

Discovery Park Picnic Shelters
City of Sacramento

\$1,096.601.00

This proposal is to consider the allocation for a grant to Sacramento County Regional Parks for the reconstruction of picnic shelters at Discovery Park in Sacramento County.

LOCATION

Discovery Park spans both sides of the American River just before it converges with the Sacramento River, north of downtown Sacramento. It is bordered on the west by the Sacramento River, on the east by Northgate Boulevard, on the south by Richards Boulevard, and on the north by Garden Highway.

Discovery Park proper is substantially developed and is one of the most intensively used areas of the American River Parkway. Of the total 559.07 acres, 130.23 are designated for Developed Recreation, and 53.41 for Limited Recreation. The remaining acres are identified as Protected Area and Nature Study Area and should be used in a manner that conserves and restores natural resources. Additionally, several archaeological sites are within Discovery Park.

Bannon Island, a natural wildlife area and a designated Nature Study Area, is located at the northwest corner of the park and is separated from the main body of the park by Bannon Slough. A second natural area is located along the American River, east of the I-5 freeway bridge. In addition, Bannon Slough and areas along the American River within the park provide habitat for the valley elderberry longhorn beetle (VELB). This species is listed as threatened by the federal government. The eastern portion of Discovery Park is a planned restoration area for VELB.

A six-lane boat access ramp and parking area, information kiosk, restrooms, and fish cleaning facility occupy the western end of the park. A large turfed picnic area for families and groups, with parking and restrooms, occupies the central portion of the park and is where the picnic shelters are located. A maintenance area is located under the I-5 freeway. A field archery range and target archery range are situated towards the easterly end of the park along with an equestrian staging area. The Jedediah Smith Memorial Bicycle Trail and adjacent pedestrian trail, which begins at Discovery Park and continues to Folsom Lake, meanders through the area. A separate equestrian/hiking trail follows Bannon Slough and continues to Folsom Lake.

The park is close to downtown Sacramento and the Sacramento River, making it a popular spot for boating, fishing, picnicking, and other water dependent recreational activities. The boat ramp is the only off-channel launch facility in the area and is by far the most popular. The archery target range and the archery field range are unique facilities situated within the trees and bushes of a riparian plant community.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project proposes demolition of the Alder and Sycamore wooden picnic shelters in Discovery Park and construction of two new concrete shelters on the same site as the wooden shelters. The existing, wooden shelters are over 33 years old and suffer from water damage due to annual flood inundation making them structurally unsound. Multiple wooden support beams in both the Alder and Sycamore shelters exhibit severe splitting.

The Alder and Sycamore picnic sites experience high demand, serving between 10,500 to 14,000 people per year. The proposed concrete picnic shelters with wooden slatted roofs will be able to withstand annual inundation for weeks at a time. The long-term project life of the concrete shelters is 25 years. Repairs are expected to be minimal and will most likely be for the wooden roof. In 2016, Sacramento County Regional Parks demolished the wooden Oak picnic shelter in Discovery Park and constructed a new, concrete picnic shelter on the same site. The design for the Oak shelter will be mirrored for the proposed project.

PROJECT FUNDING

Project Task	WCB Request Cost	Non-WCB Funds	Total Cost
Designs & Permitting	\$140,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$141,000.00
Community Engagement	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Construction & Inspections	\$943,601.00	\$0.00	\$943,601.00
Project Closure	\$8,000.00	\$0.00	\$8,000.00
Totals	\$1,096,601.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,097,601.00

Project costs will be for final engineer specifications and 30%, 60%, 90% and 100% designs, permitting, early community involvement, preparing and managing bid package, demolition and onsite construction, construction support by the Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps, County inspections, and recordation of as-built drawings.

CONSISTENCY WITH THE AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY PLAN

American River Parkway Compliance Analysis will be completed for the project at the February 28, 2019, Recreation and Parks Commission meeting, in accordance with Public Resources Code section 5845.5

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff does not recommend this proposal advance to the Wildlife Conservation Board because of the limited funds available under this solicitation and the indication from the applicant that partial funding will not be accepted.

**Lower American River Conservancy Program
Advisory Committee Proposal Summary, February 2019**

Proposal #

2018005

Proposal Title:

Discovery Park Picnic Shelters

Description:

Demolish two wooden picnic shelters and construct two new concrete shelters with wooden roofs at Alder and Sycamore picnic sites in Discovery Park in the American River Parkway in Sacramento. The existing, wooden shelters are over 33 years old and suffer from water damage due to annual flood inundation making them structurally unsound. The two picnic shelters and tables at Discovery Park experience high demand, serving between 10,500 to 14,000 people per year based on a reservation rate of 60 to 80 average total reservations per year and site capacity. The proposed concrete picnic shelters with wooden slatted roofs will be able to withstand annual inundation for weeks at a time. The long-term project life of the concrete shelters is 25 years.

Provide Benefits to a Severely Disadvantaged Community?

Yes

Consulted with CCC/CALCC?

Yes. \$22,101.00 of SRCC services in budget.

Will Accept Partial Funding?

No

CEQA Status:

NOE filed 10/22/18

Consistent with the American River Parkway Plan?

TBD February 28, 2019

Reviewer Comments:

Reviewer 1:

33-year old wooden picnic shelters have severe water damage and are a hazard to public safety. Proposed replacement is made from concrete with wooden roof. Anticipated permits include CVFPB encroachment permit, hydraulic study (tentative), ACOE 408 review, Sac County Building Permit. All permits would be submitted should funding be awarded. Engineer designs and planning included in scope of work. Sacramento County Maintenance Division will be responsible for long-term management and maintenance. \$65,000 in permits seems high considering the location (developed area) and scope (replacing in existing footprint) of project. Also, \$70,000 in County CMID inspection cost seems high since no detail provided on exactly what that amount includes. Corps consultation occurred and CALCC services will be used for wooden structure demolition and clearing and grubbing of site prior to construction. County successfully replaced another wooden picnic structure at Discovery Park, the Oak Shelter, in 2016. General Services and Arch Services have capacity for project.

Reviewer 2:

**Lower American River Conservancy Program
Advisory Committee Proposal Summary, February 2019**

None.

Reviewer 3:

The proposal indicates "the design for the Oak shelter will be mirrored in the proposed project." It is unclear if this means that the new Alder and Sycamore shelters will be the same size as the Oak shelter, or will use a somewhat different design plan to retain their existing capacity (Note: The various construction drawings will not be prepared until 2020, per Appendix B). The proposal would benefit from additional explanation as to whether rehabilitation of the existing facilities, including replacement of some of the support beams where warranted, would provide similar benefits at a lower cost. The proposal indicates the life of the new shade structures would be 25 years, while the current structures are 33 years. The current Alder and Sycamore structures include a consistent wooden roof that entirely covers a portion of the picnic area providing greater shade than the wooden slatted roofs that include space between the wood slats that are used at the current Oak shelter. The proposal could benefit from a discussion as to why slatted roof is used instead of a consistent roof in light of the anticipated increases in summer heat that will result from climate change. Since the shelters generate revenue, WCB should consider requiring a more significant contribution towards the project from the County should this project be funded. The current cost share proposed in the project is only \$1,000. The County clearly has the qualifications, experience, and capacity to perform the proposed tasks.

Reviewer 4:

None.

Project Location: City of Sacramento		Funds Requested: \$1096601	
Applicant: Sacramento County		Match Funds: \$1000	
Project Type: Planning & Implementation		Total Project Cost: \$1097601	
Average Score: 77.13			
Technical Review Scores			
Reviewer 1: 80.5	Reviewer 2: 74.5	Reviewer 3: 69.5	Reviewer 4: 84