



City of Gilroy

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City Reviewing Unsolicited Proposal for Purchase of Gilroy Gardens

The City of Gilroy has received an unsolicited proposal from a buyer to purchase all 536 acres at Gilroy Gardens. The City has held title to the property since purchasing it in February, 2008 for \$13.2 million. This initial purchase took place after much public input and Council debate. Any future determination to sell or retain ownership will also include extensive public involvement in the process, and is anticipated to take at least several months.

An ad hoc committee consisting of Council members Pinheiro, Tucker and Woodward has been formed and will work with City Administrator Tom Haglund to review the proposal and potential costs and benefits to the community. Initial discussions have been held in closed session, and pursuant to state law, include discussion only on price and terms. This affords the ability to maintain the City's bargaining stance, and the public's best financial and other interests in the strongest possible position. This is very common in real estate matters of this type.

Ultimately the public will be fully informed and engaged prior to any final decision being made. The Council will be scheduling future study sessions on this issue to help facilitate public involvement and comment.