

## **River Parkway Project Background**

The San Benito River is a 109 mile river that runs through the County of San Benito. A Master Plan for a River Parkway has been developed for a 20-mile corridor. Within the plan there are five “reaches” identified for potential multi-use trail and parkway amenities. Most of the land within the River Parkway area is privately owned and will require future cooperation of local landowners to implement expansion phases along the river. The central reach (Reach Three) was identified, in the 2013 River Parkway Focus Area & Regional Park Master Plan report, as a focus area for the first phases of the River Parkway implementation.

One of the factors that contributed to the identification of this location was the ownership and pending lease agreement of three parcels, totaling 47 acres, by the San Benito High School District and County of San Benito as well as the out-right ownership of a 23 acre parcel by the County. The parcels include space for a Regional Park above the River Parkway Focus area with preliminary design features that include Softball fields, playgrounds, restrooms, parking lots, amphitheater, gardens, etc. Additional factors included: accessibility (close proximity to City of Hollister and residential neighborhoods), location to San Benito High School (sports opportunities for youth), and limited recreational opportunities in the immediate area.

The planning process for the River Parkway Focus Area began in 2012 when the County organized an advisory committee that included a broad range of stakeholders, including members from the City of Hollister, school districts, and various community, economic, and transportation agencies and organizations. Meetings and community workshops were held to gather suggestions on goals, concepts, and park uses.

The design of the River Parkway Focus Area was to include the following elements:

- Paved Trails for Runners and Walkers
- Equestrian Trails
- Primary and Secondary Staging Areas
- Equestrian Staging Area
- Restrooms
- Picnic Areas Along Trail
- Distance Markers
- Bike Skills Park/Pump Track
- Disc Golf
- Education/Interpretive Signs
- Par Course for Exercise
- Trail Amenities/Site Furnishings

In 2018, through a partnership with the San Benito High School District and City of Hollister an access road was built to provide for future access to the Regional Park and River Parkway that included a two lane road and separate bike/walking path. The

access road and bike/walking path was paid for through County collected Park and Recreation Impact fees. This will provide for future access to portions of Section 2 and Section 3 of the River Parkway Focus Area and Regional Park

The County has identified that the funding available from the Statewide Park Program (Proposition 68) can be used to help increase accessibility and recreational opportunities available at the current regional park open space area. The project will focus around the following elements that were identified in the 2013 River Parkway Focus Area & Regional Park Master Plan report:

1. Parking Lot
2. Cross-Walk Access
3. Paved Multi-Use Trails
4. Par Course Equipment
5. Site Furnishings

The project will look to minimize impact on the current native grass fields and trees surrounding the park and will focus on renovating existing unpaved trails to mitigate potential impact and comply with LEED certification.

### **River Parkway Project Items**

#### **Project Item #1 – Recycled ADA Compliant Asphaltic Public Parking Lot**

Currently there is no parking lot available to access the Regional Park and River Parkway area. Members of the community currently gain access to the Park from San Benito Street or Nash Road by walking or riding bicycles. The County is currently in discussions with the San Benito High School District for a lease agreement to create a paved parking lot across the street from the Park location for shared use (see Park Map, exhibit A). Initial cost estimates for a paved parking lot are \$301,000.00 that includes 88 parking stalls. The parking lot will be accessible from River Parkway Road, formerly Baler Ally (cross streets: Nash Road and San Benito Street).

#### **Project Item #2 – Cross Walk and ADA Compliant Approach**

A crosswalk will need to be installed to connect the Parking Lot to the entrances of the Regional Park and River Parkway, located across River Parkway Road. This crosswalk will allow for the safe use of the parking lot that will provide additional accessibility to the Park. The estimated cost of a cross walk with signs and reflective lighting is approximately \$202,019.00

#### **Project Item #3 – Recycled Paved ADA Compliant Multi-Use Trails Walking and Bike along with Rest Areas.**

The County has identified approximately one mile of park area that can be paved beginning with a main entrance of the park found on the north eastern side of the proposed Regional Park.



*Proposed entrance on the Northeast Corner; River Parkway Road above.*



*Site view from above at the Northeast Corner.*

The paved trails are consistent with the trail sections and outlines of section 2 and 3 of the River Parkway Focus Area. Two looped trails will be included to encourage all user abilities and timed circuit activities. This will allow for expansion of additional trails in the future permitting land purchases. All of the proposed trails will be within County owned property or property owned by the San Benito County High School District (land has pending lease agreement with County).

Trail scope includes all site grading, bio-swales for filtration of runoff water prior to release such as 300 lf. of filtration baskets, subgrade preparation, recycled subgrade materials, retaining walls to achieve ADA slope requirements, recycled asphaltic materials, striping and ADA compliant access pave and recycled trail \$2,311,100.00



#### Project Item #4 – Par Course Equipment

Recycled Materials Par course equipment (outdoor fitness equipment) located in 4 locations along the paved trails will allow for additional recreational opportunities. Typical equipment for projects includes Body-Pull, Push-Off, or Sit-up equipment. Preliminary estimates for five pieces of equipment total \$88,810.00

##### Body-Pull

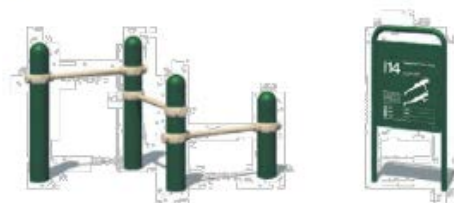


**Apparatus Only:**  
4'-5" x 4'-5" (1.3m x 1.3m)



##### Push-Off

**Apparatus Only:**  
4'-5" x 2'-5" (1.3m x .7m)



*Examples of proposed outdoor fitness equipment.*

#### Project Item #5 – Site Furnishings

Additional site furnishing needs were identified in the River Parkway Focus Area report that included benches and trash receptacles, distance markers, ADA signage along the paved trails. Preliminary estimates for 4 Recycled Materials Picnic Tables, 4 trash receptacles and 4 bike stations for site furnishings total \$17,280.00.



### **Project Item #6 – ADA Compliant Hydration Stations**

Visitor and pet hydration stations (4) to ensure park visitors and pets have safe and reliable drinking water along trail. This work includes approximately 3,100lf of 2" domestic water supply piping, tie-ins to existing water supply along with associated equipment and equipment foundations \$236,210.00



### **Project Item #7 – Landscaping (Drought Tolerant and Climate Appropriate)**

Implementation of Local and State Native California Live Oak trees (*Quercus Agrifolia* Nee) located at all trail areas designate as rest, par course and hydration stations. The quantity will include 18- 48" box trees with manual watering basins, 23,000 sqft recycled wood chips, 23,000 sqft of drought tolerant native over seed ground cover total \$398,007.00

### **Project Item #8 – LEED Compliant Solar / Energy Saving Site Safety Parking Lot, Trail and Staging Area Lighting**

Installation of 54 locations along new parking lot, trail and staging areas, 54 Vandal Proof solar energy savings safety pedestrian lighting. Scope includes all associated materials, installation, foundations and equipment. \$278,763.00



### **Project Item #9 – Trail Equestrian and Pedestrian Separation Rail Fence**

Installation of 5,900 lineal feet of 3 rail wood system trail fencing for safety between pedestrians and equestrians. The fence will have approximately 300 lineal feet of three rail galvanized fencing in ADA areas with both pedestrian and emergency vehicle access gates for Maintenance and Emergency access. \$603,000.00



Subtotal of Improvements \$4,436,189.00

Estimated pre-construction cost = \$1,109,047.25

Total Grant Request Amount= 5,545,236.25