

Agenda Report

DATE: August 13, 2007

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 SYCAMORE GROVE PERIMETER TRAIL 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 adoption of a resolution to the Resources Agency of the State of California for the Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program in the amount of \$423,500 for the Sycamore Grove Perimeter Trail at Hahamongna Watershed Park in the Arroyo Seco.

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

At their special meeting on September 12, 2006, the Recreation and Parks Commission recommended to the City Council support of a grant application to the State of California Resources Agency's Habitat Conservation Fund Program for the implementation of the Westside Trails Project. The City of Pasadena was not successful in receiving this grant.

At their regular meeting of August 7, 2007, staff provided an update to the Commission advising that the project, now identified as the Sycamore Grove Perimeter Trail in Hahamongna Watershed Park, was being re-submitted through the Los Angeles River Parkway Grant Program. The Recreation and Parks Commission reaffirmed their support for this project and grant application.

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 that provide open space, non-motorized trails, bike paths, and other low impact recreational uses and wildlife habitat restoration and protection. There currently is \$1.6 million still remaining in this fund and available to communities within the Los Angeles region; project selection could result in one single large project or several smaller projects.

This project implements a portion of the Arroyo Seco Master Plan in the Hahamongna Watershed Park that has been approved by City Council. The project will complete the trail system on the Westside of Hahamongna Watershed Park and provide an opportunity for trail users to traverse a trail along the eastern edge of Sycamore Grove field and above the level of frequent inundation. The project will thereby restore and enhance parkland and open space in the Arroyo Seco.

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 and all supporting documentation submitted by May 1, 2012. The City will also agree 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 will utilize funds from the operating budget to operate and maintain the project in perpetuity. If the City is successful in obtaining this grant, staff will seek funding through the annual operating budget process to maintain the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

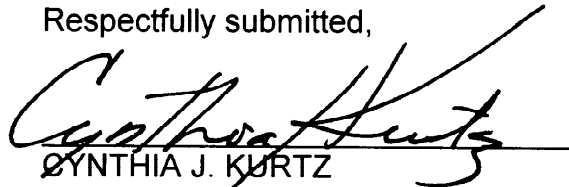
Each project proposed is a project of the adopted Arroyo Seco Master Plans and has been evaluated by the Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR) for the Arroyo Seco Master Plans and the Notice of Determination (NOD) filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk. For projects in the Arroyo Seco Master Plans, a subsequent initial Study is prepared to determine if the project is within the scope of the MEIR and if the project would cause any additional environmental impacts. The City will complete this CEQA review after the grant award. If the Initial Study concludes that the project was described in the MEIR and no new significant impacts would occur, the city will make the following written findings:

- The project is within the scope of the Master EIR;
- No additional significant environmental effects will result from the proposal;
- No new additional mitigation measures or alternative may be required.

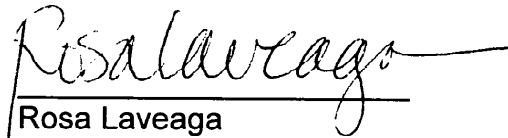
FISCAL IMPACT:

Award of *Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air, and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2002* funds would bring the City of Pasadena \$423,500 to complete the Sycamore Grove Perimeter Trail at Hahamongna Watershed Park in the Arroyo Seco.

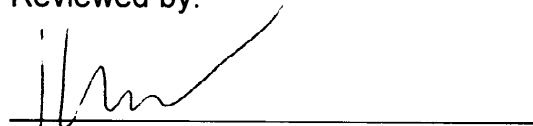
Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

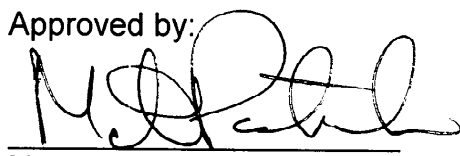
Prepared by:


Rosa Laveaga
Arroyo Seco Supervisor
Parks and Natural Resources

Reviewed by:


Kathleen Woods
Administrator
Parks and Natural Resources

Approved by:


Martin Pastucha, Director
Department of Public Works

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASADENA APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE LOS ANGELES RIVER PARKWAY GRANT PROGRAM UNDER THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS, CLEAN WATER, CLEAN AIR, AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2000 FOR THE SYCAMORE GROVE PERIMETER TRAIL PROJECT AT HAHAMONGNA WATERSHED PARK IN THE ARROYO SECO.

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided funds for the Program shown above; and

WHEREAS, **the Secretary of the Resources Agency** has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this grant Program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, the said procedures established by **the Secretary of the Resources Agency** require the Applicant to certify the approval of Application(s) by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said Application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an Agreement with the State of California to carry out the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an Application for the Sycamore Grove Perimeter Trail Project at Hahamongna Watershed Park in the Arroyo Seco; and
2. Certifies that the City understands the assurance and certification in the Application form; and
3. Certifies that the Project is consistent with local or regional land use plans or Programs; and
4. Certifies that the City has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the Project(s); and

5. Certifies that the City has reviewed and understands the provisions contained in the Grant Guide; and
6. Appoints the City Manager or Director of Public Works as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to Applications, Agreements, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned Project(s).

Adopted at the regular meeting of the City Council on the _____ day of _____, 2007, by the vote:

AYES:

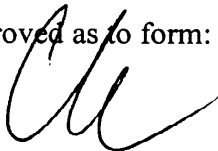
NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Jane Rodriguez, City Clerk, CMC

Approved as to form:

 8/6/07

Nicholas George Rodriguez
Assistant City Attorney