



# Staff Report

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**Agenda Item:**           **WORKSESSION WITH PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION** – Worksession between the Town Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss possible land uses of the current wastewater treatment plant large pond area, scheduled for decommissioning, along with the Town of Clarkdale Halloween event.

**Staff Contact:**           Dawn Norman, Parks and Recreation Supervisor

**Meeting Date:**           January 22, 2008

**Background:**           The Parks and Recreation Commission held worksessions on January 14, 2008 to discuss possible land use options of the current waste water treatment plant and possible options to address concerns that have been brought forward by a resident concerning the annual Halloween event.

Regarding the current waste water treatment plant site decommissioning, the Parks and Recreation Commission proposes the following:

- The area in general be utilized as a natural area/nature park;
- Covered ramadas, picnic tables, and barbeques similar to Riverfront Park;
- Partial fill in of the large pond on the south side (side nearest Tuzigoot) to establish a grass field with picnic areas;
- Water aeration device in pond to promote continuous movement in water;
- Stock fish in pond, if feasible;
- Small pond area fenced off and buffered with natural plantings (i.e. bushes or trees);
- Re-locate entry access to facility at Tuzigoot Rd.;
- Establish public parking area near proposed entrance access;
- Utilize existing buildings for bathrooms;
- River access by walking trail; and
- Reinforce retaining wall behind existing buildings in the form of terraced planters.

Regarding the Halloween event, the Parks and Recreation Commission proposes the following options:

- Schedule trick-or-treating at the same time as other events in the Verde Valley and shorten the time frame from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. instead of 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. as in the past;
- Offer to supply volunteers to upper Clarkdale residents who either: 1) want to participate but need assistance with handing out candy or 2) for residents who do not wish to participate but would allow volunteers to hand out candy in front of their residence. A request form could be provided to the upper Clarkdale residents in the Halloween packet distributed before the event along with including the information in the newsletter;

- Advertise for volunteers to assist with handing out candy. This will give residents from all Clarkdale neighborhoods the opportunity to participate; and
- Offer an escort service provided by the Explorers for the residents feeling trapped or hindered from leaving/arriving at their homes. A form with a phone number to schedule/request service can be provided to the upper Clarkdale residents in the Halloween packet distributed before the event.

**Staff Recommendation:** This item is scheduled as a Worksession only, and no official action is necessary from the Council.