

# Agenda Report

September 22, 2014

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**THROUGH:** Finance Committee

**FROM:** Human Services and Recreation Department

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT AND ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH PASADENA COMMUNITY GARDENS CONSERVANCY AND APPROPRIATION OF GRANT FUNDS**

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the recommended action is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14, Chapter 3 (State CEQA Guidelines), Section 15301 (Class 1, Existing Facilities);
2. Authorize the City Manager to accept \$100,000 grant and enter into a grant agreement with the Pasadena Community Gardens Conservancy in support of the Villa-Parke Community Garden; and,
3. Recognize and appropriate \$20,000 in grant funds to the General Fund (101) in the Human Services and Recreation Department's Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 operating budget (account 7033-101-643541 and 8114-101-643541).

## **BACKGROUND:**

The City of Pasadena, Villa-Parke Community Center (Center) in partnership with Los Angeles Conservation Corps, with funding from the Los Angeles County Children and Families First Proposition 10 Commission has constructed a community garden at the Center. The existing community garden consists of thirty (30) garden beds and additional beds in the Head Start area as well as communal areas of the Center. The community garden provides an opportunity for community members to grow fresh, healthy produce and to enhance the neighborhood by providing green space and a recreational opportunity for community members. A partnership between the City's

Department of Public Health and the City's Department of Human Services and Recreation, the community garden is one strategy to address health disparities.

The Pasadena Community Garden Conservancy (PCGC), a nonprofit entity organized to provide long-term stewardship and financial support for community gardens, comprised of longtime Pasadena residents seeks to provide programmatic, volunteer, stewardship and technical support to the Villa-Parke Community Garden through the establishment of the proposed grant agreement. Pursuant to the proposed agreement, PCGC has agreed to provide an initial grant of \$20,000 this fiscal year and \$20,000 per year over the next four fiscal years. The grant term begins October 1, 2014 and ends September 30, 2019.

The major components of the agreement are as follows:

- PCGC funding for a University of California/Los Angeles County-certified Master Gardener who will conduct workshops for community gardeners as well as volunteers in the garden. Center staff, community gardeners and volunteers will maintain the garden. The certified Master Gardener was chosen through a selection process specified by the guidelines of the grant. Note that this process abides by the City's practices.
- PCGC funding for a State Certified Dietician or State Certified Nutritionist who will conduct nutrition education classes to provide information and instruction on healthy cooking.

#### **COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The Agreement furthers City Council's strategic plan goals of increasing conservation and sustainability, and supporting and promoting quality of life.

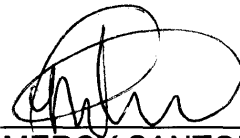
#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:**

The proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA per State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Class 1, Existing Conditions. Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use. The proposed project provides funding for the continued operation of the Villa-Parke Community Garden. No physical expansion of the facility is proposed and only negligible, if any, expansion of use would result from the proposed program funding.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Pursuant to the terms of the recommended grant agreement, the Pasadena Community Gardens Conservancy will provide the City at total of \$100,000 in support of the Villa-Parke Community Garden. It is anticipated that \$20,000 of the cost and \$20,000 of the revenues from the grant will be spent and received during the current fiscal year. The remainder of the costs and revenues will be spent and received over the next four fiscal years. No additional indirect and/or support costs such as maintenance and IT support are anticipated to be incurred.

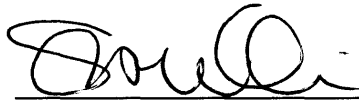
Respectfully submitted,



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