

FOR COUNCIL MEETING

June 20, 2006

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the City Council

SUBJECT: Donation of maintenance services from USALSO and AYSO Region 16 to improve and maintain Soccer Field 3 at Columbia Park.

RECOMMENDATION

The Community Services Director recommends that Council accept a donation of maintenance services valued at \$18,650 from USALSO and AYSO Region 16 for improvements and upkeep to Soccer Field 3 at Columbia Park.

Funding

Not applicable.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Youth and adult soccer has a long history in the City of Torrance, and the City has worked hard to provide good playing surfaces for the leagues to conduct their activities. However, due to the high volume of sports activity at Columbia Park the sports fields are functional, but in need of renovation.

In May 2006, volunteers from the USALSO (United States of America Ladies Soccer Organization) and local AYSO (American Youth Soccer Organization) Region 16 contacted the Community Services Department to discuss creating a pilot maintenance program. The local soccer organizations are proposing to donate services to the City for improvements and maintenance of a soccer field at Columbia Park. Field 3 was selected as the most appropriate site based on its proximity to parking and sports field lighting.

A contractor, Fixyourfield.com, has been identified through the soccer organizations to provide the service. The contractor will scalp the field, seed it, provide topsoil, and then provide regular field maintenance. During the renovation it may be necessary to fence the area.

If approved by the City Council, the Parks Division will address the gopher issues at the site by installing a chemical based deterrent system. This system would service the entire park and the field in the pilot program. After the project has been implemented, the Community Services Department will evaluate the project to see if other partnerships can be created to provide field upgrades to other locations within the park and possibly at other locations.

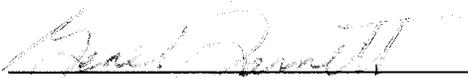
Respectfully submitted,

GENE BARNETT
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

By


Andrew Orpe
Senior Project Leader

CONCUR:


Gene Barnett
Community Services Director


LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments: A) Letter Proposal from USALSO and AYSO Region 16

Mr. Gene Barnett, Director
 City of Torrance Community Services Department
 3031 Torrance Blvd
 Torrance Ca 60503

ATTACHMENT A

Dear Mr. Barnett,

My name is Linda Finn Valentine, USALSO President, and I represent a consortium of soccer organizations that use Columbia Park. We would like to formally propose to the City of Torrance Community Services Department a formal donation of maintenance services to upgrade Soccer Field #3 at Columbia Park. (See attached quote from private field maintenance contractor)

It is our intention to "pilot" a maintenance project on Columbia Park soccer field #3 and work together with the City of Torrance to create a better quality soccer environment for our community - to see if we can eventually upgrade all the soccer fields at Columbia. We are anxious and excited to be involved in the decision making process with the City of Torrance Community Services Department to pilot this project for Columbia Park. In essence, we would look into hiring a private contractor that would with the city's permission upgrade Columbia Park soccer field #3 in order to see if these improvements make the playing environment better for all of the soccer users. After these improvements are completed, we are interested in hiring a mowing contractor to mow this sports field on a weekly basis, whereas to keep the condition of this space at an optimum playing level.

We have been in negotiation with Mr. Jon Eckel (contractor) about the amount of the donation needed to upgrade Field #3 at Columbia Park. He has given us a quote of \$12,850 for the initial upgrade of Field #3. Also, the fee for maintaining and mowing of Field #3 would come to a total of \$6000. That would include 30 'mowings' for the year. That would bring the donation that AYSO Region 16 and USALSO Women's League will offer to the City of Torrance a total of \$18,650. Please see attached quote for a more detailed explanation of our proposal.

In addition, we would also like to have some reassurance from the city that the "gopher problem" can be addressed and remedied, so we don't waste the thousands of dollars we plan to donate to help in upgrading this field.

Given the timeframe of the pending field renovation at Columbia Park that will be starting in June, we are providing you this letter of proposal to assure the city that we are ready and willing to move as soon as possible on the upgrade. Please advise us if this proposal is possible, and if the City of Torrance Community Services Department is open to this project.

Sincerely,



Linda Finn Valentine, USALSO President
 Mary Bergon, USALSO Field Coordinator
 Jose Serrano, AYSO Region 16 Commissioner
 Tony Warfield, AYSO Region 16 Asst Commissioner

----- Original Message -----

From: Jon Eckel

To: Jones, John

Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2006 1:31 PM

Subject: Estimate for Columbia Park Soccer Field #3

- A. Area to be addressed equals 260 feet x 375 feet
- B. Cost to scalp field and leave clippings \$750
(Recommended by AYSO & USALSO)
- OR**
- C. Cost to de-thatch and vacuum and haul \$3,550
away in high cube bins (2 bins)
- D. Import 500 yards of topsoil material to level field \$21,000
and Barkshire grade.
- OR**
- E. Import 100 yards of topsoil material to spot fill and \$4,200
we box drag and smooth.
(Recommended by AYSO & USALSO)
- F. Overseed at the rate of 20 lbs /1000 square \$2,950
feet (one ton) with perennial rye.
(Recommended by AYSO & USALSO)
- G. Cover with 1/4" of premium 1/4" screened topper \$4,950
(100 cubic yards).
(Recommended by AYSO & USALSO)

The cost to mow field 260 x 375 per week
is \$200 x 30 weeks \$6,000
(Recommended by AYSO & USALSO)

The mowing will need to take place during most of the year, except Nov., Dec.,
Jan., Feb., you need to mow weekly to keep clumps away, but Nov - Jan you can
get away with every other week.

High end proposal C, D, F, G $\$32,450 + \$6,000 = \$38,450$
Low end proposal B, E, F, G $\$12,850 + \$6,000 = \$18,850$