City of Columbia
701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Agenda Item Number: (B)
Department Source: Parks and Recreation
To: City Council
From: City Manager & Staff
Council Meeting Date: 12/21/2015
Re: Public Hearing - American Legion Park Archery Range Improvements

Documents Included With This Agenda Item
Council memo
Supporting documentation includes: Plats and Plans, Images

Executive Summary
Public hearing for improvements to the archery range at American Legion Park. Improvements to the archery range will include increasing the target distances, improving ADA accessibility, and adding an elevated shooting tower. The total project budget is $35,000, with $15,000 funded by the Easton Foundation grant and $20,000 funded by the 2010 Park Sales Tax. The project will be bid through the City's Purchasing Department and will be completed using a combination of contract and force account labor. Contract labor will be used to complete all grading at the site. Park staff will complete all other aspects of the project, including concrete flatwork and construction of the elevated shooting tower. Improvements to the archery range are scheduled to begin winter 2016 with an anticipated completion date of late summer 2016.

Discussion
American Legion Park, located at 602 South Legion Lane, is a 16.6 acre community park with features including two athletic fields, concession/restroom facility, reservable shelter, playground, and an archery range available for public use.

Park staff is proposing to renovate the existing archery range which will improve ADA accessibility, increase the length of the range and create an elevated shooting platform.

In October 2014, park staff, including planners and construction staff, met to discuss potential improvements to the archery range located within the park. The discussion among staff focused on creating a more accessible range, the addition of an elevated shooting tower and increasing the length of shot and number of targets at the range. After a final review of the proposed plans, park staff estimated the total cost of the improvements would be in the range of $30,000. With only $20,000 in available Park Sales Tax funding, staff applied for a grant from the Easton Archery Company to supplement the available funds from the Park Sales Tax. Park staff received confirmation from the Easton Foundation in August 2015 that the department would be awarded grant funds totalling $15,000 for the project. With funding totalling $35,000, staff finalized the plans for the improvements and held an interested parties meeting on November 4, 2015. After the completion of the interested parties meeting and online survey, park staff made adjustments to the proposed plans.
based on public comment and presented the potential improvements the Park Commission on November 19, 2015. After discussion of the project, the Commissioners voted to recommend the proposed improvements to the park. After considering all citizen comments and the P&R Commission recommendation, staff believes that proposed improvements to the archery range at American Legion Park represents a consensus of park users and staff.

The improvements to the archery range at American Legion park will include the following:

1. Contract labor will be used to regrade the entire site and increase the total available distance at the range to accommodate archery targets up to 80 yards. The work done by the contractor will include moving the existing berm on the east side of the range back 20 yards and setting necessary grades for ADA accessible walkways and the elevated shooting tower. Extending the length of the archery range was requested by long-distance competition archers from mid-Missouri during the public input process.

2. Park construction staff will complete all necessary concrete flatwork to create a 10 foot by 120 foot shooting pad that will extend across the front of the range for all targets. Staff will also install four foot concrete walkways extending from the shooting pad out to all targets to provide ADA accessibility to archers to retrieve their arrows from the targets on the range. Additional 5 foot concrete walkways will be installed leading from the parking lot to the archery range and elevated shooting tower.

3. Park staff will construct a 10’ elevated shooting platform on the north side of the archery range to create a different shot angle for archers that mimics angles used during archery hunting from an elevated tree stand. The ADA accessible tower will accommodate two shooters at any time with available targets ranging from 10 yards to 40 yards. Access to the elevated platform will be available by utilizing an ADA ramp on the north side of the platform or stairs on the south of the shooting deck. The wooden structure will be similar in design to the elevated platform located at Busch Conservation Area archery range in St. Louis, Missouri.

4. After the completion of the concrete shooting pad and walkways, staff will install 16 new targets on the archery range at various distances ranging from 10 yards to 80 yards. The new range will have four targets set at 20 yards, as that is the most popular distance for archery practice by hunters and beginners. The plan to include four targets at 20 yards was incorporated after staff completed the public input process.

5. Staff will complete the improvements at the archery range by adding new fencing around the archery range, bow racks, arrow holders, and new rules signs throughout the archery range.

The improvements to the archery range at American Legion Park was included in the City’s FY-14 capital improvement budget and was put on hold until staff could secure additional funding for the project. The total project budget is $35,000 with funding provided by the 2010 Park Sales Tax ($20,000) and a grant from the Easton Foundation ($15,000). With the additional grant funding, staff is now able to proceed with the project and will begin construction in winter 2016 with an anticipated
completion date of late summer 2016. The work will be bid through the City's Purchasing Department and will be completed using a combination of contract and force account labor.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The total project budget is $35,000 and is funded by the 2010 Park Sales Tax ($20,000) and a Easton Foundation grant ($15,000).

Long-Term Impact: No anticipated increase in annual maintenance expenses, as park staff is already maintaining the existing park and amenities.

Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

Vision Impact: Parks, Recreation and Greenways
Strategic Plan Impact: Not Applicable
Comprehensive Plan Impact: Livable & Sustainable Communities

Suggested Council Action

Hold public hearing for the American Legion Park Archery Range Improvement project. After public hearing, approve the ordinance authorizing the project to proceed, the execution of the grant agreement with Easton Foundation, and the appropriation of the grant funds.

Legislative History

None

Department Approved  City Manager Approved
SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDED WITH THIS AGENDA ITEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Plats and Plans, Images
American Legion Park Archery Range Improvements

December 7, 2015

American Legion Park

Archery Range Improvements
American Legion Park Archery Range Improvements
December 7, 2015

Targets ranging from 10 yards to 40 yards
Busch Memorial Conservation Area Shooting Range

Targets from deck
Busch Memorial Conservation Area Shooting Range

Deck for practicing elevated target shooting
Busch Memorial Conservation Area Shooting Range