



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 29, 2022**

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CITY OF HANFORD LANDS ON FINAL SITE FOR FUTURE 'HEROES PARK'

Forty-acre park will be a regional destination for sports, entertainment and recreation

HANFORD, CA - City of Hanford officials say a new tentative agreement with a local property owner has brought the city one step closer to building a one-of-a-kind 40-acre park for residents and people from around the region to enjoy.

“The Hanford City Council is committed to supporting parks, including the planning and development of new ones in parts of the City that will experience significant housing development in the near future,” Hanford Mayor Kalish Morrow said. “Heroes Park will be a gem for this neighborhood, the City of Hanford and the Central Valley. We are pleased that the project is moving forward.”

In December, the city was awarded \$8.5 million for Heroes Park through the State Parks’ Statewide Development and Community Revitalization Program. The original site for the park was proposed for the northeast corner of Florinda Street and 9 ¼ Avenue, but the parties were unable to reach an agreement on the final terms of sale for the property.

However, a multi-generational farming family recently agreed to sell 40-acres of land for the development of the park. The new site lies directly east of the original site. City officials say a change such as this is minor. The California Department of Parks and Recreation also indicated that a change of location is not uncommon during the process of developing a new park.

According to a family spokesperson, the property originally belonged to his great grandmother, then his grandmother—a strong and self-determined woman who farmed the property for years.

“Our family cherishes the idea that there’s going to be a park on the property,” he said. “Putting a fire department there makes it even more meaningful.”

The city’s future East Side Fire Station is set to be located at Heroes Park, and the city has proposed dedicating the building to a family patriarch who was a longtime Hanford Fire Department employee.

The parks amenities, chosen by the community, will include:

- Three multi-use athletic fields
- Two play structures with shade and lighting
- Dog park with lighting
- Outdoor amphitheater
- 16 pickleball courts
- 18-hole frisbee disc golf course with lighting
- Skatepark with lighting
- Two basketball courts with lighting, workout area with lighting
- Water feature
- Open space area
- Community garden/learning garden with lighting
- Three shade areas
- Parking area with lighting and charging stations
- Two restrooms with solar lighting

As part of the approval process to change locations for the park, the state requires notice to the public and an opportunity for the public to speak for or against the location change. Accordingly, a public meeting has been scheduled for next week and the public will have an opportunity to provide feedback at that time.

DETAILS

When: Thursday, October 6 at 6:30 p.m.
Where: Longfield Center (560 S. Douty Street).

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