

**SAN MATEO COUNTY**  
**Environmental Services Agency**

Date: August 29, 2001

**Hearing Date:** Sept. 18, 2001

**TO:** The Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Marcia Raines, Director, Environmental Services *MR*

**SUBJECT:** Study to Determine Long-Term Sewage Treatment Needs at Memorial Park

**RECOMMENDATION:** Authorize the Director of Environmental Services to engage the services of an outside consultant to analyze and recommend improvements to the sewer treatment system at Memorial Park.

**BACKGROUND:**

For the last two years, County Parks has been authorized to expend funds to begin replacement of the decades old sewer pipe in Memorial Park. During the budget review process in June, the Parks Division was asked to report back to the Board in September to determine whether other parts of the system need improvement and to provide an estimate of costs, possible sources of grant funding and time line for completion. Staff agrees that we should look at the system as a whole, not just the pipe replacement project. The Parks Division does not have the capability to conduct such an analysis or cost estimate in house.

**DISCUSSION:**

The sewer treatment plant in Memorial Park was designed and built in the late 1950's and will need to be replaced in the not too distant future. It is located relatively close to a creek bank, which may not be the optimal site for a treatment plant. This project was reviewed with the Director of the Department of Public Works and it was determined that the Agency does not have the ability to conduct this analysis. Staff recommends that the County hire a contractor with the necessary technical background to analyze the condition of the existing plant, whether the existing plant can be modified to meet current standards and analyze whether it should be replaced and relocated. If it were to be relocated, we would ask for a site recommendation.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The cost of the evaluation is estimated at \$16,000. Funding is available in the Parks and Recreation adopted budget for fiscal year 2001-02. There is no impact on Net County Cost.

**REVIEW BY OTHERS:**

Reviewed by County Counsel.