

Funds Available for Local Parks

In 2002 California voters passed Proposition 40, the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act. Yolo County will be receiving 1.2 million dollars from Proposition 40 funds. This fall the Yolo County Parks and Natural Resources Management Division along with the Park, Recreation, and Wildlife Advisory Committee will begin reviewing project proposals from throughout Yolo County. The committee will make a list of recommendations to the Board of Supervisors who will ultimately decide how to allocate the funds. Come to the August 11 Recreation Task Force meeting to help set Capay Valley-Esparto Region priorities for Proposition 40 funding.

The Board of Supervisor has given some guidelines on how they will determine which projects will be good candidates for Proposition 40 funds. The Boards recommendations for the selection of projects to be funded by Proposition 40 are summarized in the following.

- Project would be consistent with the Countywide Master Plan and the Open Space and Recreational Element of the General Plan;
- Project would address deferred maintenance needs of an existing County Park;
- Project would take place on County owned land (or equivalent secured entitlement);
- Project costs would be offset with an additional funding source (including partnerships);
- Project would not significantly increase County maintenance requirements or costs;
- Geographic and population serving benefits and growth trends;
- Project potential for partnership for joint-facility opportunities; and,
- Project potential to increase tourism.

The Capay Valley Vision Recreation Task Force has been working towards creating a prioritized list of projects for the Capay Valley-Esparto Region. Representatives of many local groups are currently involved in the Recreation Task Force including: Esparto Unified School District, WYORCA, Esparto Little League, AYSO, Lions Club, and Esparto Citizens' Advisory Committee. The task force's next meeting will be Thursday, **August 11, 2005, 7-9 p.m. at the Esparto Library**. Representatives from all the local community groups are invited to help prioritize a final list of project that will be recommended to the Yolo County Parks & Natural Resources Management Division and the Parks, Recreation, & Wildlife Advisory Committee for their consideration. For more information, please contact Chelsea Becker at (530) 787-3353.