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**MERCED COUNTY TARGETS WESTSIDE PARK GRANT, NEEDS COMMUNITY FEEDBACK**

MERCED—Merced County is applying for a State grant to improve O’Banion Park in Dos Palos.

The grant can provide as much as \$8.5 million for improvements such as picnic shelters, tennis courts, basketball courts, soccer fields, baseball fields, an outdoor stage, benches and lighting, and/or improvements to Del Hale Hall in the park.

“This is a rare opportunity for a grant that could really help O’Banion Park,” said Supervisor Scott Silveira, whose District 5 includes Dos Palos. “The grant reviewers look for community participation in choosing how the grant funds would be spent, so we need residents to let us know what they think.”

O’Banion Park is 20 acres, one of the largest in the County park system. If grant funds are awarded and residents agree, there is potential for the County to explore options regarding relocating the Dos Palos Library to a larger space at O’Banion Park.

The grant is due in December, and award announcements are expected around July of 2021.

You can vote on potential components of the O’Banion Park grant by filling out a survey at: [www.countyofmerced.com/DosPalosParkSurvey](http://www.countyofmerced.com/DosPalosParkSurvey). The survey will be available until September 20, 2020.

For more information, call Merced County Special Projects Coordinator Patti Dossetti at 385-7637 ext. 4467.

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