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# MEMORANDUM

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Date: December 26, 2017

To: The Honorable Chair and Members  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry  
County Administrator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "CHH", is written over the printed name "C.H. Huckelberry".

Re: **Mike Jacobs Sportspark Improvements and Activities**

Attached is a December 15, 2017 memorandum from the Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation (NRPR) Director regarding improvements and activities occurring at Mike Jacob Sportspark.

Since December 31, 2016, when the lease with the former operator expired, staff has made important safety upgrades to the facility totaling approximately \$485,000. Since its closure, the NRPR staff has operated Sportspark on a Special Use Permit basis.

A facilities estimate was conducted for the Sportspark with the desired improvements totaling approximately \$3.4 million. These facility improvements were prioritized and staff competitively bid basic improvements and "additive alternatives." This bid package was based on remaining available funds of approximately \$1.2 million. At the December 6, 2017 bid opening, two responsive bids were received, with the low bid being \$1.65 million.

Since the proposed improvements and additive alternatives are determined to be desirable to improve the use and accessibility of the Sportspark, I have authorized up to \$475,000 from the General Fund balance to be allocated to this contract.

The contract, together with fund transfer authorization to complete the park improvements as contemplated in the recent competitive bid documents, will be on the Board of Supervisors Agenda in January 2018 for your consideration.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: Tom Burke, Deputy County Administrator for Administration  
Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator for Public Works  
Nanette Slusser, Assistant County Administrator for Public Works  
Chris Cawein, Director, Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation









entities successfully operated leagues and/or tournaments, as well as concessions, and continued their permit renewals for the summer period, July thru September, and the fall period, October thru December.

Based on data assembled for the March thru November 2017 timeframe (9 Months), utilizing our Special Use Permitting model for interim site use, public opportunities for participation in sporting activity at the MJSP site have been successful and popular, even without the presence of an over-arching Leagues and Tournaments Operator. League participation has consisted of 1271 teams during this 9 month period. Additionally, a total of 15 sports tournaments were held during the period that the site has been open in 2017. This relatively high level of activity occurred despite the necessary ramp-up of marketing activities of the newly-permitted operators and the on-going site accessibility challenges imposed by the ADOT Ina Road Interchange project.

It should also be noted that total revenue received by NRPR from permitted site operations during the 9-month operating period in 2017 at MJSP was nearly \$115k. Extrapolating this to the full 12 months of 2017 indicates that revenues received by the County would have actually been \$153k and would have exceeded actual revenues for 2016 when the site was under Operating agreement.

In summary, the operation of the organized sports activities at the MJSP continued during the majority of 2017, once initial site safety repairs were completed, by employing the NRPR Special Use Permit model and finding willing sport proponents to organize and implement leagues and tournaments at the MJSP site. Permitted sports league and tournament activities at the site will be suspended once the construction contract for Phase 2b is awarded and mobilization of the Contractor for construction activities at MJSP commence. The existing permittees are aware that their quarterly Special Use Permits will not be renewed after the end of December 2017 due to the need to complete closure of the site for approximately 4 months beginning most likely sometime in late January/early February.

While construction activities are underway in 2018, NRPR will explore the most appropriate strategy to reopen the MJSP site upon project completion. The ultimate goal of NRPR continues to be the issuance of a formal request for proposals to identify an Operator for the MJSP site, who would be expected to bring additional private investment to enhance and expand the facilities and program offerings at the site. However, the interim operating model employed by NRPR during 2017 has proven effective in meeting the immediate sporting needs of the local community while maintaining fiscally responsible site management. Because the continued activities associated with the ADOT Ina Road Interchange project are expected to continue to cause some site accessibility and traffic flow complications for the next year, it may be prudent to reopen the MJSP site again for short-term permitted use once the constructed site improvements are complete and until such time as the Ina Road Interchange project is completed. An update to the MJSP operating approach will be presented for discussion as the construction project is nearing completion.