



STAFF REPORT – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Emily Sinkhorn, Director of Environmental Services

PREPARER: Emily Benvie, Deputy Director of Environmental Services

DATE: October 15, 2025

TITLE: **Approve the D Street Linear Park Exercise Equipment Enhancement Project.**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Council approve the D Street Linear Park Exercise Equipment Enhancement Project.

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:

The City of Arcata Parks and Facilities Division maintains, prepares, and supports activities at the City's buildings, parks, and sports fields. Their responsibilities include design, development, installation, landscaping, and maintenance of the City's neighborhood and community parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, special use parks, linear parks, non-motorized trail systems, City landscaping, and the downtown Plaza and open space areas.

D Street Linear Park is adjacent to the D Street Neighborhood Center, and it currently includes one exercise equipment structure that is outdated. The proposed D Street Linear Park Exercise Equipment Enhancement Project will replace and expand the existing limited exercise equipment infrastructure, develop an American Disabilities Act (ADA)–accessible picnic area, and include more durable surfacing. The Project will be completed in-house by City staff utilizing acceptable design standards and best management practices in construction.

DISCUSSION:

City staff frequently inspect and maintain the City's recreational playgrounds and equipment. They identify equipment replacement needs as well as opportunities for improvement. In Spring 2025, staff identified a need to replace the existing exercise equipment at the D Street Linear Park, along with the opportunity to expand and improve the linear park with a limited budget.

The project will include removing the existing pull-up bars and replacing them with two new exercise equipment pieces:

1. Compact workout station featuring an incline bench, push-up bar, decline press, horizontal ladder, and pull-up station.
2. Leg lift & pull-up bar.

Additionally, the project will include creating an approximately 20 feet x 30 feet decomposed granite surface for the exercise equipment, and an approximately 12 feet x 12 feet concrete picnic area that includes a picnic table, garbage and recycling receptacles, and doggie pot station.

Enhancing this linear park will help to provide expanded recreational opportunities for a variety of age ranges. Furthermore, given the proximity of the D Street Linear Park to Cal Poly Humboldt, staff saw this as an opportunity to enhance a recreational amenity that frequently serves college-aged students near campus.

The proposed improvements are minor in nature and will require minimal ground disturbance. Construction will be completed by City staff with small equipment and will include appropriate best management practices to prevent potential impacts to stormwater during any rain events that may occur during the construction window.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS:

The proposed project is consistent with the following City Council Goals:

- Support healthy eating and active living programs.
- Provide recreation opportunities for all residents.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA):

A CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) will be filed for the D Street Linear Park Exercise Equipment Enhancement Project. The project involves a combination of minor improvements to an existing park and maintenance activities. Outdated fitness equipment will be removed and the following new features installed: updated fitness equipment, surfacing, a trash cans, picnic table and an ADA-accessible entrance. These improvements qualify for Class 4, Minor Alterations to Land (CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15304), which allows for the minor alterations in the condition of land that does not affect major vegetation or sensitive habitats. All elements of the project are within the existing footprint of the previously developed and mowed area of the D Street Linear Park.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

The minimal funding needed to implement the D Street Exercise Equipment Project has been included in the 2025/2026 fiscal year budget under the Parks Fund.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Motion to approve D Street Linear Park Exercise Equipment Enhancement Project.

Consent Calendar vote.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. D Street Linear Park Exercise Equipment Design
- B. Combination Workout Product Sheet
- C. Leg Lift Product Sheet