

Agenda Report

DATE: March 17, 2003

TO: CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (March 11, 2003)

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: APROVAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY FOR THE AGENCY'S GENERAL GRANT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$331,543.84.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the City of Pasadena's grant application to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy in the amount of \$331,543.84 for a drought tolerant garden project at Washington Park General Grant Program.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION:

At its February 20, 2003 special meeting, the Recreation and Parks Commission unanimously supported the City of Pasadena's application to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy for the General Grant Program.

BACKGROUND:

In the 2002-03 State budget, the Legislature appropriated \$18 million of the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 40) to the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC). RMC has devised two grant programs through which these funds will be allocated for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation, restoration, and protection of land and water resources within the RMC's boundaries.

Based on public input, and in consideration of the parameters of the RMC's General Grant Program, staff has determined that a drought tolerant demonstration garden project at Washington Park is best suited for this grant application. The project will consist of pathways, irrigation, landscaping, interpretive signage and a small shade structure for educational programs and picnics. The scope of the project includes development of an Interpretive Center and historic El Molino Walkway; development of a Demonstration Garden, Park Arroyo, and Stage area; and development of the historic picnic area. The grant parameters encourage the inclusion of educational and interpretive components in the proposed project.

proposed project. The improvements are in conformance with the Washington Park Master Plan. In addition, the implementation of projects developed in the master plan was highlighted as a priority for Proposition 40 competitive funds in the Park Bonds and Grant Plan approved by City Council on January 28, 2002.

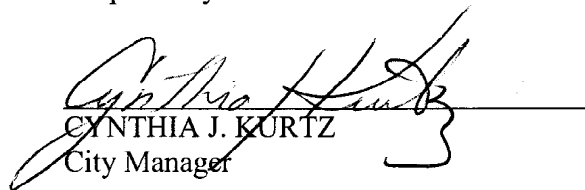
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed improvements would have no adverse environmental impact and will qualify for a categorical exemption under the California Environmental Quality Act.


FISCAL IMPACT:

The grant does not require applicants to provide matching funds. However, projects that contain a proposed match will receive a higher score. The total estimated cost of this project is \$464,161.38. Successful award of this grant would bring a maximum of \$331,543.84 to the City of Pasadena. The Capital Improvement Program contains sufficient funding for improvements at Washington Park that can be used as a match for the grant funds. If awarded, the funds would need to be recognized and appropriated into the designated account.

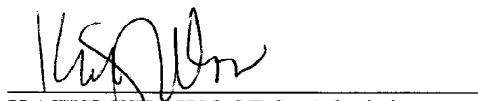
Respectfully Submitted:


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

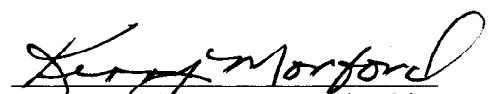
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