



**County of Santa Cruz Board of Supervisors  
Agenda Item Submittal**

**From:** Parks, Open Space & Cultural Services  
(831) 454-7901

**Meeting Date:** February 27, 2018

**Recommended Actions:**

1. Designate \$45,000 of the Parks Capital Fund for District Five (Fund 40, GL Key 191152) for the Felton Library Nature Discovery Park design.
2. Approve Independent Contractor Agreement with BASE Landscape Architecture in the amount of \$45,000 for design development of the Felton Library Discovery Park.
3. Authorize the Director of Parks, Open Space and Cultural Services (POSCS) to sign the agreement on the behalf of the County.

**Executive Summary**

POSCS is requesting the designation of funds and the approval of a design contract for the design development phase of Felton Library Nature Discovery Park.

**Background**

POSCS has been working in collaboration with the Department of Public Works, the Santa Cruz Public Libraries, the San Lorenzo Valley Water District, and the Felton Friends Branch of the Friends of the Santa Cruz Library to plan the proposed new nature discovery park at the Felton Library site. The Felton Library Discovery Park concept is for a portion of the two-acre Felton Library parcel, primarily on the north side of Bull Creek.

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2017 the Board approved a grant resolution authorizing the submittal of the Outdoor Education Faculties Grant and a Memorandum of Understanding between the County and the Friends of the Santa Cruz Public Libraries related to fundraising for the Felton Library Nature Discovery Park.

**Analysis**

The Felton Library Nature Discovery Park will incorporate principles of environmental education, watershed protection and interpretation, habitat restoration and environmental stewardship, and offer opportunities for people of all ages to interact and learn about the natural environment.

The park concept is included in the approved Development Permit and Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Felton Library site. This development permit identifies two phases of development:

- Phase one is being completed by the Department of Public Works and includes the library building, fenced patio, parking lot, frontage improvements on Gushee Street and related improvements.

- Phase two is being completed by the Parks Department and includes the outdoor interactive environmental education areas and a second pedestrian bridge over Bull Creek.

Approving the recommended action allows the County to move forward with park design and fundraising efforts for the second phase of the project.

POSCS solicited proposals for the design development phase of the discovery park development through an informal request for proposals (RFP). This RFP process is consistent with County contract procurement policies for professional services and consultants for a “level two” contract, required for contracts between \$35,000 and \$70,000. POSCS received three proposals and the proposal from BASE Landscape Architecture was ranked the highest.

**Financial Impact**

The total cost of this contract is \$45,000 and will be funded by designating \$45,000 from the Parks Capital Fund for District Five (Fund 40, GL Key 191152). These funds were approved with the FY 2017-2018 Capital Improvement Program.

**Submitted by:**

Jeff Gaffney, Director of Parks, Open Spaces & Cultural Services

**Recommended by:**

Carlos J. Palacios, County Administrative Officer

**Attachments:**

- a Contract 18C4294 - BASE Landscape Architecture
- b ADM-29, contract 18C4294