



## PUBLIC WORKS

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### CITY COUNCIL INFORMATIONAL MEMORANDUM

Date: February 13, 2026

To: Cupertino City Council

From: Chad Mosley, Director of Public Works

Re: Memorial Park Specific Plan – Status and Consideration of Potential Revisions

#### Summary

This memo provides background on the Memorial Park Specific Plan, adopted in April 2024, and outlines staff's recommendation regarding recent suggestions to revise the plan to reduce its overall estimated cost.

#### Background

The Memorial Park Specific Plan was finalized in April 2024 following an extensive public outreach process that included significant community input. The plan identifies a wide range of potential improvements and renovations intended to support long-term planning efforts for Memorial Park. It serves as a guiding document to inform future decision-making related to park investments and expenditures.

The full buildout of all improvements identified in the plan is estimated at approximately \$85 million. However, the plan does not require the City to construct all proposed improvements. Rather, it functions as a menu of options from which the Community and City Council may select and prioritize individual projects over time, based on community priorities, available funding, and broader City needs.

#### Discussion

Staff has received inquiries regarding whether the Memorial Park Specific Plan could be revised to reduce the overall cost by reducing the scope and removing certain proposed improvements. At this time, staff does not recommend initiating an amendment to the Specific Plan for the following reasons:

1. *Additional Costs:* Revising the Specific Plan would require the expenditure of additional funds to modify, prepare, and adopt a new or amended specific plan document.
2. *Non-Binding Nature of the Plan:* The existing plan is a roadmap of potential improvements and does not mandate construction of any specific project.
3. *Council Discretion:* City Council retains full authority to prioritize, defer, or decline any improvements identified in the plan, allowing flexibility to align investments with community priorities and available funding at any given time.
4. *Current Fiscal Constraints:* Due to existing budget limitations and the need to prioritize capital improvement funding toward repair, rehabilitation, and replacement of existing infrastructure, staff recommends placing proposed projects in the Specific Plan on hold until funding becomes available.

If City Council wishes to advance a specific improvement identified in the plan, staff recommends that Council provide direction through the City Work Program (CWP). This would allow staff to evaluate project scope and pursue potential external funding opportunities, such as grants, to support implementation. Should the City find external funding sources, any proposed project could then be incorporated into the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for implementation.

#### Conclusion

The Memorial Park Specific Plan reflects a community-informed vision and includes a comprehensive “wish list” of improvements identified through public engagement. Revising the plan to remove certain items is unnecessary and could disenfranchise community members who participated in the outreach process. Given that the plan does not obligate the City to construct all improvements and already provides flexibility for prioritization, staff recommends maintaining the plan as adopted and advancing individual projects only as funding and Council direction allow. Final documents and other materials can be found at:

<https://www.cupertino.gov/Your-City/Departments/Public-Works/Capital-Improvement-Programs-Projects/Memorial-Park-Specific-Plan>

#### Sustainability Impact

No sustainability impact.

#### Fiscal Impact

No fiscal impact.

#### City Work Program (CWP) Item/Description

Yes, FY 2025-2027

Memorial Park Study Session: A study session on Memorial Park and the proposed design. Most people I've spoken to love Memorial Park the way it is now where it is mostly naturally space, rather than one jam packed with stuff in the proposed plan. I hope to consider a minimalist option with upgrade of existing features and only include some low impact features. And reduce the cost. Maybe we might refer it to Parks and Rec Commission to consider options.

Council Goal:  
Quality of Life

California Environmental Quality Act  
No California Environmental Quality Act impact.

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Prepared by: Chad Mosley, Director of Public Works  
Reviewed by: Kirsten Squarcia, Interim Deputy City Manager  
Approved for Submission by: Tina Kapoor, City Manager  
Attachments:  
None