

TO: TOWN COUNCIL

FROM: TOWN MANAGER 

RE: DOWNTOWN PARK NAMING AND DEDICATION

**ISSUE**

The Downtown Park is moving toward completion, at least on the State grant funded portion, and Council may wish to determine a name for the park and have a dedication.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Discuss and come up with a park name or a method to identify a park name, and decide whether Council wishes to have a dedication during an upcoming June 12 community event.

**CEQA**

There are no CEQA requirements involved in naming a park or having a dedication ceremony.

**MONEY**

Money issues are unknown and depend on how elaborate a dedication ceremony might be. There is no money budgeted for this.

**DISCUSSION**

The Downtown Park (called that because that is the way it was referred to in the State grant documents) is moving toward completion on the grant funded portion. A recent approval by CalTrans on a grant suggests that the parking lot could get built in time for the Egg Plant Festival.

It is timely now to consider a name for the park. In the course of the Downtown Plan study the area was sometimes referred to as "Blue Anchor Park" in recognition of the fact that the site was once occupied by the Blue Anchor fruit packing shed. No formal name has been chosen however so Council can proceed to identify any name that fits. Of course if the park gets a name there is a need to dedicate it as such.

Staff has been working with Vice Mayor Calvert and Council Member Scherer and Diane and Bill Nicholas of Kindred Spirits Fawn Rescue to conduct a community event on Sunday June 12 from 11AM to 4 PM. Following are some things being planned.

- Focus on a community get together and a kind of celebration with information on animals in the Loomis Basin
- Dedicate the downtown park; obtain ideas for a park name
- Sign up Loomis residents for a tree that would be given to them in the fall

- Have food available at the Blue Goose: shed has been reserved and food will be donated by Mr. Nicholas's firm.
- Pop corn and small root beer floats at Depot: ice cream donated by Mr. Nicholas's firm
- Contact community groups (chamber, soroptomists, Lions, Rotary) who may want to have booths set up in along the way from Blue Goose to High Hand
- Music entertainment (Station Pickers)
- Antique vehicles for display and shuttling
- Invite groups involved with animal rescue etc to have booths
- Involve PROS Committee (promote event during Earth Day)
- Come up with a name for this community event

As noted in the foregoing bullet points, one suggested item is to dedicate the downtown park. If Council finds this to be acceptable then the organizing committee can continue planning that aspect of the June 12<sup>th</sup> community day event. If Council wishes to hold a dedication on some other date then direct Staff accordingly.