



To: The Citizens of Floresville and the Wilson County News

From: The Floresville Economic Development Director, Tommy Baker

April 22, 2016

To whom it may concern,

There have been a number of misconceptions recently made in regards to the current status and future development of our Floresville Parks. I'm hoping that this letter will answer any questions that many of you have.

Firstly, the amount stated in the newspaper (\$7.1 million) was a number to be used only as a long range, future completion, amount for the finalized Community Park (100 acres) project. In other words, this is the amount it would cost to complete everything on the "wish list", within the 100 acre Community Park, filled out by the survey participants. As most of you know, soil tests were conducted at the River Park as well as the 100 acres behind the Event Center. These tests, performed by the City of Floresville and the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) revealed "high levels" of dispersive clay, but "stable, buildable" soil on the 100 acre site behind the Event Center. The study also revealed there was no permanent remediation of this "bad" soil. With this study as a foundation for further action, the FEDC Board was directed by City Council to provide a parks plan that included new ball fields. This being said, the FEDC, looking into the future growth of our community, hired a reputable engineering firm and directed them to offer two separate reports on two different scenarios. One being the City Parks Master Plan. This plan reflects what facilities and infrastructure would be professionally planned and the associated costs for future development on ALL city parks. Two being the Implementation plan, this plan would be the tool used to make certain that a variety of sports fields, infrastructure and supporting facilities, requested by the park users and survey participants, could be built on the 100 stable and buildable acres. The intention of the plans has always been for long term implementation, never for immediate completion.

Currently the FEDC Board is under advisement of our borrowing capacity by a financial adviser as well as applying for grants and considering a conservative sales tax revenue forecast. Once financing has been determined and upon Board approval, the FEDC recommendations will be sent to the Floresville City Council for their approval.

FEDC is very excited about the future of our growing community. The idea of having clean, safe parks for families to enjoy provides a great incentive for new families to move here.

Sincerely,

Tommy Baker