

Agenda Report

November 22, 2021

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Department of Public Works

SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO APPLY FOR MEASURE A ANNUAL ALLOCATIONS FOR PARK, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE FUNDING

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Find that the proposed action is not a "project" as defined in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Public Resources Code Section 21065 and Section 15378(b)(4) and (5) of the State CEQA Guidelines and, as such, is not subject to environmental review; and
2. Adopt a resolution to approve filing of applications for Measure A Annual Allocations with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.

BACKGROUND:

In November 2016, Los Angeles County (County) voters approved Measure A, which authorizes dedicated local funding for park, recreation, and open space projects and their maintenance through an annual special tax of 1.5 cents per square foot of building floor area on all taxable real property in the County.

Annual Allocations of Measure A are distributed by Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District based on a per capita formula. These community-based park investments total 35% of the total Measure A funding. The County began collecting the tax in FY 2018 and made the first allocation available to municipalities in FY 2019. The funding is annually released on September 15th of each year.

The City of Pasadena is assessed in two regions, the Eastside and the Westside. See Attachment A – Measure A Boundaries and City Park Districts which shows the boundaries of these two regions. The funding collected by the County is specified to be

used by the City in the region in which it was collected. Currently, the funding accrued since FY 2019 totals \$1,275,599 in the Westside and \$848,937 in the Eastside.

It is anticipated that the City will receive \$557,500 annually that can be used for design or construction of capital park projects as well as refurbishment or expansion of current parks. Additionally, funding can be used for enhancing greenspace, urban canopy development or graffiti removal. Staff will propose appropriations to specific projects as part of the City Manager's Recommended FY 2023 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget.

A few of the grant requirements are highlighted below:

- Funding can be accrued for a maximum of five years to remain in good standing;
- Grant applications must be submitted and approved by the County prior to using the funds;
- Each project must include community engagement and outreach; and
- Permanent Measure A signage must be displayed at project locations.

COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:

The project is consistent with the City Council's goal to maintain fiscal responsibility and stability and improve, maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure. It also supports the Public Facilities Element of the General Plan by maintaining public facilities to enhance the quality of life of the community.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

The action proposed herein is an application for funding and not the construction of a project. Accordingly, the authorization to apply for grants is exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3). The appropriate level of CEQA analysis for the construction of the proposed project will be a part of the scope of work for the proposed project and determined at the appropriate time.

FISCAL IMPACT:

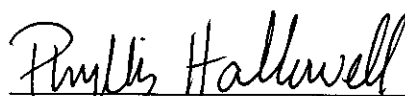
This action will allow staff to file applications for Measure A grant funding for park projects and programs. The City's total annual Per Capita allotment is approximately \$557,500. To date the City has accrued a total of \$2,124,536 in Measure A grant funding in both regions. This funding will be appropriated as part of the FY 2023 CIP budget process pending the County's approval of the grant applications.

Respectfully submitted,



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Approved by:



STEVE MERMELL
City Manager

Attachment A – Measure A Boundaries and City Park Districts