

Agenda Report

January 13, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Housing and Career Services Department

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE SUBMITTAL OF APPLICATION TO STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR HOUSING-RELATED PARKS PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Adopt a resolution authorizing the City to submit a grant application to the State of California under the Housing-Related Parks ("HRP") Program; and
- 2) Authorize the City Manager or his designee to approve any documents in connection with the HRP grant application or, in the event that the City receives an award, any HRP grant contract documents that may be required by the State.

BACKGROUND:

On October 2, 2013 the State of California issued a Notice of Funding Availability announcing \$25 million in grant funds for FY 2014 under its Housing-Related Parks ("HRP") Program. The HRP Program objectives are to incentivize the production/preservation of affordable housing, reward compliance with State Housing Element Law, and fund the creation of community park and recreational projects. The funds are available to local jurisdictions statewide. Applicants must meet threshold eligibility criteria which include submittal of Housing Element annual progress reports to the State. The amount of funding that a city can receive is tied to the number of very low- and low-income affordable housing units, and the total number of bedrooms in those units, that were permitted during the HRP Program period from January 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013. The application deadline is January 22, 2014.

The City's application currently in preparation will be in the amount of approximately \$413,200. Of this total, an amount of \$205,200 is based on building permits issued by the City for housing projects containing very low- and low-income units during the HRP Program period. In addition, the City is eligible for a bonus award in the amount of \$208,000 if the application identifies community park or recreational projects which meet the following criteria: a) the project is located in a Qualified Census Tract or in a census tract determined by HUD as having at least 51% of its residents at low- or

moderate-income levels ("Disadvantaged Communities" criteria); and b) the amount of useable park space for every 1,000 residents within a ½-mile radius of the project is less than three acres ("Park-Deficient" criteria). Eligible City projects that meet these criteria include Robinson Park (Phase II Implementation of Master Plan) and Muir High School Soccer Field. Both are identified in the FY 2014-2018 Capital Improvement Program as projects with an unfunded need.

The HRP grant funds may be used on projects for: 1) construction, rehabilitation or acquisition of capital assets that benefit the community; 2) physical property with a useful life of 15 years or more; 3) equipment with a useful life of two years or more; and 4) costs related to construction or acquisition (e.g., planning, design, engineering, environmental studies, appraisals).

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The proposed action supports the City Council strategic objectives to maintain fiscal responsibility and stability and to support and promote the quality of life and the local economy.

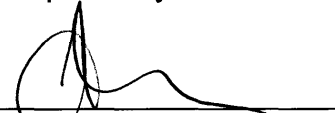
FISCAL IMPACT:

Approval of the staff recommendation will have no fiscal impact on the City. However, in the event that the City receives an HRP Program grant award, staff will return with a recommendation to amend the Public Works Department operating budget accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,


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Approved by:


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