

Agenda Report

December 14, 2015

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FOR CITIES EXCESS FUNDING FROM THE PARK BOND ACT OF 1992 AND 1996 (PROPOSITION A) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000 FOR DESIDERIO PARK PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

- Find that the authorization to apply for grants is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3); and
- 2. Adopt a resolution authorizing submittal of an application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for Fifth Supervisorial District funding from the Park Bond Act of 1992 and 1996 (Proposition A) in the amount of \$500,000 for the Desiderio Park Project.

BACKGROUND:

On April 10, 2015, the City submitted a letter to Los Angeles County requesting \$500,000 in Proposition A Cities Excess grant funding for the Desiderio Park - Development of New Park Capital Improvement Project (CIP). These funds would provide additional funding for the project allowing more of the park design to be implemented during the initial construction.

Recently, Los Angeles County staff informed the City they are preparing the Board of Supervisors letter for this grant application and have instructed the City to submit an application packet and resolution.

The proposed 3.8-acre neighborhood park consists of a meadow/natural design theme with amenities including a small play area, picnic structure, walking paths, small parking lot, and site furnishings (Attachment A). A park restroom location will be identified, designed and constructed through a separate CIP project that is currently unfunded.

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The cost to develop the park, without the restroom, is \$3.4 million. To date, \$2.46 million has been appropriated (\$2.43 million from Residential Impact Fees and \$30,000 from Inclusionary Housing Trust Fund) and there is an unfunded balance of \$940,000. This \$500,000 Proposition A grant will reduce the unfunded amount of the project to \$440,000.

The City completed the property acquisition in July 2015. Building and site demolition commenced in September 2015 and was completed in November 2015. A bid package for initial park construction is being prepared. The initial park construction will include the grading and drainage, landscape planting, primary walkways, and site amenities in order to provide a functional park for public enjoyment. Utility work will include connection points for a future restroom. The restroom construction is a separate Capital Improvement Project and not included as a part of the initial park construction.

To date, projects costs are approximately \$900,000. This includes costs associated with acquiring the property, park design, and site demolition.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

Receipt of the Proposition A funding will further the City Council's strategic goals to improve, maintain, and enhance public facilities and infrastructure, and support and promote the quality of life.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS:

The action proposed herein is an application for funding and not the construction of any particular project. Accordingly, the authorization to apply for grants is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061 (b) (3).

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FISCAL IMPACT:

The City has the potential of receiving up to \$500,000 for these capital improvements under the Cities Excess Funds Program. If this project receives grant funding, the Department of Public Works will return to City Council to appropriate the revenue into the appropriate capital budget account.

Respectfully submitted,

JULIE A. GU

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Attachment A – Desiderio Neighborhood Park Site Plan