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CONSENT CALENDAR November 10, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Wengraf

Subject: Consider Fire Safety Options for Fire Pit at Codornices Park

RECOMMENDATION

Referral to the Parks & Waterfront Commission to consider safety options regarding the future of the fire pit at Codornices Park. Please consider 1) Complete removal of fire pit or 2) Manufacture of a cover that can be secured and locked.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Staff time to remove the fire pit. Unknown financial implications to design, craft and install the cover.

BACKGROUND

Codornices Park, situated in the High Hazard Fire Zone on Euclid Avenue in the North-East Berkeley Hills, has a playground, basketball courts, an open field and a forest of dawn redwood trees. The 12 foot by 12 foot fire pit, tucked away behind the meadow in the secluded, wooded area of Codornices Park, sits under the canopy of the trees. It has been a matter of concern for neighbors who fear a fire can easily start if users are careless and irresponsible. With climate change and the number of red flag days increasing, options for the fire pit and how and if it can be safely used should be considered.

The large fire pit, is difficult to monitor because it is situated behind the meadow and not visible from Euclid Avenue. Over the years, our office has received numerous calls of concern about the potential danger it presents.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

This item supports the City's environmental sustainability goals. Fire prevention is critical for environmental sustainability.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Wengraf Council District 6 510-981-7160