



City of Grover Beach Potlucks in the Parks Summary July 12 and 19, 2019

Overview

On July 12 and 19, the City of Grover Beach hosted its first-ever “Potlucks in the Parks” events intended to engage the community in an informal setting in different locations. The July 12th event was held in Grover Heights Park and the July 19th event was held in 16th Street Park. Attendees were encouraged to bring a food dish to share in the spirit of a community potluck. Members of the City Council attended the events along with City staff members. Approximately 25 people attended the July 12th potluck with approximately 50 attendees at the July 19th potluck and below is information recorded at events to share with the community.

What Do You Like Best About Grover Beach? *(open comments on flip-chart paper)*

July 12 (Grover Heights Park)

- Family friendly
- Fresh air, easy beach access
- Stone Soup
- Very nice place to raise my boys
- Still has small town feel but progressive at same time, great city!
- Bounce house
- Family friendly feel
- Creative unique local businesses
- Community feel
- Everything is walking distance from anywhere and we can walk to anywhere we want to go. You see everybody you know around randomly which is funny and a coincidence
- We thank you for this opportunity to meet and greet you all. Family time in the park is great! Thank you for your great leadership and time. We love our parks. Shout out to Public Works for maintenance. Thank you all again.

July 19 (16th Street Park)

- Community feel
- How inclusive it is!
- Ocean breezes, friendly neighbors, and natural parks
- Community center pre-school
- The houses and sweet people!!
- Family oriented city and friendly people
- It's a “walking” community. We are small but we are active! Everyone is friendly and ready to smile and say “hello.”
- Great fresh air, wonderful welcome at the beach, friendly and community-seeking people

Requests for More Information

- *Speed concerns on Atlantic City Avenue and request for more stop signs.* The City is currently working on traffic safety improvements on Oak Park Boulevard while recording other locations requested for improved traffic safety. With regards to Atlantic City Avenue, we will first address stop sign compliance by replacing existing stop signs to make signs more visible to drivers and clearing any obstructions from the stop ahead signs. Speeding will be evaluated by placing the City's radar trailer to determine speeds and number of violators. We will plan to bring a future item to the Council to further discuss traffic safety on Atlantic City and potential traffic calming options such as speed humps/tables or LED stop signs that could be funded by private donation as offered to the City.
- *Notification of nearby property owners prior to City roadwork being done.* The City utilizes an extensive notification process to let affected property owners know about upcoming City street repairs. This process includes letters and door hangers advising residents of this work and providing contact information for any questions. In addition, the City produces regular construction updates and posts this information on the City's website and social medial platforms. The City requires similar notification from its contractors for smaller repair projects such as pothole patching. However, a recent project on South 9th Street carried out by a contractor did not include notification and was more extensive than anticipated. The contractor reached out to affected property owners to provide compensation for debris left on vehicles and the contractor has provided required notification as part of subsequent work.
- *Total City funds spent to date on the Grover Beach Lodge project.* The Grover Beach Lodge is a private development project on State property at Pismo State Beach and overseen through a joint State Parks-City partnership. The lodge has been actively under development since 2009 and the project is currently in the plan check process with the State Fire Marshal serving as the lead permitting agency given the location on State property. Since 2003, the City has spent approximately \$650,000 for the project with \$620,000 spent since the project was formally approved in 2014. Most of these costs (\$550,000) was for engineering design services related to potential public improvements at the project site and nearby at the beachfront area as well as covering utility lines to connect to the project site. The developer will reimburse the City for those costs that relate directly to the current project (estimated at approximately \$200,000) and previously reimbursed the City for \$23,000 in costs related to the project Environmental Impact Report. Other expenses include conference center design (\$32,000) and economic studies of the tourism industry and conference space (\$22,000). Any future City expenses are expected to be minimal since the current project is a private development on State property that does not include a City-constructed conference center and the City's role is limited to permitting of offsite utilities connecting the project.
- *Plans for Cleaver Property.* The Cleaver property on South 13th Street was deeded to the City by the Cleaver Trust in 1984 for acquisition, construction, and maintenance for public park purposes or forfeit to Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home. Initial improvements

including a park bench and signage were made in 2014 with a master plan for a community center adopted in 2009. The estimated cost of such a center is \$2.5 million. The project does not have a dedicated funding source and is currently identified as an unfunded capital need. The City is currently requesting proposals to carry out a senior center feasibility study with the initial findings anticipated to be presented in spring 2020. The results of this study will inform a potential facility at the Cleaver property and potential funding options for the Council to consider. The City is also exploring options for interim improvements at the property to make the site more attractive and usable on a temporary basis.

- *Mentone Basin Park Plans.* The City has a capital improvement project this fiscal year to make improvements at Mentone Basin Park. The first phase of this project was reopening the lower stormwater drainage basin for public access during the dry season until the rains later in the year. Public Works staff carried out initial improvements to make the basin area safe for use and access was reopened on August 3. The second phase of the project involves refurbishing concrete and landscaping near the sports courts. Future phases of this project include redesigning and improving the lot at the corner of 14th Street and Mentone Avenue and redoing the parking area along Trouville Avenue and improving fencing around the basin.