

Agenda Report

DATE: July 22, 2002

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF APPLICATION AND RESOLUTION TO THE RESOURCES AGENCY OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA FOR THE LOS ANGELES RIVER PARKWAY GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE WESTSIDE PERIMETER TRAIL AND HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT AT HAHAMONGNA WATERSHED PARK IN THE ARROYO SECO.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the City of Pasadena's application and resolution to the Resources Agency of the State of California for the Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program in the amount of \$600,000 for the Westside Perimeter Trail and Habitat Restoration Project at Hahamongna Watershed Park in the Arroyo Seco.

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

At their regular meeting on July 2, 2002, the Recreation and Parks Commission reviewed and unanimously endorsed approval of the City of Pasadena's application and resolution to the *Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002* and recommend the City Council take similar action.

BACKGROUND

The Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program was established with the passage of the *Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002*. The Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program is intended to provide funding to assist local agencies and other districts to plan, create, and conserve river parkways and provide open space, non-motorized trails, bike paths, and other low impact recreational uses and wildlife habitat restoration and protection.

This project implements a portion of the Arroyo Seco Master Plan in the Hahamongna Watershed Park that has been conceptually approved by City Council. The Westside Perimeter Trail and Habitat Restoration Project will raise the trail to above flood inundation levels and repair the Berkshire Storm Drain. The project will thereby restore and enhance parkland and open space and restore the Riparian South Willow Scrub habitat

and Native Oak Woodland habitat in the Arroyo Seco. If awarded these funds, the project can only proceed if the Arroyo Seco Master Plan is approved and its accompanying Master Environmental Impact Report is certified.

This project was reviewed as part of the Park Grant Plan approved by the City Council in January 2002. At that time, the project was submitted as part of the Riparian and Riverine Habitat Grant Program of the *Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002* requesting \$400,000. The total cost of the project is \$1,400,000. Since the original application was submitted, the LA River Parkway Program under the same Bond Act of 2002, has announced a competitive grant for which this project meets the criteria. Staff is recommending an application for this program in the amount of \$600,000.

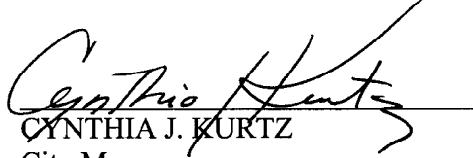
As with all grants, staff has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the following general provisions of the grant application. Upon award of the grant, the City of Pasadena will be required to enter into an agreement with the Resources Agency of the State of California. The agreement will ensure that the project is completed according to the grant application, as well as meet all applicable current laws and regulations. In addition, the project must be completed with all supporting documentation submitted by May 1, 2007. The City will also agree to complete the CEQA process within one year of the date of the grant award, to post signs acknowledging the source of funds, and to retain control of the property to be improved for at least 20 years from the completion of the project.

The City must agree to make the necessary funds available to operate and maintain the project in perpetuity. It is estimated that the completion of this project will result in additional maintenance costs of \$25,000 per year of which 25% can be absorbed through general maintenance. If the City is successful in obtaining this grant, staff will seek funding through the annual operating budget process for the additional funds.


FISCAL IMPACT:

Award of *Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002* funds would bring the City of Pasadena \$600,000 to complete the Westside Perimeter Trail and Habitat Restoration Project at Hahamongna Watershed Park in the Arroyo Seco.

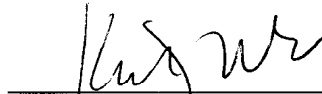
Respectfully submitted,


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