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**Parks & Recreation
Department**
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To: Lemoore City Council **Item** ___ **6H**
From: Tom Hernandez, Parks & Recreation Director
Date: May 8, 2007
Subject: Request Amendment to Parks Budget

Discussion:

On Saturday, March 31, 2007, a large limb of a eucalyptus tree at Lions Park broke off and fell to the ground, injuring a young boy.

Immediately, the area was roped off and a certified arborist was contacted to evaluate all of the eucalyptus trees at Lions Park. The arborist determined that the limbs interior was structurally weak from growth and pruning over the years. No amount of aesthetic pruning would remove the risk of other tree limbs breaking off and falling to the ground. The recommendation of the arborist was to remove the trees immediately due to the fact that many students from Liberty Middle School walk through the park everyday (see attached report).

Staff is currently having the trees removed for the safety of the residents of Lemoore. The Parks Department will begin the process of sprinkler repairs, turf replacement and planting of some of the trees immediately and continue until late fall. Some tree species need to be planted in the cooler weather to survive.

Budget Impact:

Tree Removal = \$17,769.00 from Account # 001-4241-4310
Tree Replacement = \$5,000.00 from Account # 001-4241-4220

Potential damage costs due to the necessary equipment that is required to properly complete the job.

Sprinklers = \$3,500.00 from Account # 001-4241-4220
Turf Replacement = \$2,500.00 from Account # 001-4241-4220

Total Budget Request = \$28,769.00

Recommendation:

That City Council approve the staff's recommendation to amend the 2006-07 Parks budget for the emergency to remove the Eucalyptus Trees, replanting of new trees at Lions Park and also for any cost for potential damage.