

Directors Begin \$72,000 Park Planning Project

Simi Valley Recreation and Park District directors are about to "step out" on a plan to get park construction rolling in the valley.

They looked at a proposed priority construction schedule Wednesday night which broke down into a phasing program the development of two park sites. Drawn up by district manager Les Reed, the plan would call for construction of each of the parks in three phases at a total estimated cost of more than \$72,000.

Directors Ted Grandson and David Strathearn, Jr., of the board's facilities committee, will work with Reed on the proposal and recommend a park construction schedule at the Sept. 23 meeting.

Reed pointed out that the phasing of construction of two parks—Frontier Park estimated to cost \$42,830, and Arroyo Park estimated at \$30,052—could be planned over one, two or more years. He explained, however, that it is important that the schedule be adopted so that work on park sites selected by district directors can begin.

He added that the two parks on which he presented cost estimates might not be those recommended by the facilities committee or agreed by the board of directors as the first parks on which to begin construction.

"We will have to establish priorities on neighborhoods where we have park properties," Reed said. He added that the order of

development of the park sites will be dependent on the growth of these neighborhoods.

Site utilization plans have been approved on both Arroyo Park, located in the Valley West subdivision, and Frontier Park, on the south side of Arroyo Simi about one-fourth mile east of Erringer Road. The directors have also agreed on plans for the park site where the new recreation office will be located, at the southwest corner of Bridget Street and Los Angeles Avenue.

Located in the Kings Park tract, the new office will be made up of the sales office and a model home from the Simi Park sub-

division. Donald Roberts, Thousand Oaks landscape architect for the district, estimated the cost of moving the buildings and preparing the site for them at between \$8,560 and \$10,188.

Three of the major costs, he noted, will be moving the buildings from their present location on Los Angeles Avenue, pouring the concrete slab and the plumbing.

The moving cost is estimated at \$1,810; pouring the slab will run between \$1,870 and \$3,150 although Roberts predicted the cost would run nearer the lower figure, and plumbing is estimated at \$1,400.

The board agreed to wait until the Larwin Co., which is donating the buildings to the district, gives its cost estimate for moving the buildings.

On the park priority construction schedule, Reed suggested that for Arroyo Park, the first phase of work could include grading, paving, stub utilities, shrubs and trees. The next phase could move into irrigation, turf, lights, concrete paving and drinking fountains with the final touches added in the third phase.

Frontier Park would follow a similar phasing schedule.

Park development would generally be in this order: rough grading; water, sewer, drainage lines and other utilities; roads, walks and paved areas; buildings; irrigation systems, lawns, shrubs and trees and installation of apparatus and play equipment.

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Park Land Clearing Recommended

Recreation and Park District directors have decided not to go into the citrus farming business in the Simi Valley after all.

They were told Wednesday night by Director Al Haas it would be better to clear the orange trees of a 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -acre grove owned by the district and destined eventually to become a park.

The directors at their last meeting considered leasing the land if they could find somebody interested. When Haas reported Wednesday that there is no crop now and recommended clearing the trees, the directors agreed. They authorized district Manager Les Reed to check when the school district plans to clear an adjacent parcel which is the site for the future Valley View Junior High School.

The park property is tabbed the Houghton site and is just east of Township Elementary School on Township Avenue between Tapo Street and Tapo Canyon Road.

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Park Name Puzzles

Directors

How do you go about naming a park?

The Simi Valley recreation and park district directors would like to know.

For months now, they've been tossing about suggested names for a 6.3-acre site at Los Angeles avenue and Bridget street now known only as "1551."

The Larwin Company, whose Kingspark tract homes are near the site, had suggested calling it "Kingspark."

Directors politely turned down that idea last month.

Some wages, noting that the park fronts on Bridget street, suggested calling it "Bardot Park."

Wednesday night the board's facilities committee came up with two suggestions. One of them turned out to be "Kingspark." The other was "Berylwood," since the park is adjacent to the proposed elementary school of the same name.

"That stinks," board member Harry Strawl muttered.

Board chairman Frank Setter asked members to have a suggestion or two at the next meeting.

6-Acre Park Site Gets Dist. Priority

A 6.3-acre park site at the corner of Los Angeles avenue and Bridget street will be the first park to receive major development by the Simi Valley recreation and park district.

The decision to spend up to \$43,600 in initial improvements to the site was made Wednesday by park board directors.

Working with the \$50,000 budgeted this year for park development, directors indicated they would also spend this fiscal year:

— \$2,400 for fencing around the two-acre Arroyo park site in the Valley West tract, and

— \$4,000 for grading of Frontier Park, a 2.7-acre parcel of park land adjacent to the Arroyo Simi at Elizondo street.

Directors first indicated they would spend all that was left of their park development budget on the Los Angeles and Bridget park site after fencing the Arroyo site and grading Frontier.

But later they amended that idea to a final motion that read the district would give "first priority" to development of the Los Angeles avenue facility af-

this year. Estimated costs for this development amount to over \$41,000.

However, Leslie G. Reed, park district general manager, indicated Wednesday that more sophisticated development of the site could be postponed to allow installation of turf, trees and shrubs and rest room facilities during this budget year. Those items are estimated at another \$18,150.

Development to this point would make the park useable by the public, Reed explained.

The park site — still without a name — will be the location of the Simi Park sales office and a model home that will be joined together on the site to provide park district offices and public meeting space.

The sales office and home has

been donated to the district by the Larwin Company in lieu of park land donation under the county's open spaces ordinance, and will be moved to the park site early next year.

The Los Angeles avenue-Bridget street park will be developed adjacent to the proposed Berylwood elementary school.

Other facilities planned for the park include patio areas off the recreation buildings, a wading pool, tot lot, picnic shelters, tennis, badminton and volleyball courts and a senior-adult area.

In other action Wednesday, the park board voted to investigate possible acquisition of 15 acres owned by the Tapo citrus Association, and adjacent to the Tapo Country Club pool, for park development.

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Call It Berylwood

Berlywood.

That's the name Simi Valley recreation and park district directors gave to their 6.3-acre park site at Los Angeles avenue and Bridget street Wednesday.

Then, as a baptism gift, directors voted to spend an estimated \$42,850 for initial development of the site this year.

That sum is expected to provide lighting, grading, a restroom facility, shrubs, trees, ground cover, turf, sprinkler system and paving.

Also slated for Berylwood park is the former Simi Park sales office and model home, to be joined at the site and used for park district offices and public meeting space.

"Berylwood" was chosen as a name for the site after directors shunted aside a handful of other suggestions. Among them were "Bard," "Lawndale," "Kingspark," "Valle Verde" and "Lincoln."

Berylwood park is adjacent to the proposed elementary school of the same name.

Site for Center

Recreation and Park district directors Wednesday approved a 13-acre park site for the location of the proposed Simi Valley community center building.

The action came on a request from the community center committee, who already has \$9,400 banked from Pioneer Days and other fund-raising projects to finance construction of the center.

The center, when built, will occupy a park site on the south side of Cochran, between Peppertree and Sycamore.

District directors also voted Wednesday to join with the center committee in preliminary architectural and site planning for the proposed building.

When constructed, the community center, would be a public facility operated by the recreation and park district.

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