and increased efficiency on large turf areas, it delivers the most uniform application in less time.

The Mete-R-Matic XL tow-type topdresser features a patented ground-drive system for hook-up and go ease, a patented Chevron® belt for consistent handling of all types of material, and a large-capacity hopper that can be filled with a front-end loader.

VIDEO FEATURE ACCESSORIES

- Model:** Mete-R-Matic XL , product number 85460
- Drive:** Wheels are driven by the ground, two tires mechanically drive the conveyor and brush; no engine, no hydraulic system.
- Hopper Capacity:** 60.75 cubic feet (1.72 cubic meters, 2.25 cubic yards), galvanized panels
- Payload:** 6,000 lbs. (2,721 kg)
- Hopper Size:** 80" x 65.5" at top, tapering to 60" x 46" at bottom, 18.5" deep
- Spreading Width:** 60" (1.5 meters)
- Topdressing Speed:** Up to 8 MPH (12.8 km/h) when loaded
- Brush:** 9" diameter (228 mm) polypropylene bristle
- Conveyor Belt:** Wide rubber composition with patented Chevron belt, 60" (1.5 meters)
- Metering Gate:** Taintor gate design is easily adjusted and provides a uniform opening up to 2 1/4" (57 mm).
- Controls:** Electrically operated clutch for conveyor and brush drive. Metering gate adjusted by hand.
- Wheels:** Two, 33" x 15.50" - 16.5" flotation tires
- Hitch:** Adjustable height clevis 1" pin hitch
- Electrical Requirements:** 12 volt DC, negative ground, electrical power provided by tow vehicle.
- Empty Weight:** 2,110 lbs. (957 kg) tow vehicle minimum 30 HP tractor (refer to Operator's Manual for additional requirements)

METE-R-MATIC is a registered trademark of Turfco Manufacturing, Inc.