

**CITY OF FERNDALE – HUMBOLDT COUNTY CALIFORNIA – U.S.A.  
AGENDA – STUDY SESSION**

Location:	City Hall	Date:	April 5, 2022
	<b>VIA ZOOM</b>	Time:	<b>10:00 am</b>
		Posted:	March 31, 2022

This meeting is being held in accordance with the Brown Act as currently in effect under the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor’s Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020 that allows attendance by members of the City Council, City staff, and the public by teleconference, videoconference, or both.

We are strongly recommending that comments for this meeting be submitted prior to the meeting. Comments should be submitted to [cityclerk@ci.ferndale.ca.us](mailto:cityclerk@ci.ferndale.ca.us) by 4:00pm on Monday, April 4, 2022, please be sure to put “Study Session Comment “in the subject line. All comments received by 4pm will be read into the record (limit to 5 minutes) during the regular meeting. To provide public comment during the meeting, you will need to join the Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86380565118?pwd=MIA5Vk0xcFhEUGk1dm12UzZDL1F6UT09>

Or go to Zoom.us and input the following info when prompted:

Meeting ID: 863 8056 5118

Passcode: 340753

You may also dial in using your telephone by using either number: (Use \*6 to mute and unmute)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

Meeting ID: 863 8056 5118

Passcode: 340753

1. CALL STUDY SESSION TO ORDER – Mayor
2. REVIEW & DISCUSS
  - a. Per Capita Grant Funding Project Recommendations
3. ADJOURN STUDY SESSION

**This notice is posted in compliance with Government Code §54954.2.  
The next Regular Meeting of the Ferndale City Council will be held on  
April 20, 2022 at 7:00 pm.**

Meeting Date:	April 6, 2022			
Agenda Item Title	Per Capita Grant Funding Project Recommendations			
Presented By:	Rick Hill			
Type of Item:		Action	x	Discussion
				Information
Action Required:	x	No Action		Voice Vote
				Roll Call Vote

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant Funding for the City of Ferndale

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** Review and Discuss Proposed Projects and Cost Estimates. Provide Staff Direction.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Per Capita Grant Program originates from Proposition 68, placed on the ballot via Senate Bill 5 (DeLeon, Chapter 852, statutes of 2017), and approved by voters on June 5, 2018. Funds for the program were appropriated via State Budget item 3790-101-6088(b). Legislative program information is found in the Public Resources Code (PRC) beginning at §80000 (see page 51). Funds were provided the program described below:

General Per Capita Program: \$185,000,000

Funds are available for local park rehabilitation, creation, and improvement grants to local governments on a per capita basis. Grant recipients are encouraged to utilize awards to rehabilitate existing infrastructure and to address deficiencies in neighborhoods lacking access to the outdoors (PRC §80061(a)).

The City of Ferndale will potentially be awarded \$177,952 as part of the General Per Capita Program. While the government code indicates that the minimum funding would be \$200,000 per eligible entity, based on the number of entities that were actually eligible and the total amount of funding that was appropriated as part of the State budgeting process, the total allocation for each eligible City was decreased to \$177,952. This funding is non-competitive and does not require any matching funds due to the City’s designation as disadvantaged (based on the State Parks per capita match calculator).

*Eligible Projects*

- Projects must be capital outlay for recreational purposes, either acquisition or development.
- Pre-construction costs may not exceed 25% of the project amount (this includes permitting, designs, staff time, and the like).
- The primary purpose of any building constructed or improved must be public recreation.
- Construction outside the boundaries of the recreation facility is not permitted.

The original due date for preliminary applications was December 31, 2021. The City submitted two separate applications, one for each existing park (Fireman's Park and Russ Park). The applications included a variety of projects that had been discussed at City Council meetings prior to submittal. However, there is not enough funding to cover the cost of all projects that have been brought forward. The City committed to holding two public meetings to gather more information on which projects the community would like to see developed at each park.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The City recently conducted two public meetings to gather additional input about parks and recreation needs of the community. In addition to these meetings, a survey was developed and circulated to gather additional information. Below is a summary of the public outreach efforts and results. Throughout these efforts, the public was informed that a portion of the available funding would be set aside to update signs in both Russ and Firemen's parks.

#### *Park and Recreation Survey*

The City developed a park and recreation survey to gather general information about parks and recreation needs in the City and to gather input on which projects should be prioritized for funding by the Per Capita program. The survey was available online and print copies were made available at the open house. 54 surveys in total were returned. Complete survey results are included as Attachment C. General results indicate that respondents would like to see additional restrooms, picnic shelters, and improved sidewalks/trails.

For the proposed Per Capita projects, the Firemen's Park Barbeque Area ranked the highest with the Russ Park Restroom on Bluff Street, a new ADA trail in Russ Park, and the Firemen's Park Musical Playground Feature following. There was also support for an updated gravel parking area on Bluff Street.

Additional comments and project ideas included mountain bike trails, play equipment for younger children, and acquisition and development of the open field located south of Firemen's Park. There were also several comments on the need to fix current equipment at Firemen's Park and provide more road maintenance.

#### *Virtual Public Workshop – March 3, 2022*

The City hosted a virtual public workshop covering parks and recreation needs on March 3, 2022 at 6:00pm. During the meeting, the City Planner gave a presentation covering the Per Capita Grant program, existing Ferndale City Parks (Firemen's Park and Russ Park), and provided a brief overview of the proposed projects (Attachment A). After conclusion of the presentation the City Manager provided comments and then public input was requested. Only one comment was received stating a desire for development of mountain bike trails separate from hiking trails in the area.

### Public Open House – March 5, 2022

The City hosted a public open house at City Hall on March 5, 2022 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. During the event, participants were encouraged to write comments and questions on posters that were displayed around the room. The posters provided information on the Per Capita Grant Program and the currently proposed projects. There were also posters showing alternative ideas for park projects and allowing space for additional ideas from participants. In addition, each participant was given \$50 in 'City Bucks' that could be used to support the proposed park projects they were in favor of by placing the 'City Bucks' in the appropriate bag. Hard copies of the survey were also available for participants to fill out if they had not already taken the online survey.

A wide variety of comments were provided on each of the proposed projects. . In general, there was a lot of support for a restroom at the Russ Park parking area on Bluff Street, an ADA access trail in Russ Park, and a new barbeque area at Firemen's Park.

Additional project ideas that were provided included updating the Town Green at City Hall, a skateboard park, a bike park/ pump track, a community garden, exercise equipment at Firemen's Park, a band-shell or small amphitheater, and mountain bike trails. There were also several comments about improving the quality of existing sidewalks and roadways on the way to the parks in order to improve safety and ease of access. This included a sidewalk and/or bike lane all the way to the Russ Park parking area on Bluff Street.

It should be noted that there is limited funding for regular park maintenance and repair which includes staff time to clean park areas and empty trash receptacles. Should additional park facilities be developed, such as more trails, new parks, gardens, or any of the other ideas provided by the public, the Council may want to look into long term funding mechanisms to support the City's parks.

### **RECOMMENDED PROJECTS:**

While there are many projects that would enhance the City's existing parks, the Per Capita Grant provides a fixed amount of funding. As such, based on the input received, the following projects were identified as the highest priority for the Per Capita funding:

- Design and construction of a barbeque area with a shelter at Firemen's Park.
- Design and construction of a restroom facility at the Bluff Street parking area.
- New signs throughout Russ Park and Firemen's Park.

At this time, the feasibility of the restroom on Bluff Street is still being determined. Site constraints may limit what type of restroom can be installed and if connection to the City sewer

is required it will add substantial cost. In order to provide more detailed information on this project, City staff and consultants will refine the project scope and cost estimate. If a vault restroom can be constructed in this area, the project can be funded by the Per Capita program. If a sewer connection is required, project costs may exceed currently available funding.

There also appears to be support for ADA accessible trails. However, the City cannot currently fund both an ADA trail and a restroom. An ADA trail is likely to require more time and effort to design than a restroom (depending on design) and will need further study before it can be implemented. Since the public has indicated this is a high priority project, the City will consider this project in future planning and grant efforts. Additionally, should the restroom project prove to not be feasible due to site constraints, that amount of funding can be utilized to start an ADA trail project.

Based on initial cost estimates, the three recommended projects will likely use up the entirety of the available funding with the bulk of the funds allocated to establishment of a restroom on Bluff Street. Should additional funding be available, the public outreach results and other requests, including items identified by Jim Stretch for Russ Park, will be considered.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Direct staff on which projects to pursue with Per Capita Funding.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

A – Revised Per Capita Grant Alternatives

**To Jay Parrish & City Council**  
**Subject: Per Capita Grant \$177,920.00**

**Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant Program**

**Proposition 68: California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018**

**Approved by voters in June 2018**

**Included a Per Capita Program with \$185 million in funding**

**Administered by CA State Park's Office of Grants and Local Services**

**Per Capita Program Funding = \$177,952 per city**

**Guaranteed funding with no matching funds required for severely disadvantaged communities (Ferndale qualifies)**

**Can only be use for "new capital outlay" or acquisition of lands for parks**

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**Existing Ferndale Parks Russ Park**

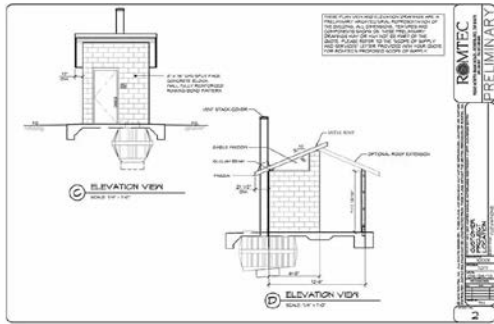
- Approximately 105 acres
- Deeded to the city by Mrs. Russ in 1920 to act as a bird refuge
- Noted for Sitka Spruce and Grand Firs
- Approximately four miles of trails
- Existing human-made pond
- Predominantly maintained by volunteers
- Existing Parking on Bluff Street

**RUSS PARK ALTERNATIVE**

**ROMTEC MODEL 1011** Russ Park Bluff Street Vault Restroom

**Likely cost \$40,000 for vault materials delivered and another 25,000 for installation. 60 K**

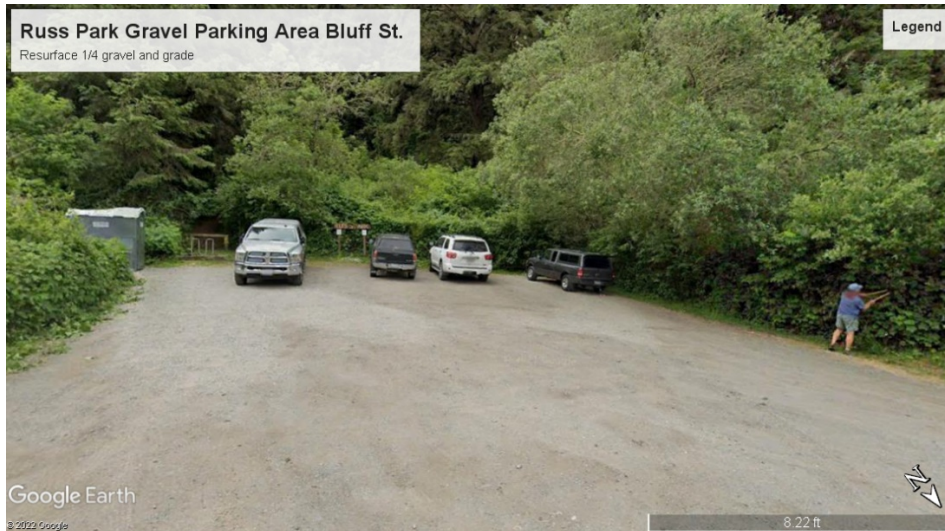
Delivered fall 2022 direct purchase with a cooperative delivered from Romtec with local contractor install. Waste would need to be pumped 3 times a year with the 1000 gallon vault tank. .



SST® Aspen Single.

The Romtec Model 1011 is a compact waterless restroom that provides a complete ADA compliant vault toilet. It has a single-occupant restroom that includes Romtec odor prevention SST ventilation system. Romtec offers many types of siding packages and accessories. Whether your restroom building requires stone wainscot, split-face CMU block, or painted hardy board and batten, Romtec can provide any of these options at a fair price.

**Parking Lot Gravel and Grading \$4,500.00 provided by Local Sources**



**TRAIL-BREAKER \$9,000.00**

The Trail-Breaker's known for their ability to go anywhere, Trail-Breakers have been used by the United States' Armed Forces, Forest Service, Fish and Game officers in some 25 states, big game hunters, trail builders, farmers, ranchers, and treasure hunters. Since 1960, the Trail-Breaker has set the standard for Rokon. This tote goat would be used for Trail construction/maintenance and emergencies and stored at City Public Works.

Trail Signage \$1,700 - Fourteen 4"X4"X 8' Foot Cedar Posts for Russ Park Trail Markers = \$300,  
 Engraved trail signs \$100 per post (Local sign shop X 12 = \$ \$1,200)  
 Russ Park Entrance Sign Engraved on 3' by 12"X 2" on two posts = \$200.

A. Russ Park Trail Improvement \$6,000.00.

## Russ Park ADA Trail Segment

- Create level pathway that would be accessible for all ability levels
- Survey and cut new trail segment parallel to Bluff Street
- May be able to use City owned bridge

B. 1000' ADA Russ Park Trail Improvement adjacent Bluff Street. \$30,000

BUDGET DRAFT ALTERNATIVES		RUSS PARK IMPROVEMENTS		
Description	Quantity	Units	Cost	Total Cost
Bluff Street Vault Toilet	1	1	\$65,000	\$ 65,000
Vault Toilet Waste Disposal/Maintenance	1	2 years	\$5,000	\$5,000
4 X 4 Post Signage Trail Markers	10.0		\$1,700	\$1,700
Tote Goat Trail Bike	1	1	\$9000	\$9,000
Bluff Street Parking Gravel Surfacing -	TBD		\$4,500	\$4,500
A. Minimal Trail Improvements	TBD		\$6,000	\$6,000
1000 ' ADA Trail within existing trail prism	TBD	2	\$30,000	\$30,000
B. Trailhead Interpretive sign	TBD	1	\$20,000	\$20,000
Project Coordinator	1	300 hrs. \$30 hr.	\$9,000	\$9,000
CEQA Services	1		\$15,000	\$15,000
			Sub Total	\$165,200
		10% Contingency	+ 10%	\$16,520
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$181,720</b>



### **FIREMAN’S PARK ALTERNATIVES**

Existing Ferndale Parks Firemen’s Park

- Approximately 5 acres
- Children's Play Area
- Picnic Tables
- Baseball field
- Bocce Ball Courts
- Native Plant Garden
- Basketball Court
- Restrooms

### **Barbeque Picnic Area and Musical Instrument Location**



### Fireman's Pit Barbeque



Community Barbeque Design - Custom Made



## Firemen's Park Playground Feature

- Interactive Art Installation
- Would allow visitors to make various sounds
- Collaboration with Girl Scouts
- 



## Firemen's Park Footbridge Installation

- Install bridge over Francis Creek
- Connect Firemen's Park to Cleveland St
- City already owns bridge
- 



Signage Interpretive Panel \$20,000.00



The visitor interpretive sign may include info about Fireman’s Park below highlighting other attractions such as Russ Park, History, the Lost Coast, and the Eel River Estuary. In 1941-42, the Works Progress Administration - (WPA) improved this municipal park with a softball field, bleachers, a recreation hall, picnic tables, and fireplaces. Fireman’s Park has bocci courts, a basketball court, a baseball field with bleachers, an independently operated Ferndale Community Center, picnic tables, fireplaces, a group pit barbeque, restroom, a playground area, musical features, and 2-foot bridges that cross the Francis Creek Greenway. A fireplace next to the playground has an appreciation plaque that honors Ferndale’s volunteer firemen over many decades. Fireman’s Park is maintained by Ferndale City and many community volunteers. Fireman’s Park is open all year from sunrise to sunset. Signage will include required State Logos.

BUDGET DRAFT Alternatives		FIREMAN’S PARK IMPROVEMENTS			
Description	Quantity	Units	Cost	Total Cost	
Fireman Park Picnic Area -Barbeque Improvements Masonry Gazabo, Grills, and Bronze Plaque honoring Fireman	4 X 7 X 3 with Gable Roof	SQFT	\$60,000.	\$60,000	
Fireman’s Park Musical Instruments	1	5	\$30,000	\$30,000	
Fireman’s Park Bridge	1	1	\$60,000	\$60,000	
Fireman’s Park Sign	1	1	\$20 000	\$20,000	
Project Coordinator	1	282 hrs. \$30 hr.	\$8,500	\$ 8,500	
CEQA Services	2		\$12,000	\$12,000	
			<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>\$190,500</b>	
			10% Contingency	<b>\$19,050</b>	
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$209,550.00</b>	