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Perris Obtains Input for Prop 68 Grant Application



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PERRIS, Calif. (July 17, 2019) -- The City of Perris hosted a community event to gather community input for a Prop 68 grant application for a potential new park on Saturday, July 13, 2019 at the future Enchanted Hills Park project site located north of Weston Road and Diana Street.

The City is applying for a Proposition 68 - Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program in hopes of obtaining funds to build a brand-new park for the community.

"We have an opportunity to bring a beautiful, new park to this community and the residents get a chance to provide their input," said Director of Community Services Sabrina Chavez. "This is a competitive grant, so we truly need all the community input and participation we can get to increase our chances of a successful Prop 68 grant application."

Perris resident Lucia Orozco is excited that the possibility of a new park in this area which has been deficient of a park for quite some time.



"It would be a safe place for the kids to play and hang out," said Orozco. "There are a lot of possibilities, so we are excited at the chance to finally have a park in this area."

This free event was held from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. and allowed community members to submit feedback via survey about which parks programs and amenities are important to them. The event featured a free meal, snow cones, a rock-climbing wall and several raffles for the community.

Council Member Malcolm Corona attended the event and talked about how one of the oldest communities in the city certainly deserves a park.

"This community has been around for over 50 years and they deserve to have a nice park here," said Corona. "I've been talking to some community members and they want to see soccer fields, and swing sets and things for the young children to do and ultimately, we just want to see some smiling faces."



Under Proposition 68, the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Grants and Local Services, is authorized to allocate more than \$254 million of Statewide Park Program (SPP) competitive grant funding to create new parks and expand or renovate an existing park. The maximum grant request per application is \$8.5 million and all SPP applications are due by August 5, 2019.

"We are excited about this opportunity because residents in this area have been pleading with the City to get a park here for a long time," said Perris City Manager Richard Belmudez. "This is a well-established neighborhood, but when it was built, no park was installed."

The Enchanted Hills Park project area was identified as a park deficient community and was selected after the City hosted a series of public meetings to gather community input. The Enchanted Hills Park project is considered a potential competitive application, as the project area is determined to have met minimum grant criteria of having both zero park acres, per 1,000 residents and is located within a very low-income community.



Belmudez said the grant will allow the City with a chance to provide an amenity to a community who deserves it.

Said Belmudez, "We are completely committed and happy to pursue this grant opportunity."

Award notifications of the SPP Grant will be announced in January 2020. For more information, please contact the Community Services Department at 951-435-7220.



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