



# CITY OF COSTA MESA

## Agenda Report

77 Fair Drive  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

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**File #:** 24-263

**Meeting Date:** 6/27/2024

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**TITLE:**

**PROPOSED DESIGN IMPROVEMENTS FOR KETCHUM-LIBOLT PARK**

**DEPARTMENT:** PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT/ADMINISTRATION SERVICES  
**DIVISION**

**PRESENTED BY:** RAJA SETHURAMAN, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR MANAGER

**CONTACT INFORMATION:** RAJA SETHURAMAN, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR (714) 754-5343

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff requests that the Parks and Community Services (PACS) Commission review and recommend the conceptual design plan, park theme, and the park components for the proposed improvements at Ketchum-Libolt Park, 2150 Maple Street, Costa Mesa, for approval by the City Council.

**BACKGROUND:**

The less than half-acre Ketchum-Libolt Park was constructed in August 2005 as a tribute to fallen Costa Mesa Police Officers James "Dave" Ketchum and John "Mike" Libolt whose lives were lost in a helicopter crash on March 10, 1987. Despite its small size, the current park includes a playground featuring elements for young children, seating area and benches, turf, and a large concrete pad that is used by the City's mobile recreation van.

The park is an integral part of the community in serving the nearby residents with recreational amenities. The proposed improvements will enhance the playground equipment, play area, landscaping, irrigation, lighting, and supporting facilities.

In 2023, the City contracted with Pat West, LLC, and City Fabrick to conduct several community outreach meetings for the Ketchum-Libolt Park expansion. Preliminary park design options and renderings were discussed with the City's Parks and Community Services (PACS) Commission on August 10, 2023.

On January 16, 2024, the City Council awarded Architerra Design Group (Architerra) as the consultant to provide design services for Ketchum-Libolt Park expansion project.

**ANALYSIS:**

Architerra, based on input from prior community meetings and input from the PACS Commission, developed conceptual plans for Ketchum-Libolt Park expansion. A community outreach meeting was held on May 8, 2024 at Ketchum-Libolt Park to review conceptual plans. Notices were sent out to

neighboring residents in the surrounding area and the meeting generated significant turnout, as residents and community stakeholders shared their opinions and ideas on the conceptual plans. The City's consultant, Architerra, and staff presented design boards with various options. Community members were encouraged to provide their comments as well as indicate their preference of various features using "dot" stickers. In addition, for those who could not attend the community outreach meeting, City-sponsored online opinion survey was commissioned to obtain additional input.

Of the conceptual designs presented, and based on the voting results and the comments gathered during the outreach meeting, it was determined that the majority of the public selected the Coastal design option and is shown as Attachment 1. The theme for the park was a near tie between "Whimsical" and "Police & First Responders." The remaining park components, and the community feedback generated, are shown in Attachment 2.

Staff requests PACS Commission review of the conceptual plan, park theme, and the park components for Ketchum-Libolt Park expansion for City Council approval.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The proposed improvements have been developed utilizing community input and feedback. The Commission may choose to provide suggestions to revise the proposed conceptual design plan or recommend staff to pursue a different design plan. This recommendation from PACS Commission will be forwarded to City Council for final approval.

**FISCAL REVIEW:**

Funds are available from the \$1.2 million state budget earmarked from state Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris adopted in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget, and approximately \$1.3 million from prior adopted funds in Fiscal Year 2022-23 that include Park Development Fees Fund, Capital Improvement Fund, and Prop 68 Per Capita Grant.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

This item is administrative in nature and no legal review is necessary.

**CONCLUSION:**

Staff requests that the Parks and Community Services (PACS) Commission review and recommend the conceptual design plan, park theme, and the park components for the proposed improvements at Ketchum-Libolt Park, 2150 Maple Street, Costa Mesa, for approval by the City Council.