



CITY OF LARKSPUR
Staff Report

October 17, 2018 Council Meeting

DATE: October 9, 2018
TO: Honorable Mayor Hillmer and the Larkspur City Council
FROM: Dan Schwarz, City Manager
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR FORMAL STANDING FROM "THE LARKSPUR LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY TASK FORCE"

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve attached resolution.

SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

At its October 3, 2018 meeting, the City Council received the attached letter from a grassroots organization called the Larkspur Library and Community Center Task Force (Task Force). The Task Force is seeking some form of recognition from the City Council that gives it formal standing as the official partner of the City in pursuing fundraising for development of a library and community center on the Community Facility Parcel at the corner of Doherty Drive and Rose Lane. The letter enumerates five actions the Task Force intends to take to realize this goal.

ANALYSIS

The City Council has expressed on several occasions its hope that a community-based group would emerge to take on the challenge of fundraising for a new library and community center. The Task Force is such a group and has the support of a wide range of stakeholders of the Larkspur Library and Larkspur Recreation. Granting the Task Force recognition as the City's official partner in this endeavor will give the Task Force the level of standing it needs to begin engaging the community.

The five action items enumerated in the Task Force's letter require discussion between the Task Force and the City to ensure assignments and responsibilities are clear to both parties and the public, particularly around the issue of public engagement. These discussions will help staff bring to the Council any actions it must take to facilitate the Task Force's approach. For example, the Task Force's letter suggests a "scaled or phased" approach to the project. It may be necessary for the Council to rescind some prior design decisions to allow such an approach.

So that these discussions can occur expeditiously, it seems appropriate and would be helpful for the Council to appoint a committee comprised of two of its members to meet with the Task Force and staff.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Adopt the attached resolution and appoint an ad-hoc committee of two members to meet with the Task Force as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Schwarz, City Manager

Attachments

1. Resolution with the Task Force's letter as Exhibit A

**CITY OF LARKSPUR
RESOLUTION 78/18**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LARKSPUR
EXPRESSING ITS COMMITMENT TO PARTNER WITH THE LARKSPUR LIBRARY
AND COMMUNITY CENTER TASK FORCE TO PURSUE FUNDRAISING FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF A LIBRARY AND COMMUNITY CENTER ON THE COMMUNITY
FACILITY PARCEL**

WHEREAS, the City Council received the attached Exhibit A, a letter from the Larkspur Library and Community Center Task Force (Task Force), seeking recognition as the City's partner in realizing the community's desire for a library and community center on the Community Facility Parcel, City-owned property at the corner of Doherty Drive and Rose Lane;

WHEREAS, the Task Force has sought and received support from stakeholders of the Larkspur Library and Larkspur Recreation; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has expressed on many occasions the need for a community-based group to emerge to lead a fundraising effort for a new library and community center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Larkspur expresses its desire to partner with the Task Force to pursue fundraising for development of a library and community center on the Community Facility Parcel and authorizes the Task Force to represent itself as a partner of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council shall appoint a committee of two of its members to meet with the Task Force and City staff to discuss roles and responsibilities for the Task Force and the City, particularly with respect to the activities enumerated in attached Exhibit A. The committee shall report back to the City Council at a future public meeting.

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the City Council of the City of Larkspur duly introduced and regularly adopted the foregoing resolution at a regular meeting held on October 17, 2018 by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBER:

NOES: COUNCILMEMBER:

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBER:

ABSTAIN: COUNCILMEMBER:

Mayor

ATTEST:

Jamie Kuryllo, City Clerk

Exhibit A
Task Force Letter

September 20, 2018

Dear City of Larkspur Mayor and City Council Members:

This letter is to request action by the Larkspur City Council to facilitate implementation of the July 2013 Larkspur Rose Garden Community Facilities Parcel Master Plan Report.

The Larkspur Parks and Recreation Commission, the Larkspur Library Board of Trustees, the Larkspur Library Foundation, and the Friends of the Larkspur Library have all voted to support the following:

The Larkspur Library and Community Center Task Force to:

1. Retain counsel to review the City's previously unused 501(c)3 nonprofit organization (with all its governing documents and records) to determine whether it can serve as a vehicle for the Task Force's collecting and distributing funds for building the library and community center.
2. Be assigned permission to use all existing plans, studies, reports and documents that have been created for this development purpose;
3. Be assigned an ex officio member from the City Council to serve as liaison with the Task Force;
4. Raise the necessary funds, from private and public sources (including as permitted by law from the Zimmer Gift Fund, the Library Foundation and Friends of the Library); and,
5. Engage in a public/private partnership with the City to build the Larkspur Library and Community Center scaled or phased to the resources available as a result of this process.

The Larkspur Library and Community Center Task Force has been formed and consists of:

Catherine Pyke, co-chairperson
A.J. Rea, member
Jeanne Friedel, member
Lisbet Sunshine, member

Joseph W. Jennings, co-chairperson
Gabriel Gesmer, member
Katherine Green, member
Paul Straub, member

The July 2013 Larkspur Rose Garden Community Facilities Parcel Master Plan Report recommends a new integrated community center and library on the site that "is a vibrant and beautiful beacon for lifelong learning, social interaction, civic engagement, local history and culture, and health and wellness." The Task Force will raise the funds and build an integrated facility that implements this vision, addresses the community concerns outlined in the Master Plan, and will be cost effective in development and operations for the city government and taxpayers.

The Task Force will coordinate with the appropriate City Departments (Administration, Building, Finance, Fire, Library, Planning, Police, Public Works and Recreation) and will welcome ex officio member as the City Council deems appropriate.

We request expedited action by the Larkspur City Council to allow us to make progress this year on the Master Plan's goals.

Respectfully submitted:



Noel Shumway, Chairperson
Library Board of Trustees



Lisbet Sunshine, Chairperson
Parks and Recreation Commission



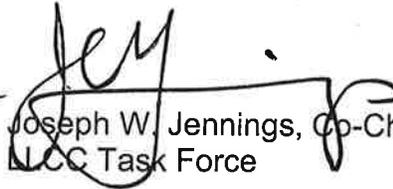
Larry R. Landot, President
Library Foundation



Barbara Friday, Chairperson
Friends of the Library



Catherine Pyke, Co-Chairperson
LLCC Task Force



Joseph W. Jennings, Co-Chairperson
LLCC Task Force

cc: Dan Schwarz, Larkspur City Manager