


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: August 12, 2010	AGENDA NO. VI. C. 4. a.	SUBJECT: Resolution No. 14, 2010 Supporting GOCO Grant Submission for a New Skatepark
Department Head: 		
Parks, Rec & Library	Heinz Bergann	
City Manager:		
Nathan M. Cherpeski		
PRESENTED BY: Heinz Bergann		

Recommendation: That Council adopts the attached Resolution No. 14, 2010 as presented.

Background: Late last summer, a teenager wrecked at the skate park and needed medical attention. He reported the incident to city staff and indicated that exposed screw heads caused his injuries. Recreation staff closed the nearly 6,000 sq ft facility to do a safety inspection. Completed in 1997, most of the wooden ramps with steel plating were found to be in poor condition. The structures were made using untreated lumber and suffered greatly from the elements. Staff removed the steel plates from one of the ramps and the wood underneath was completely rotted away. Water had been able to infiltrate behind the metal and rot the wood from the inside out. The Parks Dept. spent approximately \$1,200 on materials and two weeks of labor in order to make the skate park safe and usable again.

With the anticipated construction of the new City Hall complex, the skatepark cannot remain where it is at. This creates the opportune time for the City to construct a new facility, in lieu of trying to relocate features that may not survive such a move.

In looking at commercial-grade skate parks, several options are available: steel and wood, all steel, composite and steel, and all concrete. Standalone structures on a concrete pad are the cheapest. Estimates for all steel ramps vary from \$40,000 to \$300,000 depending on what and how many structures are used in addition to the cost of concrete pad. A good figure to use for an all-concrete facility is \$20-25 per square foot. It is the recommendation of the Recreation Board and echoed by participants that attended our public meeting that a concrete facility would be the best choice. Additionally, the new skatepark should be located in Cole Park in order to provide reasonable access to all users.

Since the cost of a skatepark exceeds available funds, the City needs to apply for a GOCO grant to assist with construction costs. Applications for the fall cycle are due August 27 and a resolution is required by GOCO in order to participate.

Issue Before the Council: Does Council wish to adopt the attached resolution?

Alternatives: While Council is free to select or develop any number of alternatives, those listed below are examples.

1. Adopt the attached resolution, requesting GOCO funding.
2. Amend the resolution, giving staff further direction and adopt it as amended.
3. Decline to act at this time and give staff further direction.

Fiscal Impact: GOCO will fund no more than 70% of the proposed project's eligible costs. Of all the resources required to complete the proposed project, including the requested GOCO grant, a minimum of 30% must come from sources other than GOCO. Although total matching resources may be either cash or in-kind, a minimum of 10% of the total project costs must be a cash match from the applicant. Staff is estimating the total cost of the project to be \$281,000 (\$205,000 for the skatepark, \$10,000 for site

amenities, \$50,000 for property purchase and \$16,000 for in-kind staff costs). Expenses are offset by the following revenue: GOCO - \$175,000; Tony Hawk Foundation Grant - \$5,000; Conservation Trust Funds (CTF) - \$35,000; City of Alamosa - \$50,000 (property previously purchased in 2010) and Staff In-Kind - \$16,000. For FY 2011, an additional \$15,000 in CTF funds has been budgeted to cover project contingencies (5%). The reserves in CTF total nearly \$90,000.

Legal Opinion: City Attorney will be present if there are any legal questions regarding this action.

Conclusion: The current skatepark is well past its useful life and future construction plans will force its closure. Because the City does not have the anticipated construction costs readily available, staff is looking at grant sources to help pay for a new facility. The fall GOCO cycle is our second attempt to acquire grant funding for this worthy project.

Resolution No. 14, 2010

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION
FOR A LOCAL PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION
GRANT FROM THE STATE BOARD OF THE GREAT
OUTDOORS COLORADO FOR FUNDING TO CONSTRUCT
A SKATEPARK IN COLE PARK.**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Alamosa supports the Great Outdoors Colorado grant application for the Cole Park Skatepark; and

WHEREAS, a \$175,000 grant from Great Outdoors Colorado would ensure the City of Alamosa has the necessary funding to complete construction of a new skatepark for the benefit of all youth and adult skateboarders, in-line skaters, and bikers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALAMOSA, COLORADO THAT:

- Section 1: The City Council of the City of Alamosa strongly supports the application and has matching funds available for a grant with Great Outdoors Colorado.
- Section 2: The City Council of the City of Alamosa will continue to maintain the Cole Park Skatepark in a high quality condition and will appropriate funds for maintenance in its annual budget (estimated to be less than \$1,000 annually).
- Section 3: The City Council of the City of Alamosa will authorize the expenditure of funds necessary to meet the terms and obligations of any Grant awarded.
- Section 4: The project site will be owned by the City of Alamosa for the next 25 years.
- Section 5: The City of Alamosa has the ability to complete this project and has demonstrated this ability in the Alamosa Soccer Field Complex project completed in 2000 and the South Side Community Park completed in 2008.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, SIGNED AND APPROVED, THIS 18TH DAY OF AUGUST 2010.

ATTEST:

CITY OF ALAMOSA, COLORADO

Judy A. Egbert, City Clerk

By: _____
Kathleen J. Rogers, Mayor