



DATE: June 23, 2015

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Community Services

TITLE: **Deer Hollow Farm Agreement –
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space
District**

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the City Manager to enter into a five-year agreement, with an option to extend for one additional five-year period, between the City of Mountain View and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District regarding the funding and operation of Deer Hollow Farm.

DISCUSSION

The City and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) have worked cooperatively on the operation of Deer Hollow Farm (DHF) since 1979. The current amended agreement with MROSD will expire on June 30, 2015. Entering into this agreement will ensure the continued participation of the MROSD and the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department in the funding of DHF for the next five years.

The City and MROSD wish to continue the educational program at DHF. The City provides two staff members to oversee the livestock, summer camp, and environmental education programs, while MROSD provides DHF property and buildings as well as a maintenance worker assigned to DHF. MROSD and the County of Santa Clara have entered into a separate five-year agreement in 2015, under which the County will provide funds for MROSD to operate and maintain the County-owned Rancho San Antonio County Park, which is adjacent to the District-owned Rancho San Antonio Open Space Preserve. Of the funds provided by the County to MROSD for the operation and maintenance of the park, the sum of \$75,000 per year (an increase from the current \$50,000 annually) is to be remitted to the City for support of the program at DHF.

This agreement updates the insurance language and also payment amounts due to the City. Staff recommends entering into a new agreement to operate DHF with MROSD

for the upcoming five-year period, with an option to extend for an additional five years by mutual agreement. The term of the agreement would commence on July 1, 2015 and terminate on June 30, 2020, or June 30, 2025 if extended.

The Friends of Deer Hollow Farm (FODHF), a 501(c)(3) support group, has historically provided additional funding to the programs at DHF through grants to improve farm operations (improvements to the milking room, new garden beds, and most recently, a new duck pond), as well as approximately \$10,000 in support to low-income schools to participate in DHF's school year program. In addition to this annual support, FODHF has been increasingly supportive of the operations of DHF and has been instrumental in securing additional funding of \$40,000 to \$75,000 annually from the County and other donors, cities, and supporters over a five-year period from 2011 to 2016. In addition, the FODHF also provides thousands of hours in volunteer support to the operations and programs at DHF.

FISCAL IMPACT

The new agreement will provide an additional \$25,000 of funding for DHF pending budget approval of the County of Santa Clara Parks and Recreation Department scheduled for June 16, 2015. The City budget for the DHF program in Fiscal Year 2015-16 is approximately \$310,000 and has a cost recovery goal of zero percent to 50 percent for classes and 80 percent to 122 percent for camps.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Decline to approve the agreement.
2. Provide additional direction to staff regarding the agreement.

PUBLIC NOTICING

Agenda posting and a copy of the Council report to the MROSD General Manager.

Prepared by:

Lauren C. Merriman
Recreation Supervisor

John R. Marchant
Recreation Manager

LCM-JRM/CV/7/CAM
211-06-23-15CR-E

Attachment: 1. Agreement

Approved by:

J.P. de la Montaigne
Community Services Director

Daniel H. Rich
City Manager