

Recreation Commission Staff Report

Commission Meeting Date: October 5, 2021

Date Prepared: September 28, 2021

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Title: Prop 68 Regional Park Program Update and Survey Analysis and Project Recommendations

Agenda: Discussion Item

Recommended Motion: Receive an update from staff, take comments from the public and provide consensus comments or recommendations regarding the Prop 68 Regional Park Program design input.

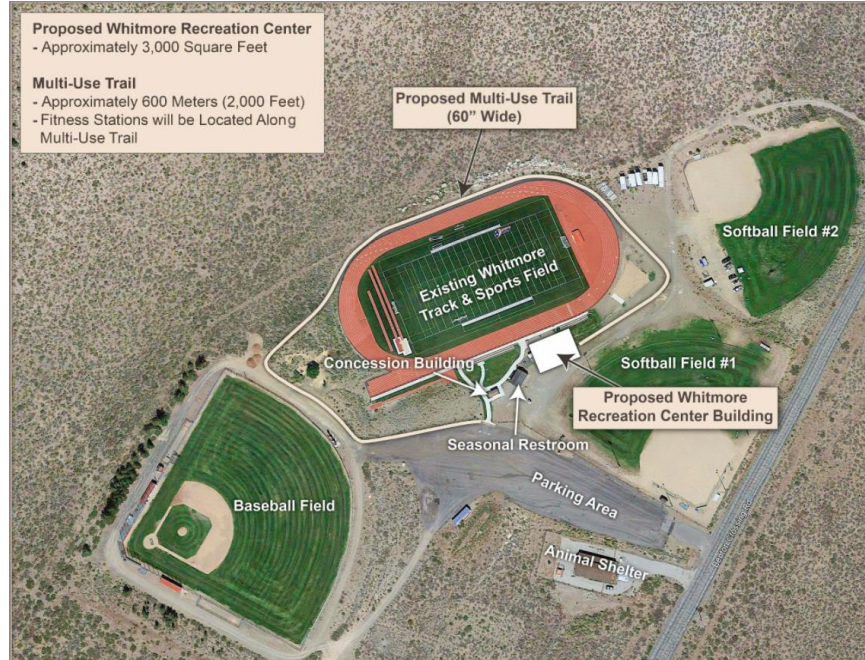
Background Information: The Town in partnership with Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR), Mammoth Hospital, Mammoth Track Club and Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access (MLPTA), are submitting a \$3 million competitive grant application for the Proposition 68 Regional Park Program.

Regional Park Program (RPP) competitive grants will create, expand, and improve regional parks. RPP projects need to create at least one new recreation feature that attracts visitors from at least a 20-mile radius or county-wide population to a regional park. While renovation of recreation features may be included, a project will be more competitive if it creates at least one new recreation feature and a new multi-use trail. The total amount available statewide for award is \$23,125,000.

The grant application proposes a NEW recreation center (approx. 3,000 sq. ft.) and a NEW multi-use trail (approx. 2,000 linear ft.) with fitness stations. The Whitmore Track and Sports Field project was adopted by the Town's Planning Commission on October 26, 2011, and Phase I was completed on November 17, 2012. The Phase II recreation features will enhance the operation of the existing Whitmore Track and Sports Field, but also further attract visitors from around the county, throughout the state and potentially from across the country.

Combined with the stunning 9-lane polyurethane track and full-size synthetic turf field, the new recreation features will further position Mammoth Lakes' reputation as a premier high-altitude training destination for a multitude of endurance sports and recreation.

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The \$3 million grant application includes a proposed recreation center, and multi-use trail with fitness stations. The proposed recreation features are listed in detail below in Table A.

Whitmore Track and Sports Field - RPP Grant Submittal		Estimate
New Recreation Features		
Recreation Center (approx. 3,000 sq. ft.)		\$ 2,500,000.00
Multi-use trail (approx. 600 meters) + fitness stations (approx. 7-10)		\$ 400,000.00
		\$ 2,900,000.00
Project Contingency and Grant Administrative Costs		
Includes eligible grant costs and project contingency		\$ 100,000.00
		\$ 100,000.00
Total Project Estimate		\$ 3,000,000.00

To complete the required application submittals, the Town has formed a working group comprised of staff, representatives from Mammoth Lakes Recreation and the Recreation Commission. The group meets on an ad-hoc basis via Zoom. As per the recently executed Town/MLR agreement, funds have been allocated to Mammoth Lakes Recreation to support work efforts to complete and submit the grant application in coordination with Town staff.

Design Input

A significant component of the grant submittal and scoring matrix is design input. The applicant needs to describe what engagement methods were used to obtain specific design ideas for the

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recreation features (Recreation Center & Multi-Use Trail) from a broad representation and number of participants throughout the community. Design ideas can include:

- Detailed design ideas of the proposed recreation features
- Location of certain recreation features or major support amenities within the project site.
- Public art, kiosks, panels, and themes to establish a sense of place by celebrating the history, culture, environment, or notable people tied to the site or surrounding region.
- Safe public use, signage, landscaping, and other ideas.

To satisfy and hopefully exceed the grant requirement, we are using the following public engagement methods.

Method 1: Online Survey

A concise 12 question online survey was posted on the Mammoth Lakes Recreation website (<https://mammothlakesrecreation.org/>) for public access and sent to several user groups for their design input of the two new recreation features. The survey also included frequency of use and demographic information to assist in better understanding park users.

Survey Timeframe:

- Survey Launch: September 1
- Survey Close: September 27
- Survey goal: 100
- Surveys completed: 118
- Link: <https://mammothlakesrecreation.org/regional-park-program/>



WHITMORE TRACK AND SPORTS FIELD ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

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Method 2: In-Person Meeting

The Mammoth Track Club will host an in-person meeting and venue site-walk at the Whitmore Recreation Area on **Saturday, October 16, 2021, from 9-10am**. The purpose of the site-walk is to provide information to the public about the proposed Regional Park Program grant project and to acquire additional community design input for programming needs, space alternatives and path/fitness activities for the project. Coffee, tea and bagels will be provided!

Method 3: Recreation Commission Meeting

The third public engagement method used to seek design input for the recreation features will be the Recreation Commission meeting on October 5, 2021. Staff will make a presentation to the Commission summarizing the online survey results and design input, followed by public comment. Staff will request commission discussion and seek any further design recommendations regarding the proposed recreation features at the Whitmore Recreation Area pertaining to the RPP grant application. Staff is also planning to present an update of this public process to Town Council on October 20, 2021.

The working group recognizes that the RPP grant is extremely competitive and will take considerable time and effort to complete the required grant tasks by November 5, 2021. Combined with the stunning 9-lane polyurethane track and full-size synthetic turf field, the new recreation features will further position Mammoth Lakes' reputation as a premier high-altitude training destination for a multitude of endurance sports and recreation.

Attachments:

- A. Whitmore Track and Sports Field Online Community Survey Responses
- B. Whitmore Track and Sports Field Online Community Survey Comments