



CITY OF MARTINEZ

PARKS, RECREATION, MARINA & CULTURAL  
COMMISSION

DATE: May 17, 2011  
TO: Parks, Recreation, Marina & Cultural Commission  
FROM: Mitch Austin, Recreation Manager  
SUBJECT: Prop. 84 Statewide Park Grant Outreach Update

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Receive staff presentation and provide feedback what elements the PRMCC would like to see in each grant effort.

### **BACKGROUND**

The next rounds of Proposition 84 Statewide Park Grant Outreach meetings are being conducted. Nearly all the meetings have been held and included in this report are some of the preliminary findings for the two grant areas, Waterfront Park/Old Train Depot and Center Avenue property.

#### **Center Avenue Property**

Most people favoring a more natural setting, with lower impact activities such as walking, and several also thought a vita course, bocce ball, and children's play area would be good, as well as benches and picnic areas, and a place to congregate that would take in the views, such as an outdoor amphitheater. People also mentioned having something that blended into the natural environment as opposed to a bunch of bright plastic play equipment, and a few people mentioned a native tree arboretum or demonstration garden of some sort. Shade and trees were important to many. See attached summary list provided by Tempra Board, Grant Writer

#### *Top Six Features Included:*

- Picnic spaces, benches and tables (10)
- Walking Paths (10)
- Open space/natural areas/wildlife habitat (7)
- Play area/equipment for children/families (6)
- Vita/par/exercise course (5)
- Accessible paths (ADA), especially to top/view (5)

#### **Waterfront Park/Old Train Depot**

Most of the attendees have been members of the Martinez Historical Society. A few from the Sons of Italy and Martinez Arts Association have also attended outreach meetings. The project area scope as changed from last year to include the fishing pier. Changes in the State's database to identify the project area no longer allowed the pinned area to be used

this year. See the attached data report. Therefore not only was there discussion about renovating the Old Train Depot for which there was great interest, but also the amphitheater and fishing pier.

*Top Three Features Included:*

- Renovate the Old Train Depot (one level)
- Repair and enhance the fishing pier to include a restroom
- Study and renovate the amphitheater

City staff and the our Grant Writer, Tempra Board are wrapping up the input and project scope identification so we can proceed on to cost estimates and begin writing the grants. Staff plans to meet with the Grant Subcommittee once a draft is completed so a recommendation can be made to the City Council at the June meeting. The final draft of the grant will be completed shortly thereafter to meet the July deadline.

## Center Avenue Community Meetings Summary

(Based on two meetings so far...)

### Features of site people would like to see (number indicates more than one response for this feature/design/location):

- Picnic spaces, benches and tables (10)
- Walking Paths (10)
- Open space/natural areas/wildlife habitat (7)
- Play area/equipment for children/families (6)
- Vita/par/exercise course (5)
- Accessible paths (ADA), especially to top/view (5)
- Trees planted for shade (4)
- Plant California native trees and shrubs that are drought tolerant (4)
- Dog park/open space for pets (4)
- Fencing (3)
- Interpretive signs/diorama of native environment (3)
- Native tree garden/horticultural display/arboretum/community garden (3)
- Bocce Ball courts (3)
- Connect to other regional trails that come nearby site (3)
- Open air amphitheater (2)
- Grass area (2)
- Parking (2)
- Area for people to congregate/meeting space
- Obstacle course/play area
- Running/jogging track
- Provide shaded resting spots for walkers and joggers on Central Ave.
- Restrooms
- Drinking fountain

### Features people said they do NOT want:

- No dogs (3)
- BBQ pits (2)
- Turf/sod (too hot and uses too much water to maintain)
- Ability to drive far into park
- Plastic structures that don't blend with natural environment

### Location of features at site:

- Create a vista area/viewpoint (4)
- Meeting space to take in the view at top of hill, but protected from wind
- Picnic areas should be accessible to parking but not far within park
- Meandering trail with slow rise to top of hill
- Jogging/running track around perimeter of site

- Bocce courts on level spots near bottom of hill
- Keep parking away from neighbor's homes
- Keep kids play areas away from neighbor's homes
- Keep activity centers away from buried gas line

### **Materials used and types of features:**

- Natural materials that blend in with surrounding environment (3), such as rocks to sit on
- Wood (3); wood and pipe; wood shade structures (2)
- Simple designs (2)
- Decomposed granite for paths
- Split rail fence
- Low maintenance materials
- Recycled materials, such as benches made from recycled rubber products
- Use solar lighting
- "LEED approved" materials

### **Public safety and how to address:**

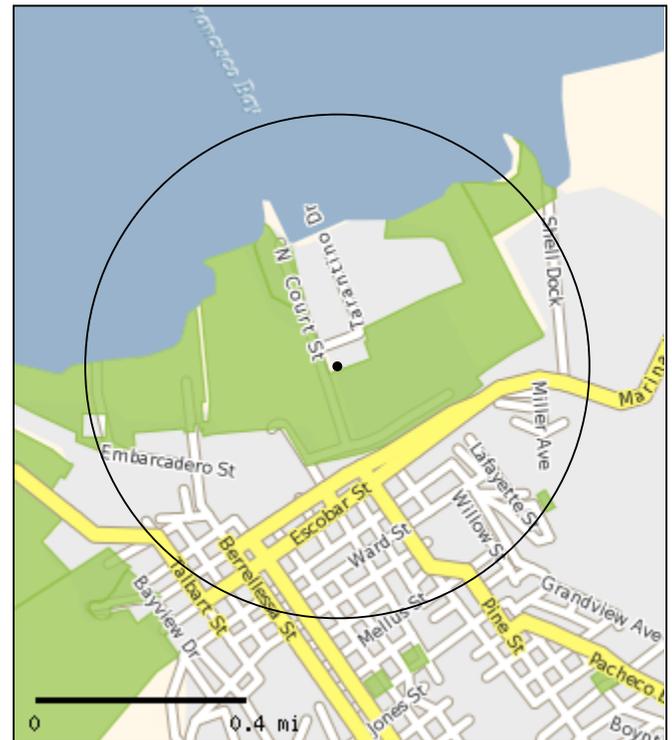
- Use lighting (4)
- Use fence to control access (particularly from cars) (3)
- Avoid hidden spaces that are not visible (3)
- Park needs regular maintenance and upkeep to avoid homeless camps (3)
- Concerned about buried gas line bordering site; orient activities away from (2)
- Regular police patrol (2); access for police vehicles
- Don't have BBQ pits (encourages late night) (2)
- Don't allow vehicles in (2)
- Get police dept. input on project
- Concerned with people seeing into house, use plantings to protect neighbors
- Concerned with grading and stability of land – has flooded neighbor's home in the past, City must mitigate during construction
- Enforce after hours curfew
- Have a part time park attendant
- Install remote camera by amphitheater area
- Fence around dog park
- Two-gate system for safe entrance/exit
- Offer dog pick up bags

# California State Parks Community Fact Finder Report

ROUND TWO

This is your Community FactFinder report for the project you have defined. Please refer to your Project ID in any future communications about this project.

Project ID:	<b>21549</b>
Date created:	<b>May 5, 2011</b>
County:	<b>Contra Costa</b>
City:	<b>Martinez</b>
Coordinates:	<b>38.022131, -122.136555</b>
Total Population:	<b>1,858</b>
Median Household Income:	<b>\$45,746</b>
Number of people below poverty line:	<b>177</b>
Park acreage:	<b>151.27</b>
Park acres per 1,000 population:	<b>81.44</b>



Project Site

All numbers above have been calculated based on a 1/2 mile radius from the point location of your project. Demographics are figured by averaging population numbers over selected census block groups and using the percent of the block group within the project circle to determine the actual counts.

Parks and park acres are based on best available source information but may not always contain exact boundaries or all parks in specific locations. Parks acreage does not include major lakes or ocean. Users can send update information to: [parkupdates@parks.ca.gov](mailto:parkupdates@parks.ca.gov)

#### Data Sources:

Demographics - Claritas Pop-Facts, block group level (2010)  
Parks - Calif. Protected Areas Database v. 1.6 (Feb. 2011)



Community FactFinder is a service of the  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
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