

Agenda Report

DATE: October 8, 2001

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER
THROUGH THE LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF GRANT APPLICATION AND RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STATE OF CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS GRANT PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the City of Pasadena's application and accompanying Resolution to the State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$275,000 for several smaller projects in the Central Arroyo area, specifically one new trail along Salvia Canyon, and five existing trails within Brookside Park, for a total of six trails.

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 in the amount of \$275,000 to construct new trails along Salvia Canyon and restore five existing trails in Brookside Park and requests that the City Council take similar action.

BACKGROUND:

The Non-Motorized Trails Program is funded under the Park Bond Act of 2000 for Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection. This competitive grant program funds the development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration and enhancement of non-motorized trails and associated interpretive facilities for the purpose of increasing public access to, and enjoyment of, public areas for increased recreational opportunities. There are \$1.74 million available statewide through this competitive grant program. There are no matching requirements.

MEETING OF 10/08/2001

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3.A.

A group of trail projects in the Central Arroyo Seco are recommended for this funding opportunity; all are recommendations in the draft Central Arroyo Master Plan (CAMP), a component of the Draft Arroyo Seco Master Plan, currently being finalized by staff and its various consultant teams.

The first trail proposed is along Salvia Canyon. CAMP proposes the creation of a new trail along Salvia Canyon to improve community access to this portion of the Arroyo Seco. Currently users walk in the street since there is no off-road pedestrian access. The trail would provide pedestrians safe, off-street access, particularly on large event days in the Arroyo Seco, when Salvia Canyon is used as a major traffic route for large Rose Bowl events. This new trail would occur on the southside of Salvia Canyon, between Linda Vista and West Drive and connect to the existing trail along West Drive. Enhanced landscaping along the new trail would be a part of the project as well as new directional trail signage. The trail would be surfaced in an all-weather natural material and be ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible.

The larger trail project involves the restoration and enhancement of the five trails within and leading into Brookside Park. One trail leads in from Rosemont Avenue, three trails lead in from Arroyo Terrace and one trail leads in from Holly Street. Trail entrances would be enhanced by removing old chain link and replacing with new, artistically designed iron fencing and entry gates. Trail entrances would also be enhanced with native landscaping, interpretive signage and directional signage. The arroyo stone edges of the trail would be repaired and all graffiti removed to expose the native stone surface. Eroded and washed-out trail paths would be resurfaced with compacted, trail material to create a safer and more durable trail surface. The Light Bringer Project will be a part of the project team and will help bring artists and Pasadena schoolchildren together by involving the children in the creative development of historical and environmental themes for project components such as interpretive signage, fencing and entrance gates.

Remaining funds would be used to repair other existing trails in the Central Arroyo, along West Drive and Rosemont. There are currently no funds identified in the Capital Improvement Program Budget for the construction, enhancement or restoration of trails in the Central Arroyo Seco.

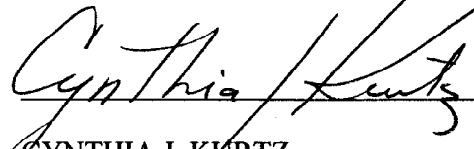
A master categorical exemption for projects in the Arroyo Seco considered to be improvements to existing facilities was completed and filed with the Los Angeles County Recorder in July 2001. All existing trails in the Arroyo Seco mentioned within this report are a part of the master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR) for the Arroyo Seco Master Plan, currently being completed and planned to come before City Council for review and adoption in the Spring of 2002. Improvements to the proposed Salvia Canyon trail could not be implemented until the Arroyo Seco Master Plan is adopted.

If the City is successfully awarded these funds to implement this project, additional maintenance for the six trails will be required to keep their condition at a high level. Staff is estimating an additional annual allocation of \$8,500 for labor and supplies to be added to the Brookside Operating account to cover this cost.

FISCAL IMPACT:

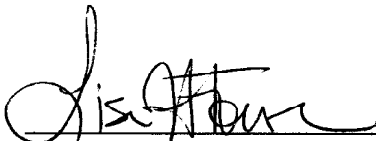
Successful award of the Non-Motorized Trails Grant application for the construction and improvement of trails in Brookside Park could potentially bring a maximum of \$275,000 to the City of Pasadena. At that time, the funds would need to be recognized and appropriated into the designated accounts. Additionally, the Brookside Operating account would need to be increased in the amount of \$8,500 for maintenance as part of the fiscal year 2003 operating budget.

Respectfully submitted,



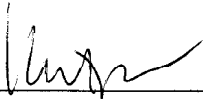
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

Prepared by:



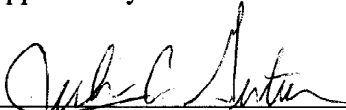
LISA H. FOWLER, Management Analyst IV
Parks and Natural Resources Division

Reviewed By:



KATHLEEN WOODS, Administrator
Parks and Natural Resources Division

Approved by:



JULIE A. GUTIERREZ, Acting Director
Public Works and Transportation Department