

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 17, 2014
TO: City Council
THROUGH: City Manager Judie Zimomra
FROM: Recreation Director Andrea Miller
RE: Utilization of Lee County Impact Fees

Background

Recently, Staff was notified by Lee County that there was a balance of approximately \$17,000 that had accumulated in the Sanibel Impact Fee District to be spent on NEW park facilities and/or equipment (\$2,000 of those dollars must be spent by September 30, 2014 or they will be forfeited). The impact fee dollars cannot be spent to replace or improve something existing. The selected project would go before the Lee County Board of Commissioners for approval at their August 5th meeting. Upon Board approval, the City would move forward to have the selected project completed by September 30, 2014.

Status

Staff has applied for several local grants with the plan to upgrade the Community Park playground with a "toddler section" which is a request we often receive from users. To date, the total amount we have received in grants is \$1,000 (from Kiwanis) which when combined with the \$17,000 in impact fees is still below the amount needed for the new toddler play equipment. The new toddler section would be approximately \$29,700 not including fencing (\$15,200 for equipment, mulch, border and installation, plus \$14,500 for a shade structure plus the cost for fencing).

Options

- A. Proceed with the installation of the toddler lot at Community Park with less pieces of equipment and supplement as more funds become available.
- B. Proceed with the installation of the full toddler lot at Community Park & fund the difference from the contingency fund.
- C. Installation of a picnic shelter over the existing concrete pad at Roadside Park (we are currently obtaining price quotes and based upon other projects we anticipate it would be in the \$17,000 - \$20,000 range). As the only free public parking lot on the island, this park is being used with increased frequency by off-island bikers as well as by on-island workers for lunch and by visitors for picnics. In addition to parking, the park has a drinking fountain but no restrooms.
- D. We also have the option, that the staff does not recommend, to forfeit the \$2,000 of impact fees.

CC: Public Works Director Keith Williams
Finance Director Sylvia Edwards
City Attorney Ken Cuyler