

CITY OF LARKSPUR
Staff Report
March 7, 2017

DATE: February 22, 2017

TO: Larkspur Library Board and Larkspur Parks & Recreation Commission

FROM: Recreation Director Dick Whitley
Library Director Janice Akel

RE: Discussion and recommendation to Larkspur City Council Letter of Support for renewal of efforts to create the Larkspur Library Community Center

ACTION REQUESTED

That the Larkspur Library Board and Parks & Recreation Commission hear the Staff Report and jointly recommend renewal of efforts to create the Larkspur Library and Community Center (LLCC).

REFERENCE

Letter from Larkspur Library Board dated 10/25/2016.

BACKGROUND

The Larkspur Library Board (Board) and the Larkspur Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) share a history of working together to realize the proposed Larkspur Library & Community Center (LLCC). Various members of the Board and Commission have served on committees to discuss and create the proposed facility and would like to see this effort continue.

The Board sent a letter to the Commission, Friends of the Larkspur Library and the Larkspur Library Foundation dated October 25, 2016. In this letter, then-President Joan Foley highlighted the shared history of the LLCC process. She discussed the points upon which the Board and the Commission are in agreement as well as some remaining issues.

On the matter of the LLCC, Staff has conferred and the Board has discussed this matter at several of their regular meetings. The Commission and Board have met in separate Special Meetings with the Larkspur City Council. The Board has suggested next steps for a joint meeting with the Commission.

It is suggested that formal agreement between the Board and the Commission would be upon the following items:

1. There is a community need for a Larkspur Library & Community Center building.
2. The building will house the Larkspur Library and spaces for the Larkspur Recreation Department.
3. The building shall be located on the Rose Garden site, encompass approximately 20,000 square feet, be single story, have 60 vehicle parking spaces, and incorporate views of Mount Tamalpais.
4. The building will not offer a café or sports facilities.

5. Giving credit to extensive work already performed by Staff and members of the community, the program will not be revisited.

Furthermore, Staff suggests that the following items are within the purview of the Larkspur City Council, and citing full confidence in that body, will agree not to discuss:

1. Funding for the proposed LLCC
2. Any and all items, statutes and controversy relating to the exterior of the proposed LLCC building and grounds.

Staff agrees that any final agreement between the Commission and the Board be forwarded to the Larkspur City Council as a statement of the Board's and the Commission's dedication to this project.

FISCAL IMPACT

None at this time. Future fiscal impacts will be felt if the project goes forward.

ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Larkspur Library Board and Parks & Recreation Commission hear the Staff Report and jointly recommend renewal of efforts to create the Larkspur Library and Community Center (LLCC).

ATTACHMENTS

Letter from Larkspur Library Board dated 10/25/2016.