

**COUNTY OF SONOMA
AGENDA ITEM
SUMMARY REPORT**

Clerk of the Board Use Only
Meeting Date **Held Until**
 ___/___/___ ___/___/___
Agenda Item No: **Agenda Item No:**

Department: General Services & Regional Parks

() 4/5 Vote Required

Contact: John Haig
Mary Burns

Phone:
(707) 565-2977

Board Date:
April 28, 2009

Deadline for Board Action:

AGENDA SHORT TITLE:

Spring Clean 2009

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:

- Support the upcoming 2009 Spring Clean event planned for Saturday, May 2, 2009 and Saturday, May 9, 2009.
- Authorize the County's Risk Manager to obtain insurance coverage, at a reasonable expense not to exceed \$5,000, to provide general liability and limited accident medical coverage in the event of injury or property damage occurring during the event.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT

EXPENDITURES

ADD'L FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL

Estimated Cost	\$	5,000	Contingencies	\$	0
			(Fund Name:)		
Amount Budgeted	\$	5,000	Unanticipated Revenue	\$	0
			(Source:)		
Other Avail Approp	\$	0	Other Transfer(s)	\$	0
(Explain below)			(Source:)		
Additional Requested:	\$	0	Add'l Funds Requested:	\$	0

Explanation (if required):

Prior Board Action(s):

4-8-2008: Supported the 2008 Spring Clean event held on May 3rd and 4th, 2008.

Alternatives - Results of Non-Approval:

The County could choose not to support this effort and decline participation.

BACKGROUND:

In 2005, a group of community activists from local churches contacted the City of Santa Rosa regarding a program called Spring Clean. The goal was to improve the overall quality of life in Santa Rosa by volunteering talent and resources to perform volunteer work in the community at large. Recognizing the value of this effort, the City agreed to participate in the event and developed a list of projects that included creek clean-up, graffiti removal, litter abatement, and park improvements and clean-up. The 2005 Spring Clean event was the first of its kind and established the framework of assigning volunteers non-technical/non-trade tasks under the direction of trained staff with all work performed on a volunteer basis during weekend hours. Members of the Santa Rosa City Council have participated in the event and there is a formal report on the success of the event each year to the Council.

The 2005 event combined the efforts of 400 volunteers, additional walk-up citizen volunteers, and City staff to accomplish multiple projects and accounted for more than 3,000 volunteer hours. To expand the benefits of this event to areas outside the City’s jurisdiction, the General Services Administrator from the City of Santa Rosa contacted Sonoma County General Services regarding the possibility of expanding the 2006 Spring Clean program into County areas of responsibility. After consultation with Regional Parks, the County identified projects in County areas for the 2006 Spring Clean event. To facilitate and coordinate the County’s participation in the 2006 event, Allan Darrimon of Regional Parks and John Haig of General Services served on the program’s steering committee. The 2006 Spring Clean event engaged over 1,000 volunteers, and included projects at Spring Lake Regional Park, Paulin Creek at the County Center, the Chanate Historical Cemetery, Valley of the Moon Children’s Home, Russell Avenue Homeless Shelter, graffiti removal, and trash abatement at multiple County jurisdictions. For the 2006 event the County provided both logistics support and the supplies and materials required to complete the work at the various County project sites. The County was the recipient of thousands of hours of volunteer labor expended to address the needs of multiple county areas and facilities. Since 2006, the County has continued to participate in the Spring Clean event along with other area cities and it is estimated that more than 1,600 volunteers have provided services to the communities and the County through these projects. The event provides a means for the City and the County to leverage public resources with community volunteer hours to undertake improvements and address community needs.

Attachments: Work Project lists for County and City Projects

On File With Clerk:

CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY

Board Action (If other than “Requested”)

Vote:

BACKGROUND (Cont.):

Spring Clean 2009 expands on prior event sponsorship and participation and is being managed to be as inclusive as possible to all interested groups. Civic groups and community-based organizations are included in the list of volunteer teams, including Community Action Partnership of Sonoma County and volunteer groups from the Roseland area. The invitation to participate has also been extended to any and all persons or groups who want to come together and work for the overall good of the community in Santa Rosa and Sonoma County. Other cities within the county have also expressed interest in joining the effort. Over 2,000 volunteers are expected for the 2009 Spring Clean event.

As in the past, the City of Santa Rosa is taking a leadership role with respect to planning and coordinating this year's program. A kick-off rally has been scheduled to occur at the Finley Center at 8:00 a.m., May 2, 2009. An afternoon community social and volunteer appreciation event is scheduled from noon to 3:00 p.m. that offers a safety fair, music, and food. Additionally, informational tables will be available to groups who wish to come and share information about their programs, services, and community outreach. To augment the program's impact on County facilities, a second day has been added to this year's event dedicated to Regional Park's projects on May 9, 2009. In addition, the 2009 event has been expanded to cover areas from Roseland to Shiloh Park in Windsor and east to Bennett Valley and Los Guillicos. We anticipate that one-third of this year's 2,000 volunteers will work on County projects amounting to about 3,500 volunteer hours.

General Services and Regional Parks have evaluated all the planned projects and have formulated specific projects that will impact County needs. County work projects will include such areas as:

(May 2, 2009 Projects)

- Spring Lake Park – clean around barbecue pits to improve fire clearance, clean and paint barbecues
- Chanate Cemetery – split rail fence installation, brush removal, rock path work
- Ragle Park – scotch broom removal, paint pond fence, mulch around tennis courts
- LG Nursery – pruning and weeding, planting, irrigation repair, brush & blackberry vine removal, stump removal, rock removal for mowing
- LG Main Campus/Hood Mountain Park – tree pruning, brush clearing, trail clearing, border repair

(May 9, 2009 Projects)

- Riverfront Park – remove old irrigation lines
- Shiloh Park – oil picnic tables, paint barbecues, fence repair, paint gazebo
- Foothill Park – hand dig swale at pond C. build new fence separating properties, plant replacement at entrance
- Helen Putnam – playground sand removal & chip replacement

More information on projects and their locations is available on the City of Santa Rosa web site: (<http://www.srcity.org/SpringClean>).

Work to be performed will be limited to tasks involving hand tools only -- no power tools will be used by volunteers. Each work group will have a group leader to provide oversight of the work and County and City personnel will provide continuous oversight of the work groups throughout the day.

As before, the County will make available on site gloves, hand tools, and first aid kits, as well as water and portable toilets, if restroom facilities are not available. Operation of any vehicle, tractor, rolling and/or other power equipment, as well as debris removal, will be done by trained County personnel as part of their regularly scheduled job tasks.

Since this a special focus event outside the normal scope of work coordinated through the County volunteer program, administered through the Human Resources Department, we are recommending your Board authorize the Risk Manager to obtain insurance coverage, at a reasonable expense not to exceed \$5,000, to provide general liability and limited accident medical coverage in the event of injury or property damage occurring during the event. Sufficient appropriations are available in the insurance budget (Index 010314).

Recommended Action:

- Support the upcoming 2009 Spring Clean event planned for Saturday, May 2, 2009 and Saturday, May 9, 2009.
- Authorize the County's Risk Manager to obtain insurance coverage, at a reasonable expense not to exceed \$5,000, to provide general liability and limited accident medical coverage in the event of injury or property damage occurring during the event.