

CITY COUNCIL

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Reso No. _____ File No. _____

Ord No. _____

Agenda Item No.: 15

Date: June 16, 2010

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Lori Vereker, Director of Utilities
Jerry Van Leeuwen, Director of Community Services

SUBJECT: Possible relocation and reuse of the Public Works Yard

RECOMMENDATION:

Provide direction to staff

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Depending on the scenario selected, relocation of the public works yard is estimated to cost between \$21 M and \$26 M.

CORRELATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL ACTION PLAN:

This action relates directly to the City Council Action Plan Economic Development objectives. Alternative use of the public works yard may yield higher paying job opportunities for Escondido residents.

PREVIOUS ACTION:

None

BACKGROUND:

The existing public works yard, located on Spruce Street is strategically located to be an anchor to redevelopment activities. It is located near the freeway, has extraordinary access to public transit including bus and light rail and is also on the bike trail system. The facility is old and many of the buildings are in need of repair or replacement.

City Council requested a preliminary study and cost estimates on relocating the yard in order that the existing property could be converted to a better use. Staff consulted old reports and conducted a survey to provide the preliminary assessment.

The current yard of 18.2 acres is approximately 4 acres larger than needed. However, an alternative site, properly zoned for this use is not available within City limits. Staff investigated existing properties owned by the City and have determined that two properties should be considered for additional study. One of these sites is located near the water treatment plant and, if used, may displace property currently leased to the Charros for equestrian activities. The other City owned property is at the HARFF. Staff has not conducted detailed studies on either site, although the HARFF site will be impacted by the extension on Citracado Parkway so some preliminary studies are in place.

Staff will present an overview of the analysis at the City Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori Vereker,
Director of Utilities



Jerry Van Leeuwen
Director of Community Services