



CITY OF CHICO
BIDWELL PARK AND PLAYGROUND COMMISSION (BPPC)
POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(Commissioners Moore (Chair), Glatz, and McReynolds)
Regular Meeting Agenda
May 8, 2019, 6:00 p.m.

Chico Municipal Center Council Chamber Building - 421 Main Street, Conference Room 2

Materials related to an item on this Agenda are available for public inspection in the Park Division Office at 965 Fir Street during normal business hours or online at <http://www.chico.ca.us/>.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. REGULAR AGENDA

2.1. CONSIDERATION OF DEFINING LARGE SCOPE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

At its meeting on 4/25/19, the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) approved the Policy Advisory Committee's priority topics for discussion and directed the Committee to begin consideration of the scope of vegetation management projects and activities at their next meeting.

Recommendation: Park & Natural Resources Manager requests the Committee discuss the type or scope of vegetation management projects or activities that the BPPC should be informed about and what types should be considered routine maintenance.

3. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Members of the public may address the Committee at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda, comments are limited to three minutes. The Committee cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Unless otherwise noticed, adjourn to the next regular meeting on June 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. in Conference Room 2, Chico Municipal Center Council Chamber Building located at 421 Main Street, Chico, California.



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Policy Advisory Committee Staff Report

Meeting Date: 5/08/19

DATE: 5/03/19
TO: BPPC Policy Advisory Committee
FROM: Linda Herman, Park and Natural Resources Manager
SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF DEFINING LARGE SCOPE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

BACKGROUND:

At its 4/10/19 meeting the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) reviewed the Committee's purpose and previous recommendations to the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC). The Committee also considered items to be discussed by the PAC in the future.

On 4/25/19, the Bidwell Park & Playground Commission (BPPC) considered and approved (7-0) the PAC's recommendations to agendize the following Committee meeting topics listed in order of priority.

1. Developing a written policy regarding BPPC review of vegetation management projects
2. Establishing a Policy Handbook
3. Whether it is feasible to establish an Interpretive Ranger program
4. Reviewing and updating the donation and memorial policy

DISCUSSION:

At the 4/25/19 BPPC meeting, Public Works Director-O&M stated that the Commission would be informed of larger scoped vegetation management projects and maintenance activities. The BPPC directed the PAC to define what "larger scoped" means.

To assist the PAC in this discussion, Staff is providing Sections of the Bidwell Park Master Management Plan regarding Decision Making and Maintenance Goals and Implementation Strategies (Exhibit A). Staff is requesting that the Committee discuss the type or scope of vegetation management projects or activities that the BPPC should be informed about and what types should be considered routine maintenance.

ATTACHMENTS:

Exhibit A: BPMMP Decision Making/Maintenance Goals

3.5.1 DECISION-MAKING AND MANAGEMENT

Goal DMM:

Implement a coordinated and efficient decision-making and management process with defined roles and responsibilities by the City Council, Bidwell Park and Playground Commission, and City Staff, and with periodic review and input by the public.

Objectives:

- O. DMM-1. Use the BPMMP to manage data, guide policy decisions within and around Bidwell Park, and as a means for conflict resolution.
- O. DMM-2. Use the BPMMP as a primary source for assigning priorities to management tasks.
- O. DMM-3. Consider the Goals and Objectives in the BPMMP as the primary policy statement for management of Bidwell Park. Future revisions or amendments to the Goals and Objectives will be subject to review and approval by the City Council.
- O. DMM-4. Consider the Implementation Strategies, Guidelines, and resource management appendices in the BPMMP as the primary implementation guidance to the General Services Director and staff. Future revisions to the Implementation Strategies and Guidelines should be subject to review and approval by the BPPC.
- O. DMM-5. Consider specific interpretations of individual recommendations within the BPMMP within the context of the general goals and objectives (intent) of the BPMMP.
- O. DMM-6. Allow the staff and BPPC flexibility to develop implementation responses in accordance to and consistent with the goals and objectives and existing implementation strategies and guidelines of the BPMMP, and in compliance with all federal, state, and local regulatory requirements, to address issues and needs throughout the Park including new planning issues as they arise (see Appendix I, "Regulatory Framework" and Appendix J, "City of Chico General Plan Policies").
- O. DMM-7. Use adaptive management strategies to address new planning and management issues as they arise.
- O. DMM-8. Acknowledge and support active citizen input in the decision-making process.
- O. DMM-9. Review the BPMMP through a public review process on a periodic basis (approximately 5 year intervals), including any regulatory revisions and updates, as applicable.

Implementation Strategies and Guidelines:

- I. DMM-1. The BPMMP shall be used as a tool for decision-making, establishing priorities, and as a means for conflict resolution so that decisions reflect consistent and defensible interpretations of the Plan.
- I. DMM-2. An amendment process shall be applied for the BPMMP that allows for the incorporation of new data and conditions without compromising the overall philosophy and intent of the Plan.
- I. DMM-3. New data should be allowed to become officially recognized and incorporated into the BPMMP.

ITEM 2.1 - EXHIBIT A

- I. DMM-4. Opportunities for better public outreach such as media announcements, public notices regarding issues pertaining to the Park, and contacting of known park users groups should be identified and implemented in conjunction with important potential management changes.
- I. DMM-5. A greater emphasis shall be placed on the role the BPMMP plays as the lead document for Park and off-site Park related issues.
- I. DMM-6. BPPC decisions shall be incorporated into BPMMP updates, and to the extent possible, past policies decisions (such as those regarding park benches and management of Lindo Channel) should be captured.
- I. DMM-7. A review of the BPMMP shall be conducted approximately every 5 years, and to the extent necessary, updates shall be incorporated into the BPMMP.
- I. DMM-8. Research topics and data needs should be identified and methods for acquiring the data should be identified and pursued.
- I. DMM-9. An active effort to encourage research and data submittal of the Park should be conducted.
- I. DMM-10. Opportunities for public agencies, volunteer groups, community experts, Butte College and CSUC faculty, other organizations, and students should be provided to participate in research and planning efforts.
- I. DMM-11. On an annual basis, BPPC shall review and approve priorities for BPMMP implementation for the following year. Insights gained from any research projects conducted in the Park shall be considered when setting priorities.
- I. DMM-12. Youth, the elderly, and the disabled and/or the physically challenged should be encouraged to participate in planning decisions pertaining to the Park.

3.5.2 LAND USES

Goal LU-1:

Manage Park use and the distribution of facilities to meet the changing needs of the Park users while continuing to protect the Park's natural and cultural resources.

Goal LU-2:

Provide a proper framework for decisions related to off-site properties and circumstances that have the potential to adversely affect the vision, purpose, and goals established for Bidwell Park in this BPMMP.

3.5.2.1 MANAGEMENT AND CLASSIFICATION

Objectives:

- O. MC-1. Manage Bidwell Park consistent with the BPMMP, as well as the City of Chico General Plan and Municipal Code.
- O. MC-2. Establish resource or management zone designations to help guide the type and extent of resource protection and/or allowable uses, for specific park locations, where appropriate.

3.5.5 MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS

Goal MO:

Provide an efficient maintenance program that keeps Bidwell Park facilities and resources clean, safe, attractive, functional, and in harmony with the users and natural resources of the Park.

3.5.5.1 MAINTENANCE STAFF

Objectives:

- O. MS-1. Establish a safety inspection program whereby all areas and facilities are scheduled for regular safety reviews.
- O. MS-2. Establish a dependable base funding source that recognizes immediate, short-term and long-term maintenance requirements.
- O. MS-3. Provide periodic training to maintenance staff that supports among other things natural and cultural resource protection.

Implementation Strategies and Guidelines:

- I. MS-1. The General Services Director should establish and regularly review maintenance priorities.
- I. MS-2. Maintenance methods (e.g., irrigation, mowing, trimming, etc.) shall be utilized that avoid or minimize adverse effects on natural conditions and control adverse effects caused by humans and natural processes (e.g., invasive weed infestations, fuel load buildup, pests, acts of nature).
- I. MS-3. Areas in which maintenance staff may need additional training to support resource protection and recreational opportunity goals should be identified.
- I. MS-4. Sound resource preservation, horticulture, and maintenance practices shall follow Best Management Practices.
- I. MS-5. Immediate, short term and long term maintenance requirements in terms of manpower, equipment, training, and tasks should be discussed when new facilities and programs are proposed.

3.5.5.2 RANGERS

Objectives:

- O. R-1. Provide knowledgeable Park rangers to patrol Park and enforce rules and regulations, as well as assist Park users.

Implementation Strategies and Guidelines:

- I. R-1. Park activities should be monitored and Park rules enforced.
- I. R-2. Enforcement activities should be coordinated with the Police Department and other law enforcement agencies as needed.
- I. R-3. The role of rangers in law enforcement should be periodically evaluated.