

Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: November 13, 2006

FROM: CYNTHIA KURTZ, CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION AND RESOLUTION FOR TWO ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT MITIGATION GRANTS – FOR STREET TREE PLANTING AND HABITAT RESTORATION IN THE ARROYO SECO

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Adopt a resolution authorizing an application for the competitive Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant program of 2004-2005 in the amount of \$75,000 for planting trees and shrubs at the southern entrance to the Lower Arroyo Seco Park; and
2. Adopt a resolution authorizing an application for the competitive Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant program of 2006-2007 in the amount of \$200,000 for planting street trees throughout the City and habitat restoration in the open space area of the Arroyo Seco.

BACKGROUND:

The California Department of Transportation administers the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant Program for both grants. Staff submitted an application for the 2004-2005 EEM Grant Program in November 2004. Staff received word that the application for \$75,000 was approved pending its adoption in the State budget. The funds were subsequently not approved for this program during the State's budget approval process. As part of the current fiscal budget cycle for the State of California, these 2004-2005 funds have now been appropriated and require a new application and resolution. Staff is therefore seeking approval of the same grant application for \$75,000 to plant trees and shrubs at the entrance to the Lower Arroyo Seco Park. This project will specifically restore 100 native trees and 400 native shrubs to approximately six acres at the southern entrance to the park. In addition, the project provides for irrigation to ensure their long-term viability. The project is identified in the adopted Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan.

The City of Pasadena has an additional opportunity to apply for grant funding from the California Department of Transportation, Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Grant Program for the 2006-2007 funding cycle. Staff is seeking the support of the City Council to apply for funding in the amount of \$200,000 for street tree planting and additional habitat restoration in the Lower Arroyo Seco Park consistent with the Master Plan. The grant application calls for planting 600 street trees Citywide that will replace trees that have been lost to disease or weather conditions over the past few years. In addition, like the 2004-2005 grant application, this application calls for native tree plantings and habitat restoration in the Lower Arroyo Seco Park.

FISCAL IMPACT:


The City of Pasadena has been approved to receive \$75,000 to help implement a portion of the Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan by planting native trees and shrubs, and installing irrigation from the 2004-2005 EEM Grant Program with approval of this application. If the City of Pasadena is successful in obtaining funding for the 2006-2007 funding cycle, the City will receive \$200,000 to be utilized towards diminishing the street tree deficiency and restoring the native wetlands in the southern portion of the Arroyo Seco. Neither of these grants requires matching funds from the City.

Respectfully Submitted:



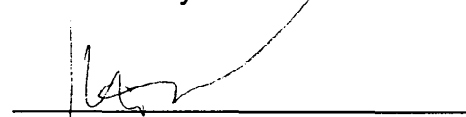
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

Prepared by:



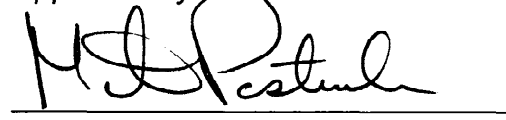
Darya Barar, Program Coordinator
Parks and Natural Resources

Reviewed by:



Kathleen Woods, Administrator
Parks and Natural Resources

Approved by:



Martin Pastucha, Director
Department of Public Works

Resolution No: _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PASADENA APPROVING THE APPLICATION TO THE RESOURCES AGENCY FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM UNDER THE SECTION 164.56 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE FOR THAT STREET TREE PLANTING PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of California has enacted AB 471 (Chapter 106 of the Statutes of 1989), which is intended to provide \$10 million annually for a period of 10 years for grant funds to local, state and federal agencies and nonprofit entities for projects to enhance and mitigate the environmental impacts of modified or new public transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Resources Agency has established the procedures and criteria for reviewing grant proposals and is required to submit to the California Transportation Commission a list of recommended projects from which the grant recipients will be selected; and

WHEREAS, said procedures and criteria established by the Resources Agency require a resolution certifying the approval of application by the applicant's governing body before submission of said application to the State, and

WHEREAS, the application contains assurances with which the applicant must comply; and

WHEREAS, the applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out the environmental enhancement and mitigation project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE PASADENA CITY COUNCIL:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program; and
2. Certifies that the City will make adequate provisions for operation and maintenance of the project; and
3. Appoints either the City Manager or Director of Public Works as agent of the City of Pasadena to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

I, the undersigning, hereby certify the foregoing Resolution Number _____ was
duly adopted by the Pasadena City Council on November 13, 2006

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Jane Rodriguez
City Clerk

Approved as to form:



11/6/06

Nicholas George Rodriguez
Assistant City Attorney

Resolution No: _____

**THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL
ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM UNDER THE SECTION
164.56 OF THE STREETS AND HIGHWAYS CODE FOR THE STREET
TREE PLANTING PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Legislature of the State of California has enacted AB 471 (Chapter 106 of the Statutes of 1989), which is intended to provide \$10 million annually for a period of 10 years for grant funds to local, state and federal agencies and nonprofit entities for projects to enhance and mitigate the environmental impacts of modified or new public transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Resources Agency has established the procedures and criteria for reviewing grant proposals and is required to submit to the California Transportation Commission a list of recommended projects from which the grant recipients will be selected; and

WHEREAS, said procedures and criteria established by the Resources Agency require a resolution certifying the approval of application by the applicant's governing body before submission of said application to the State; and

WHEREAS, the application contains assurances with which the applicant must comply; and

WHEREAS, the applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out the environmental enhancement and mitigation project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE PASADENA CITY COUNCIL:

1. The City of Pasadena approves the filing of an application for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program; and
2. The City of Pasadena certifies that the City will make adequate provisions for operation and maintenance of the Street Tree Plantings and restoration to habitat project; and
3. Appoints either the City Manager or Director of Public Works as agent of the City of Pasadena to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

Approved and Adopted on the ____ day of _____, 20__.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Jane Rodriguez
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

11/6/06



Nicholas George Rodriguez
Assistant City Attorney