

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: December 9, 2014

TO: City Council/City Manager

FROM: Eric Figueroa, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: Discussion of the Proposed Creekside Memorial Park Cemetery in Tassajara Valley



RECOMMENDED ACTION

This is a discussion item only with possible direction provided to staff by the City Council.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The proposed Creekside Memorial Park Cemetery would occupy 58.7 acres of a 221.66-acre site, which includes an upper garden and a lower garden located on two parcels at 7000 Camino Tassajara in the Tassajara Valley. The primary features of the project include: Administrative Offices/Chapel Building, an Indoor Mausoleum; four outdoor Mausoleums a storage building, and Corporation Yard; a free form picturesque lake with 0.88 acres of surface area and island; One acre site set aside for a possible future fire station, and several forms of landscaping. The project also includes alteration of trees and removal of +13 trees and a request for a variance for a lot line adjustment to change the average lot width and size of a substandard lot.

The project is within the City of San Ramon's sphere of influence but is not within the City limits. Therefore, the city has no ability to make a land use decision on this project and can only provide comments to the decision making body which is Contra Costa County.

The final EIR for this project was released in December of 2013 and the project is under review by the Contra Costa County. There has not been a date set for a formal review of this project by Contra Costa County.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

None.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Staff will respond to the direction from the Council on communication with Contra Costa County with regard to this project.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: June 24, 2014 Cemetery Presentation



Creekside Memorial Park Cemetery

San Ramon City Council Study Session
June 24, 2014

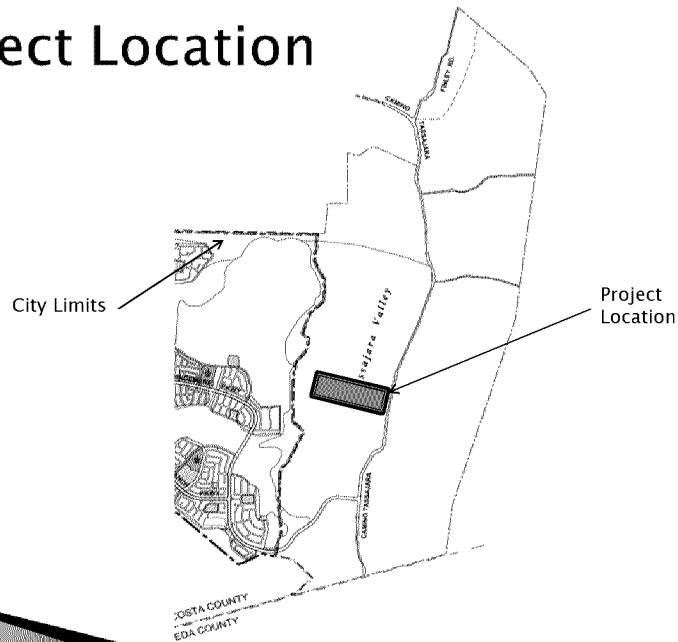
Purpose of Study Session

- ▶ Provide public awareness of the project
- ▶ Provide project overview
- ▶ Receive comments from San Ramon Residents
- ▶ Project is being considered by Contra Costa County
- ▶ Refer questions to Telma Moreira at (925) 674-7783 or Telma.Moreira@dcd.cccounty.us

History of the Project

- ▶ 2003 – Tri-Valley Cemetery Task Force forms
 - City of Pleasanton is Lead
 - Council Members from San Ramon, Danville, Dublin and Pleasanton
 - Planning Commissioner from Livermore
 - Cemetery and Mortuary experts
- ▶ December 2005 – Resolution of support for a cemetery at this location adopted by the Tri-Valley cities, including San Ramon
- ▶ December 2005 – Application filed
- ▶ September 2011 – Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) circulated
- ▶ December 2013 – Final (EIR) recommended for Certification to Planning Commission
- ▶ Public hearings with Contra Costa County to begin this Summer

Project Location



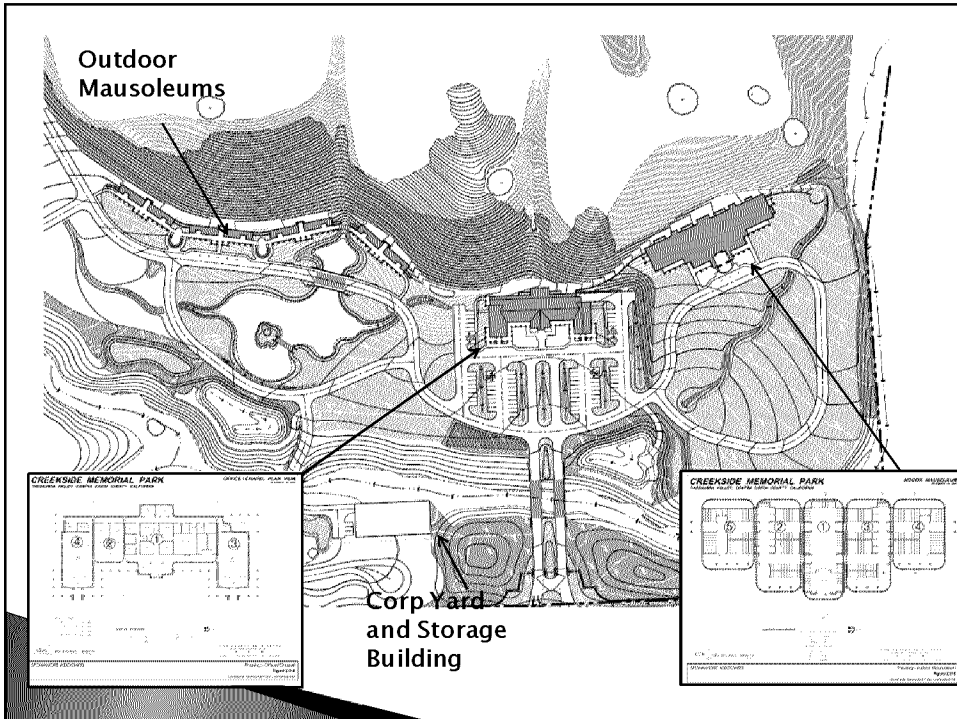
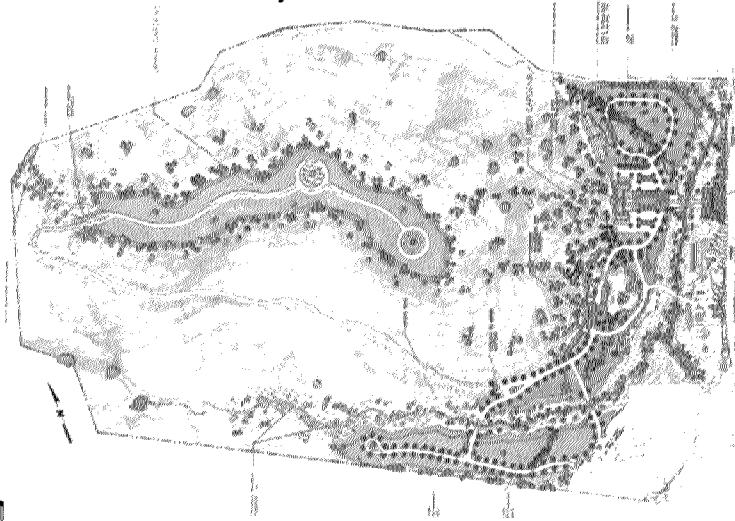
Project Description

- ▶ Occupy 58.7 acres of a 221.66-acre site
- ▶ Includes an upper garden and a lower garden located on two parcels at 7000 Camino Tassajara
- ▶ Primary features of the project include:
 - Administrative Offices/Chapel Building,
 - An Indoor Mausoleum;
 - Four outdoor Mausoleums
 - A storage building,
 - Corporation Yard;
 - A free form lake with 0.88 acres of surface area and island;
 - One acre site set aside for a possible future fire station, and several forms of landscaping.

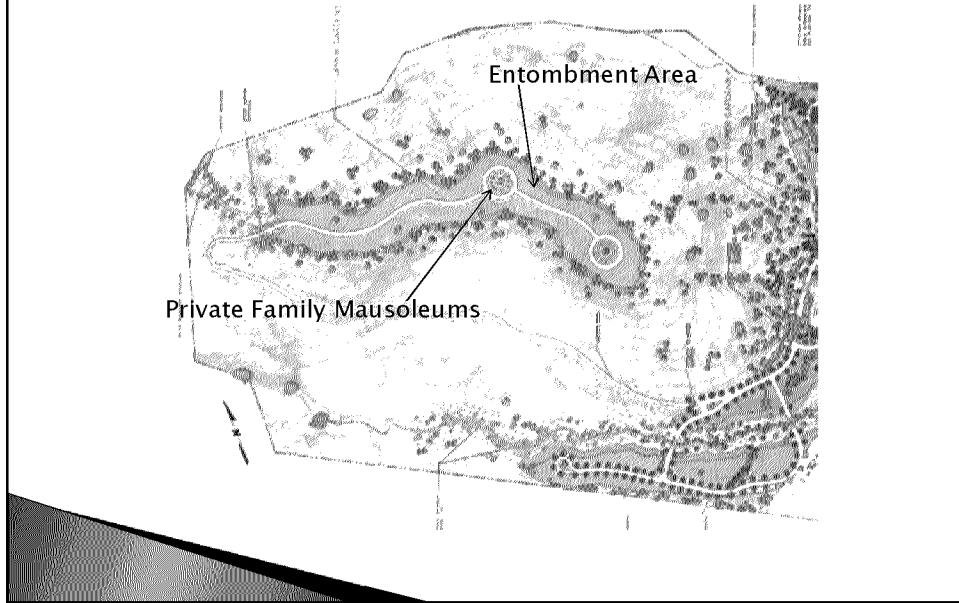
Highlights of the Applicant and Contra Costa County Project Objectives from Page 2.0–16 of the DEIR

- ▶ Create a cemetery to provide for the burial needs of the greater Tri-Valley Area
- ▶ Geographically located
- ▶ Contribute to solving the existing area-wide shortage of burial sites
- ▶ Accommodate 100,000 burial sites

Site Plan - Creekside Memorial Park Cemetery



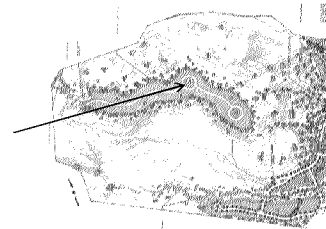
Upper Entombment Area



City of San Ramon's Comments on DEIR

- ▶ Tassajara Valley within our Planning Area,
- ▶ A vested interested as to what development occurs.
- ▶ Views of the cemetery from Tassajara Ridge
- ▶ Encouraged modifications
 - Eliminate the highest roundabout
 - Reduce entombment area to lower elevation

Eliminate Roundabout and entombment area



Other Concerns

- ▶ Water Usage
 - Project requires 45 AFY of water only 27.8 AFY can be identified through
 - Rainfall recharge
 - Subsurface flows
 - Percolation from Tassajara Creek
 - The DEIR identified the project's impact on groundwater as "*Significant and Unavoidable*"
 - No feasible way to provide adequate water for the project

Contra Costa County Contact Information

- ▶ Telma Moreira at (925) 674-7783
- ▶ Telma.Moreira@dcd.cccounty.us
- ▶ <http://ca-contracostacounty2.civicplus.com/4710/Creekside-Cemetery>