

Agenda Report

September 24, 2001

TO: CITY COUNCIL
THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATION AND RESOLUTION IN
SUPPORT OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION TRAILS PROGRAM
FOR THE FLINT WASH TRAIL CROSSING

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution approving the grant application request for \$365,000 for the Recreational Trails Program Grant from the State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation for the Restoration of Flint Wash Trail Crossing at the terminus of La Canada-Verdugo Road between Devil's Gate Dam and the Old Oak Grove Park Service Road.

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

At their regular meeting of September 4, 2001, the Recreation and Parks Commission unanimously endorsed the City of Pasadena's application to the State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation for the Recreation Trails Program Grant in the amount of \$365,000 to complete funding for the construction of the Flint Wash Trail crossing at the terminus of La Canada-Verdugo Road between Devil's Gate Dam and the Old Oak Grove Park Service Road.

BACKGROUND:

The Recreational Trails Program (formerly the National Recreational Trails Fund Act Program), is funded under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21). California's allocation for this grant cycle will be approximately \$3 million available on a competitive basis to cities, counties, districts, state agencies, and nonprofit organizations with management responsibilities over public lands for motorized trail projects. The RTP is a matching program that provides up to 80% of the project costs.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation's Planning and Local Services Section administers the non-motorized projects. Final selections will be announced in January 2002.

The proposed project for this grant cycle is the Restoration of Flint Wash Trail crossing at the terminus of La Canada-Verdugo Road between Devil's Gate Dam and the old Oak Grove Park service road. This same project has successfully been awarded funding from two separate grant sources, totaling \$486,000, but additional funding is needed to meet the total estimated project cost of \$1.2 million. This historic crossing originally built in the early 1900's provided the primary access from La Canada-Verdugo Road in Pasadena to La Canada. Two previous bridges across this 200-foot span provided hiking, pedestrian and equestrian access from the west end of Devil's Gate Dam to the Oak Grove Area of Hahamongna Watershed Park.

This grant would enable the restoration of an historic recreational access way that has been nonfunctional for nearly eleven years. While, the final Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan is currently in the process of being completed, this proposal is in keeping with the already approved Preliminary Park Plan. This project is consistent with the Cultural and Recreational Element of the General Plan by encouraging the optimum use of existing recreational facilities. Further, this project is consistent with the Land Use Element of the General Plan by providing adequate recreational opportunities to all residents of the City. To further clarify, this improvement would provide recreational access to pedestrians and equestrians and improves security and maintenance access for park maintenance personnel.

Under Council approval, this project was submitted to the State of California Recreational Trails Program Grant for the 1999/2000 grant cycle and received partial funding in the amount of \$200,000. Similarly, this project was recently awarded \$286,000 by MTA for the construction of the bridge abutment. Successful award of this motorized RTP grant cycle would provide for enough funding to complete the construction of the Flint Wash Trail Project.

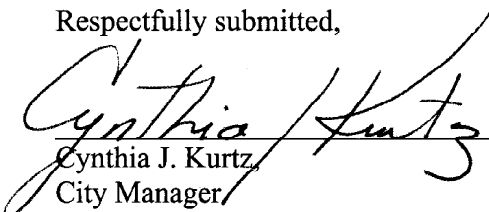
The Flint Wash Trail Crossing Project is a project of the Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan, a component of the Arroyo Seco Master Plan. The project is being evaluated by the Master Environmental Impact Report (MIER) on the Arroyo Seco Master Plan, currently being prepared and due to be completed in early 2002. Since federal funds will be the source of funding for this project, it is most assured that a federal environmental review (NEPA) will need to be conducted. The City will build upon the Arroyo Seco Master EIR to meet all federal environmental requirements.

FISCAL IMPACT:

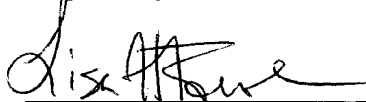
Successful award of the Recreational Trails Program grant application for the reconstruction of Flint Wash trail crossing could potentially bring a maximum of \$365,000 to the City of Pasadena. At that time, the funds would need to be recognized

and appropriated into the appropriate accounts. The recreation Trails Program does require a 20% match from the grant recipient. Funds from federal sources, other than the Department of Transportation, may be attributed to the project, which could bring the total federal share to 95%. The grant recipient must provide the remaining project amount from a non federal source, such as unexpended Prop A funds for the Hahamongna Watershed Park as well as in kind services from the Parks and Natural Resources Operating Budget.

Respectfully submitted,

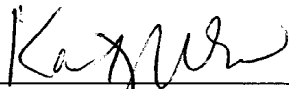

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