



Agenda Report

June 10, 2019

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: City Manager

SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPLYING FOR GRANT FUNDS & APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE ONE ARROYO FOUNDATION IN SUPPORT OF ONE ARROYO DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the actions proposed herein are not subject to environmental review pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"), State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4); and
2. Adopt a Resolution approving an application for grant funds from the Los Angeles County Regional Parks & Open Space District for the One Arroyo Demonstration Projects; and
3. Authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the One Arroyo Foundation for cooperative work on the Demonstration Projects.

BACKGROUND:

In August 2018, the Arroyo Advisory Group (AAG) delivered to Council a final report outlining its recommendations for future projects and funding strategies for the One Arroyo demonstration projects. At that time, Council also endorsed the One Arroyo Foundation's (Foundation) Capital Campaign to raise \$7 million in support of a variety of design solutions to establish minimum connections, enhance the trail user experience, and foster a deeper connection to the Arroyo and Arroyo watershed. (Demonstration Projects). The Arroyo Seco is one of the region's most precious and distinctive natural resources. The Demonstration Projects are located at key connection points into and out of the Central Arroyo

Since that time, the City has made application to the County for \$500,000 in excess Prop A funds toward these Demonstration Projects. The Los Angeles County Regional Park & Open Space District administers these funds for the development of facilities and open space for public recreation.

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the Resolution attached to this report which approves the filing of an application with the Los Angeles County Regional Parks & Open Space District for funds for the Demonstration Projects. The City will work together with the One Arroyo Foundation to secure sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project in perpetuity as well as seek to develop a youth employment plan to provide for meaningful youth opportunities during the construction of the proposed demonstration projects.

In connection with the adoption of the Resolution for grant funds for the One Arroyo demonstration projects, it is also recommended that the City Council authorize the City Manager to finalize negotiations and enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) with the One Arroyo Foundation consistent with the Term Sheet attached to this report. Conceptually, the M.O.U. would establish a contractual relationship through which the Demonstration Projects introduced in the AAG's final report are funded and undertaken in the Arroyo. The M.O.U. would define the Foundation's responsibilities and disbursement of funds from its capital campaign while underscoring the City's support for the Demonstration Projects.

ENVIRONMENTAL:

The actions proposed herein are not "projects" as defined in State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), because they are fiscal activities undertaken to secure funding for potential future projects. The actions proposed do not involve a final commitment to any particular project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment. At the time any future commitment to a project is made, such project will have to undergo environmental review pursuant to CEQA..

FISCAL IMPACT:

The approval of the resolution will result in \$500,000 of excess Prop A funds for the future construction phase of the One Arroyo Projects. The design phase of the One Arroyo Projects will be funded and undertaken by the One Arroyo Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager

Prepared by:



Michelle Garrett
Project Manager

Attachments: Resolution for County Funds for One Arroyo Demonstration Projects
Term Sheet for One Arroyo Foundation Memorandum of Understanding