

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT



TO: MAYOR INSCORE AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: ERIC WIER, CITY MANAGER

BY: MATT HILDEBRANDT, POOL MANAGER

DATE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

SUBJECT: CITY RESPONSE TO THE 2017-2018 DEL NORTE COUNTY GRAND JURY FINAL REPORT ON THE FRED ENDERT SWIMMING POOL

RECOMMENDATION

- Hear Staff Report
- Take Public Comment
- Approve response, with any Council approved amendments, and direct the final document be forwarded to the presiding Judge of the Superior Court

BACKGROUND

Penal Code Section 933 requires that the governing body of the public agency, which has been the subject of a Grand Jury Final Report, shall comment on the Findings and Recommendations within 90 days of publishing of the report pertaining to matters under the control of the governing body to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court. The City Council as the City's governing body is the entity responsible for responding to personnel and financial matters pertaining to City government.

City departments addressed in the report have reviewed the 2017/18 Grand Jury Report and have provided input for the preparation of a consolidated response. Each Finding applicable to the responsibility of the City must be addressed with the respondent stating Agree or Disagree Wholly or Partially. If the latter, an explanation of the reason therefor must accompany a response. A respondent must address each recommendation by reporting the recommendation has been implemented (with accompanying explanation), the recommendation has not been implemented but will be in the future (a timeframe must be included), the recommendation requires further analysis (with an explanation), or the recommendation will not be implemented (with an explanation). Attached is Penal Code 925-933.6 outlining the requirements discussed above. Also outlined below are the Findings and Recommendations that the Council must address

ANALYSIS

The only City department reviewed in the 2017-18 Del Norte County Grand Jury report was the Fred Endert Municipal Swimming Pool. (See attached 2017-18 Del Norte County Grand Jury report).

Findings:

F1. – The Pool is an asset to the community by providing healthy indoor exercise and recreation options for users of all ages-youth to seniors. Swim Lessons and water safety programs benefit the population which is surrounded by abundant water resources in the rivers, lakes, and oceans.

Response: Agree

F2. – There is an ongoing effort to maintain the Pool facility and to be cost effective in its operation.

Response: Agree

F3. – Municipal Swimming Pools generally operate with a budget deficit

Response: Agree

F4. – Annual Pool customers visits have been holding steady

Response: Agree

F5. – While a benefit to the entire community, the Pool is subsidized from only the City General Fund.

Response: Agree

Recommendations:

R1) – It is imperative that Crescent City explore and consider cost savings options such as:

- *Lower energy costs, through efficiency and renewable energy like solar or wind.*
- *Continued search for grant money from all sources to help fund the Pool: for example, the US Department of Agriculture may have funds for rural communities.*

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, within the next 6-9 months.

On August 20, 2018, the City Council authorized the release of a Request for Proposal (RFP) to hire a consultant to develop a Ten-Year Master Plan for the swimming pool. The development of a Master Plan will include a review of the pool's operations (including programs offered, staffing levels, compensation, efficiency, etc.) and the most appropriate user fees and funding mechanisms, a community workshop to gather public opinion and suggestions, a 10-year projection of expenses and capital, and revenue needs. If the City is able to secure this consultant contract as scheduled staff anticipates the Master Plan will be complete by Spring of 2019.

In regard to grant funding, The City has secured over \$31 million in grants over the last 5 years and we will continue to try to maximize the appropriate grant funding for the pool.

R2) – It is imperative that the Crescent City maximize revenue generation at the Fred Endert Pool by:

- *Encouraging maximum pool usage by residents through:*
 - *Greater community outreach and promotion of existing programs*
 - *Streamlining the acceptance of new program possibilities, which could include:*
 - *Water polo, scuba, swim meets, triathlon, fisherman water safety, public lifeguard classes, kayaking and special events.*
- *Aquatics Director training for staff would be beneficial for developing new programs*
- *Open the pool on Sundays and holidays*
- *Do a cost/benefit analysis on annual passes vs. regular admission price or punch cards.*
- *Review price of admission, probably raising the price and/or include a nominal charge for all users.*

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented in the future, within the 6-9 months.

Please see above answer to Recommendation #1. The Master Plan will include an analysis of all these components including outreach, programming, training, schedule, and fees.

R3) – Consider hiring a Recreation Director who can directly interact with the public to develop and promote new recreational opportunities in the City's waterfront properties, including Shoreline RV Park, Cultural Center, Beachfront Park, Fred Endert Pool, Dog Park, etc.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it not reasonable because it is not financially feasible at this time.

Although the City sees merit in the recommendation and has discussed this idea internally multiple times, creating a new employee position would have direct impacts and increased cost to the City's General Fund budget. Without this position and the associated costs, the FY18/19 General Fund Budget was adopted with a budget deficit of over \$400,000. However, the City is continually evaluating our organizational structure, and the idea of this type of position and how to fund it will continue to be part of that ongoing analysis.

R4) – Remove links to the inactive Promote Our Pool (POP) Foundation from the City website and stop advertising POP in the Community Calendar in the Triplicate.

Response: The recommendation has been implemented.

R5) – Pursue community participation through City and County funding for the Pool.

Response: Please see above answer to Recommendation #1. The Master Plan will include an analysis of all potential revenue sources.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no direct fiscal impact for approving this response. The commitment of completing the Master Plan was included in the approved FY19 Budget.

ATTACHMENTS:

- 2017-18 Del Norte County Grand Jury report on the Fred Endert Municipal Swimming Pool
- PC 925-933.6

CM



City of Crescent City
Where the Redwoods Meet the Sea

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
 County of Del Norte) ss.
 City of Crescent City)

I, ROBIN PATCH, City Clerk of the City of Crescent City, do hereby certify the excerpt below to be a true and correct copy of an extract of the meeting minutes from the September 17, 2018 regular meeting of the City Council.

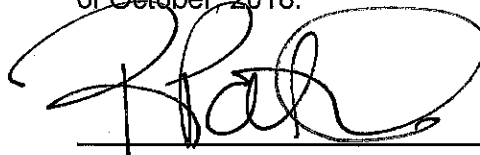
Action: 16. City Response to the 2017-2018 Del Norte County Grand Jury Final Report on the Fred Endert Municipal Pool

- *Recommendation: Hear staff report*
- *Take public comment*
- *Approve response, with any Council approved amendments, and direct the final document to be forwarded to the presiding Judge of the Superior Court (City Manager)*

City Manager Wier reported to the Council that for the most part, all findings were agreed to by the City. The Council was in agreement that the responses were appropriate, City Attorney Rice explained that there are specific answers required to be used when answering a Grand Jury report.

On a motion by Council Member Short, seconded by Council Member Greenough, and carried on a 5-0 polled vote, the City Council of the City of Crescent City approved the response and directed the final document to be forwarded to the presiding Judge of the Superior Court.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Crescent City on this 15th day of October, 2018.



ROBIN PATCH, CITY CLERK

