

# BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(1)

## AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: October 4, 2005

**TITLE: Status Report on the Town Commons Shade Sail Project and Request**

<b>DEPARTMENT: Recreation and Parks</b>	<b>PUBLIC HEARING: YES/NO x</b>
<b>ATTACHMENTS:</b> <b>A. Resolution</b> <b>B. Report from Carrboro Parks Project</b> <b>C. Excerpt from 5/4/04 and 8/17/04 Board of Aldermen Minutes</b>	<b>FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:</b> <b>Anita Jones-McNair – 918-7381</b> <b>Susan Stone - 541-1146</b>

### PURPOSE

The Carrboro Parks Project will update the Board of Aldermen on the Town Commons Shade Sail Project and request a financial commitment from the town to cover unexpected expenses so that the project can be completed by March 2006. Susan Stone, Sail Project Fundraising Chair will present a report.

### INFORMATION

The Carrboro Parks Project (CPP) volunteered to raise funds for the Town Commons to provide additional landscaping and purchase and install a shade structure over the play area. On May 4, 2004, the CPP requested authorization from the Board to proceed with fundraising efforts to provide additional landscaping and a shade sail. It was the consensus of the Board to authorize the CPP to proceed with fundraising.

During the past year, various fundraising opportunities were implemented to raise money to purchase and install the shade covering. Recreation and Parks staff obtained 5 cost estimates ranging from \$10,810 to \$24,425. On August 17, 2004, the CPP provided a status report to the Board. At that meeting the Board approved \$500.00 from the contingency fund for this project. To date The CPP has raised \$9,500. The amount does not include funding from the Strowd Roses Grant. The CPP reviewed the estimates and the recommendation is to work with the lowest estimate \$10,810 because it meets the standard design for the project.

CPP is requesting the Board to approve funding for unexpected expenses that may arise from the purchasing and installation process. In addition, they are requesting \$1,500 if the Strowd Roses Grant application is not approved.

Town staff appreciates and recognizes the CPP's dedication to this project and others in the past. However, the demands on the contingency fund are unclear at this point in the fiscal year. One significant item is fuel costs. The increase in fuel costs may continue to rise and the estimated budgeted amount may not be enough to offset the expenditures. Requests like these would

usually be presented during the budget process for consideration. Also, the Board would not normally approve a financial commitment without knowing the total amount requested.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

\$1,500 + unexpected cost arising from the purchase and installation.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Staff recommends that the Board consider the request and information provided.