



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
July 23, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
 Submitted by: Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront
 Subject: Special Use Permit for Berkeley Tuolumne Camp

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the City Manager to execute a Special Use Permit, and any amendments thereto, with the United States Forest Service to construct, operate, maintain, and improve Berkeley Tuolumne Camp located in the Stanislaus National Forest for a period of thirty years.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

The United States Forest Service (USFS) Special Use Permit requires that the City pay an annual fee to the USFS based on a formula that takes into consideration the current market value of the land and buildings, reduced by the portion of the camp that is used by at-risk youth, disabled persons, or organized youth programs. These fees will be paid for from the Camps Fund.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The City of Berkeley has operated Berkeley Tuolumne Camp, which is located on USFS property in Tuolumne County, since 1922. In August 2013, the California Rim Fire destroyed the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp (BTC). Reconstruction of BTC requires a new Special Use Permit reflecting the reconstruction of BTC to modern code and safety standards. Council authorized the City to apply for a new 30-year term Special Use Permit on October 6, 2015 (Resolution No. 67,226-N.S.).

The USFS has accepted the City's application, and completed its environmental review and approvals for the reconstruction of BTC. The USFS has offered the City a new Special Use Permit that authorizes the City to reconstruct, operate, maintain and improve Berkeley Tuolumne Camp for a thirty-year term. Council authorization is required in order for the City to execute the new permit.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The City approved the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp CEQA documents on January 22, 2019. The United States Forest Service issued its final NEPA documents on June 11, 2019.

The construction of the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp facilities will demonstrate appropriate restoration of forest landscapes in order to achieve sustainable riverine and upland ecosystems that provide a broad range of benefits to humans and the ecosystem. All construction activities will implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) to encourage biodiversity, preserve resources, and maintain riparian and other natural habitats. Revegetation and reforestation activities will emphasize enhancing native vegetative cover, minimizing exposed bare soil and erosion. This project will comply with the City's Climate Action Plan in the following ways: increased energy efficiency in public buildings, and providing a public resource for community outreach and empowerment.

RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

Execution of a new USFS Special Use Permit is required to reconstruct and operate Berkeley Tuolumne Camp.

ALTERNATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED

None

CONTACT PERSON

Scott Ferris, Director, PRW, 981-6700

Liza McNulty, Project Manager, PRW, 981-6437

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A SPECIAL USE PERMIT WITH THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, MAINTAIN, AND IMPROVE BERKELEY TUOLUMNE CAMP LOCATED IN THE STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST FOR A PERIOD OF THIRTY YEARS

WHEREAS, the City has operated the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp, a residential family camp, since 1922 on United States Forest Service land pursuant to a special use permit; and

WHEREAS, in August 2013, the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp was destroyed by the California Rim Fire; and

WHEREAS, a new Special Use Permit is required to allow the City to reconstruct Berkeley Tuolumne Camp to meet current code and safety requirements; and

WHEREAS, Council authorization is required in order for the City to execute the new permit agreement; and

WHEREAS, the new Special Use Permit requires the City to pay an annual fee to the United States Forest Service based on a formula that takes into consideration the current market value of the land and buildings, reduced by the portion of the camp that is used by at-risk youth, disabled persons, or organized youth programs.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City Manager is hereby authorized to execute a Special Use Permit, and any amendments thereto, with the United States Forest Service to construct, operate, maintain and improve the Berkeley Tuolumne Camp located in the Stanislaus Nation Forest for a period of thirty years.

