

**LODI CITY COUNCIL  
SHIRTSLEEVE SESSION  
CARNEGIE FORUM, 305 WEST PINE STREET  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2008**

A. Roll Call by City Clerk

An Informal Informational Meeting ("Shirtsleeve" Session) of the Lodi City Council was held Tuesday, August 19, 2008, commencing at 7:02 a.m.

B. Topic(s)

B-1 Park Improvements and Capital Projects (PR)

City Manager King briefly introduced the subject matter of park improvements and capital projects.

Interim Parks and Recreation Director Rodems provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding park improvements and capital projects. Specific topics of discussion included why we have parks, Lodi park facts, park projects, Century Meadows Park, playground replacement, Blakely Park, Lodi Lake, Lawrence / Salas Parks, Pixley Park, Grape Bowl, Pigs Lake riverbank project, park standards, landscape and hardscape areas, recreation areas, amenities and structures, and future goals for parks. Parks Superintendent Steve Dutra and Park Project Coordinator Steve Virrey also provided specific information regarding parks and Lodi Lake.

In response to Mayor Mounce, Mr. Rodems stated that staff intends to continue to have operable structures accessible to the public and not close the parks in their entirety during improvements if possible. He stated staff would also like to publish the improvement schedule for the three specific parks for public notification purposes.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Dutra stated that the Electric Utility, through a test project and public benefit dollars, is supporting an upgraded light project at Salas Park to provide better lighting to the area. Mr. Dutra stated only the lighting is being replaced and the poles will remain.

In response to Council Member Johnson, Mr. Rodems, Mr. Dutra, and Mr. King stated the report regarding Pigs Lake improvements was just received and additional information will be available shortly. They also stated they are expecting some sort of combined solution for the improvements, which will also be driven by funding sources.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Rodems stated that, while funding will be an issue, the goal of the program is to determine what the particular issues are for specific parks, to determine the associated costs, and to allow for a general understanding so that there can be some prioritization of the projects. Mr. King stated it will be good to get ahead of State requirements and look at funding for projects earlier rather than only dealing with them on an emergency basis.

In response to Council Member Hitchcock, Mr. King stated the parks prioritization program is before the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Rodems stated the Commission will likely set the priorities through standards before the item is brought to Council for consideration.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Dutra stated staff has received quotes for the ramps made of new technology at the Skate Park for review. He confirmed that the park is currently closed.

In response to Council Member Katzakian, Mr. Dutra stated the cost is \$30,000 for the materials, hardware, and fasteners for the Skate Park.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Dutra stated the matter of the Skate Park was agendaized for the previous Commission meeting and the general indication was that they would like to keep the Skate Park as a part of the parks program. Mr. Rodems stated it may be beneficial to look at an instruction program at the Skate Park and continue to gauge interest over an extended period of time. Mr. Dutra stated the parks annual maintenance and upkeep is approximately \$7,000 and bikes may be a discouraging factor for maintenance purposes.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Rodems stated staff has been working with Public Works in conjunction with the basins at DeBenedetti Park. Mr. King stated the design of the proposed park is very nice but very costly. He stated they are continuing to look at ways to provide a nice park for a lower cost and he anticipates that Frontier Community Builders will be requesting an amendment to the development agreement with respect to its \$8 million contribution to the park in light of the slow down in the housing market.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. King stated staff inquired about the development of Roget Park in conjunction with a trade off for a senior housing project. He stated there may be some alternatives available for the same.

In response to Mayor Pro Tempore Hansen, Mr. Dutra stated that Pixley Park is slated to be a softball complex complete with concession stands and parking; although, funding is lacking for the project.

In response to Myrna Wetzal, Mr. Rodems stated graffiti abatement is considered a part of park maintenance.

C. Comments by Public on Non-Agenda Items

None.

D. Adjournment

No action was taken by the City Council. The meeting was adjourned at 7:46 a.m.

ATTEST:

Randi Johl  
City Clerk