

Thursday, March 22, 2007

Board responds to Great Park business plan

Plan estimates that \$446.8 million will be spent on the park over the next five years.

By SONYA SMITH
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

IRVINE- A proposed business plan that estimates the Great Park will cost \$446.8 million over the next five years drew a mixed reaction Thursday from the Great Park board of directors.

Once approved, the plan will be used to make decisions on funding, plans and priorities. Approval could come within two months, officials said.

Some of the board's thoughts:

Miguel Pulido:Wants to see other possible funding and more details on expenditures.

Beth Krom:Would like possible partnerships for features such as the sports park in a separate plan.

Walkie Ray:Is concerned that the park's operational costs are not being sufficiently examined.

Steven Choi:Wants to focus on how the park will be built with available funds.

Christina Shea:Would like the Lennar Corp. to better explain their plans; wants a breakout of public relations costs and other items.

Bill Kogerman:Is worried about sufficient funding for a veterans memorial in the first phase.

Sukhee Kang:Wants to see possible funding; wants the business plan updated regularly.

Michael Pinto:Wants to set priorities soon for the park's components to better guide funding decisions.

Larry Agran:Says proposed plan is conservative and is assured more funding will be available.

Information: www.ocregister.com/greatpark.

Contact the writer: 949-553-2911 or sosmith@ocregister.com