



# North Ogden City

## Staff Report

**To:** Mayor and City Council  
**From:** Bryan Steele, Finance Director *BRS*  
**Date:** 12/2/2014  
**Subject:** Park Grants Consideration

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A little history: In this year's initial budget, Tiffany had proposed completion of 3 park restroom renovations; Oaklawn, Orton and Lomond View. She applied for RAMP Grants to help for the renovation funding. We were only awarded a grant for 1 of the restroom renovations and Tiffany had prioritized the restrooms with Oaklawn being the one we ended up budgeting for.

The renovation of the Oaklawn park restroom was bid out but the lowest bid came back at \$100,000 more than what we had budgeted. (The original budget was for \$226,000). The main reasons for the bids coming in higher were:

- Site work needs to be done on the parking lot and area where the restroom will sit. This includes bringing in fill and a lot of curb and gutter work.
- The sewer line connection from the restroom to the nearest sewer main was more than expected
- There are more stalls in the new restroom. The current restroom has one stall per side and this park is used heavily from spring to fall mainly due to youth sport leagues holding games at the park
- Construction prices are more than what they were when the cost was estimated.

A few weeks ago Tiffany presented a list of projects she would like to apply for RAMP Grants for next fiscal year. Based on the discussion Council had that night, the direction she was given was to pursue RAMP grant funds for were:

- 1) Completing the trail from Bi-Centennial Park to the North Ogden/Pleasant View border and
- 2) Restroom renovations at 2 parks. Tiffany had originally presented Orton and Lomond View park restrooms to be renovated with next year's RAMP grant funds

but since the bids for Oaklawn came in higher than expected we decided to do Orton Park this year instead of returning the RAMP grant funds and then put Oaklawn on next years schedule.

In the meantime, Gary found out that there are CDBG funds available for next year and that the City could apply for CDBG funding to help with the restroom renovations. The renovations fall under CDBG funding eligibility because of ADA requirements. The only part of the restrooms that wouldn't qualify for CDBG funding would be the storage portion of the restroom, which can be up to \$75,000. However we can use RAMP Grant money for that amount. With the CDBG grant we can apply for the total amount of the restroom renovation (less the storage portion), but Gary said that the likelihood of us receiving the grant increases the more the city contributes to the project.

Staff is asking council to approve the go ahead for application for RAMP and CDBG grants for the remaining 2 restroom renovations. We have \$147,000 on our Capital Improvement Plan for next year for these projects so our recommendation would be to seek grant funding for the remainder of the costs of the projects. We are in a unique position, where there is a possibility we could build a majority of the 2 park restrooms with grant funding.

The Fund Balance of the Capital Projects fund is estimated to be around \$466,000 at the end of this fiscal year which is where the funding would come from.