

Agenda Report

DATE: September 23, 2002

TO: CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: LEGISLATIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

FROM: CITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION AND RESOLUTION TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the City of Pasadena's application and resolution to the State of California Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation for the Habitat Conservation Fund Program in the amount of \$230,000 to implement the Habitat Restoration of the Flood Management and Water Conservation Pool in Hahamongna Watershed Park.

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

At their special meeting on September 10, 2002, the Recreation and Parks Commission reviewed and unanimously endorsed the City of Pasadena's application and resolution to the State of California Resources Agency Department of Parks and Recreation for the Habitat Conservation Fund Program and recommended that the City Council take similar action.

BACKGROUND:

The Habitat Conservation Fund is administered by the California Department of Parks and Recreation. Funds are provided by State grant under the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990. Two million dollars is available for competitive grants to local public agencies. These funds will be provided annually from July 1, 1990 to July 1, 2020. This grant requires a dollar for dollar match (50%-State, 50% local). The match must come from a non-State source.

The following categories will be funded during the 2002/2003 Fiscal year grant cycle: oak woodland; habitat for rare and endangered, threatened, or fully protected species; wildlife corridors and urban trails; wetland; aquatic habitat; and, riparian habitat. Project applications must be submitted by October 1, 2002. This grant opportunity has recently been made available, and was therefore not presented as part of the Park Funding Plan in January 2002.

Implementation of the Habitat Restoration for the Flood Management and Water Conservation Pool in Hahamongna Watershed Park is recommended for this funding opportunity. This project is included in the draft Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan (HWP), a component of the Draft Arroyo Seco Master Plan, currently in circulation. The project was conceptually approved by the City Council in February 2000 as part of the conceptual approval of the Draft Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan. The project will be implemented if and when it is approved as part of the Arroyo Seco Master Plan final approval.

The Flood Management and Water Conservation Pool is in large part a riparian habitat restoration project. The purpose of the Flood Management and Waters Conservation Pool is to create a flood control pool to better manage inflowing sediment as well as a pool to allow the retention of floodwater for water conservation. The project proposes a phased operation that will permit the area above the floodplain (above elevation 1040') and the perimeter of the water conservation pool (between elevations 1030' and 1040') to become established with riparian southern willow scrub habitat.

The Capital Improvement Program Budget currently includes \$230,000 from 1992 Prop A funds for this project under the project entitled "Implement Hahamongna Watershed Park Master Plan" for habitat conservation, enhancement or restoration in Hahamongna Watershed Park. This funding would serve as the match requirement for this grant submittal. The total estimated project cost for this project is \$460,000.

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 with all supporting documentation submitted by the deadline. The City must also agree to post signs acknowledging the source of funds, and comply with provisions of Chapter 16, Sec. 7260 of Div. 7, Title of the State Government Code.

It is estimated that the completion of this project will result in additional maintenance costs of \$7,000 per year. If the City is successful in obtaining this grant, staff will seek maintenance funding through the annual operating budget process.

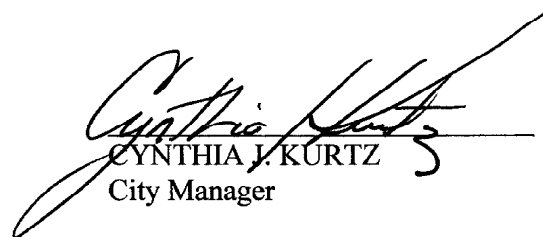
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

The proposed habitat restoration project will be evaluated in the Master Environmental Impact Report (MEIR) for the Arroyo Seco Master Plan, currently being completed and planned to come before City Council for review and adoption in early 2003.

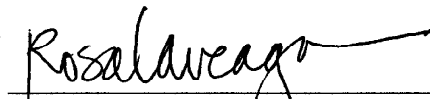
FISCAL IMPACT:

Successful award of the Habitat Conservation Fund Program to implement the Habitat Restoration of the Flood Management and Water Conservation Pool in Hahamongna Watershed Park could potentially bring a maximum of \$230,000 to the City of Pasadena. Additional funds in the amount of \$7,000 will need to be identified to cover the annual maintenance costs if the City is successful in receiving this grant award.

Respectfully submitted,



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