



Memorandum

To: Vail Town Council

From: Department of Public Works

Date: September 4, 2018

Subject: Slifer Square Fountain Renovation

I. BACKGROUND

The purpose of this discussion is to clarify the Town Council direction in regards to the renovation of the Slifer Square Fountain. On August 7, 2018 Council directed staff to defer plans to repair the fountain in its existing configuration and to redesign the fountain to improve reduce hazards and enhance safety.

II. ACTION REQUESTED BY COUNCIL

Staff is requesting clarification of the Council's intentions regarding play activities in the fountain which affects the type of fountain to be designed.

III. REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

The Council's direction was to improve the safety of the Slifer Square Fountain. There are two types of fountain designs that would accommodate that direction.

- a. A natural fountain without hazards that anticipates play activities.
- b. A fountain intentionally designed as play feature.

Design and construction documents for a renovated fountain were included in the 2016 Slifer Square project bids which were postponed due to high construction costs. The fountain renovation was removed from the project as a cost reduction measure when the project was rebid for 2018 construction. The 2016 fountain design was for a natural fountain that anticipated play activities. There are two fountains in Vail that were designed specifically as play features. These fountains are the Children's Fountain and the Sunbird Park Splash Pad Fountain.

Staff is prepared to prepare design and construction documents and have the Slifer Square Fountain ready for renovation in April 2019 and is requesting direction from the Council regarding which type of fountain to design.

IV. PROJECT COST

The 2016 bid price for the Slifer Square Fountain Renovation was \$1.2M. 2019 pricing is anticipated to be higher due to escalated construction costs and general conditions and mobilization costs that are not shared within a larger project.

Staff will present funding options at the Council discussion.

V. STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends utilizing the 2016 fountain design, with additional safety enhancements, as a natural fountain design that anticipates play activities.

Slifer Square Fountain Renovation

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Purpose of Discussion:

Clarify Town Council direction regarding renovation of fountain.

August 7, 2018 Council directed staff to defer a project to repair the leaks in the fountain and restart a project to renovate the fountain to improve safety for play and repair leaks.

Staff request clarification regarding Council's intentions regarding play activities in the fountain.

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Existing Issues:

Safety of access to elevated surfaces
& irregular bottom surface



Leaking up To 2000 gallons/day

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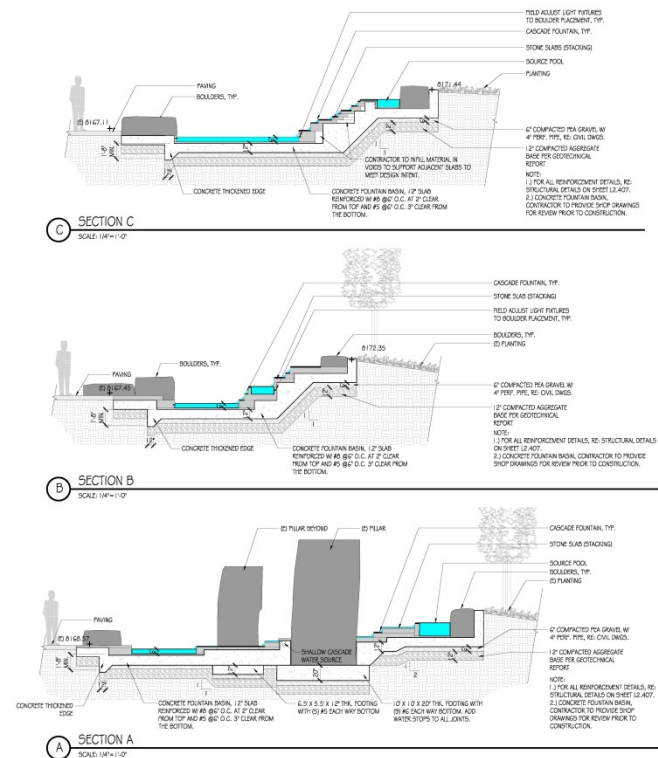
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2016 Fountain Design:

Highest surfaces (8' and 10') less accessible by removing adjacent boulders

Uniform bottom surface by replacing cobble with flagstone

Waterfalls have smaller changes in elevation or steps reducing fall heights



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Staff's request for clarification...

Council's direction was to make Slifer Fountain a safe place to play.

What type of fountain did the Council have in mind with that direction?

1. A natural fountain without hazards that anticipates play activities.
2. A fountain intentionally designed as a play feature.

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Staff's request for clarification...

1. A natural fountain without hazards that anticipates play activities.
The 2016 Slifer Square Fountain design represents this type of fountain.



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Staff's request for clarification...

2. A fountain intentionally designed as a play feature.
The Sunbird Park splash pad and the Children's Fountain represent this type of fountain.



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Staff recommendation

Staff recommends utilizing the 2016 fountain design, with additional safety enhancements, as a natural fountain that anticipates play activities.

The location of the Slifer Square Fountain at the Covered Bridge entry to the Vail Village may not be the place for the type of active play generated by A Children's Fountain or Sunbird Park type of play fountain.

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Schedule and Cost

Best pricing and contractor availability can be obtained by bidding the project in January 2019 for spring 2019 construction.

2016 bid price for fountain replacement was \$1.2M.

2019 pricing is likely to be higher.

- 10% - 12% increase in materials and labor costs anticipated
- General Conditions costs such as mobilization and traffic control are not shared within a larger project.

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