SUBJECT:  AWARD OF CONTRACT GOLF COURSE FEASIBILITY STUDY

SOURCE:  Department of Parks and Leisure Services

COMMENT:  At the March 19, 2002 meeting, the City Council approved the Golf Course Capital Improvement Program Work Plan which included a golf course feasibility study on an 18 hole golf course, being built in Porterville.  Rather than spend extra money on a completely new study, staff is recommending hiring a consultant to update the old study done in 1988.  This would include considering possible new golf course sites in Porterville for an 18 hole golf course, and with an analysis on the newer courses which have been built in the valley during the last ten years and their current financial status.  Staff is recommending the service of Ralph Weber and Associates to complete the study.  Mr. Weber has consulted for numerous cities in the Central Valley and is a professor at Fresno State University.  The total amount for his services is $6,000.  The study will be completed in Spring of 2003.

Funds are available in the previously allotted Park Development Fund for the Sports Complex which remain available if reallocated.

RECOMMENDATION:  1) That the City Council award a contract in the amount of $6,000 to Ralph Weber and Associates with a 10% contingency; and,

2) Approve fee use of Park Development Funds previously approved for the Sports Complex; and,

3) Authorize the mayor to sign all contract documents on behalf of the City.