

**TOWN OF
APPLE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA**

AGENDA MATTER

Subject Item:

FEASIBILITY OF BMX BIKE USE AT THE THREE DIAMOND SKATE PARK

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Staff has been asked to re-visit the request to allow BMX bike use at the Three Diamond Skate Park. This item was discussed initially by the Town Council on July 26, 2005. Since that time, the item has been before the Park and Recreation Commission three times and returned to Town Council twice with the recommendation to continue to operate the Three Diamond Skate Park as it was originally designed, for skateboard use only.

The California JPIA has recommended against the use of the facility by bikes without retrofitting the facility. In the FY 2006-07 Budget, the Town Council allocated \$30,000 for the retrofit of the Three Diamond Skate Park. In coordination with Mia Lehrer and Associates, the project to retrofit the skate park went out to bid and a mandatory pre-bid meeting was held with one contractor in attendance. The contractor indicated to staff that it was apparent his bid would come in near \$150,000. Consequently, no bids were received for the project. In December, Staff contacted two skate park developers regarding a possible retrofit. Both vendors estimate a retrofit of the facility would cost in excess of \$100,000 and state that the retrofitted facility would incur more maintenance costs than a park originally designed to accommodate BMX bikes.

Continued on page 2

Recommended Action:

1. Direct Staff to continue to operate the Three Diamond Skate Park as recommended by the California JPIA as a facility for skateboard use only.
2. Direct the Police Department and Code Enforcement Department to aggressively enforce the Town of Apple Valley Skate Park Ordinance by regularly driving by, observing and citing any person in violation of the Ordinance.

Proposed by: Ralph Wright, Community Services Manager

Item Number: _____

T. M. Approval: _____

Budgeted Item Yes No N/A

Summary Statement
Feasibility of BMX Bike use at the Three Diamond Skate Park
Continued

If a retrofit of the facility were funded and the project completed, the California JPIA recommends against joint use of the facility at the same time by skateboarders and BMX bikers due to possible collision concerns. To allow joint use of the facility at different times for skateboarders and BMX bikers would require scheduling separate times for each discipline to have exclusive use of the park. The California JPIA recommends against mixed use in an unsupervised skate park as it would be necessary to ensure that the alternating schedule was honored by the users and failing to enforce use schedules at an unsupervised park would expose the Town to significantly higher liability.

Supervised skate parks can allow BMX bikes in the skate park at separate times from skateboarders if the park has been designed for mixed use. Depending on the operational hours of a supervised skate park, an attendant would be required at the facility between thirty and forty hours per week. The cost of this unfunded expenditure would be between \$18,000 and \$27,000 annually. Furthermore, the California JPIA recommends that public safety personnel aggressively enforce the adopted ordinance related to the skate park regulations, by regularly driving by, observing and citing any person in violation of the ordinance.

Staff is currently researching costs of building a new facility that would serve one or both of the user groups. Preliminary estimates from two contacted vendors come in between \$25 to \$40 a square foot depending on the design, equipment, size and completion of the flatwork. This cost does not include land acquisition.