

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: JEN SANTOS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR - PARKS  
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT  
SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AN APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF  
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION  
OFFICE OF GRANTS AND LOCAL SERVICES PROGRAM FOR  
THE REVITALIZATION OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.  
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

AGENDA ACTION: MOTION

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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department, that the Council: 1) by motion, find good cause, under the Early Agenda Policy and the Open Government Ordinance, to consider this item, notwithstanding that the item did not appear on the preliminary agenda; and 2) approve the submittal of an application to the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services Program for the revitalization of the Martin Luther King Jr. Neighborhood Park.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Motion to approve will authorize the Transportation and Public Works Department to apply for the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants (OGALS) and Local Services Program as the first step in a future grant application to the National Parks Services (NPS), Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership (ORLP) Program. The estimated total future project cost, including design, construction is \$2,273,000. OGALS does not require authorization of funds or a local match at this time. However, the future estimated total project amount is \$2,273,000 which includes a 50% match of \$1,136,500, and is available from Park Development Impact fees for the Southeast Zone. Should the City continue to move through the grant process, staff anticipates returning at a later date, as requested by OGALS and as necessary, with resolutions, grant application documents and agreements and to approve funding that may be required for the grant.

BACKGROUND

The State of California Department of Parks and Recreation OGALS has joined with the NPS to offer federal funding in the amount of \$150 million as part of the Federal ORLP

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for eligible projects. ORLP is a subprogram of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) administered by NPS at the federal level.

The ORLP Program is a highly competitive program where applications will be accepted nationally from all 50 states and approximately 30 applicants will receive notification to continue with the grant application process and potentially become funded through the grant LWCF program. The application process is a three-part process with eligible applicants required to request to apply for the ORLP program through the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) as a first step.

As the second step in the application process, the OGALS will then submit proposals on behalf of California to NPS by late July 2021. The third step in the grant process requires the NPS's National Review Committee to review all applications submitted by all 50 states and for each applicant to provide revisions to the first step applications and Resolutions to apply to the ORLP program prior to September 24, 2021. At that time, if the City's application is recommended as part of the ORLP program by OGALS, staff will return to Council for review of the formal application and Resolution requesting dedication of funds. There is no penalty for applicants that are recommended to move to the third step in the application process if an application is removed by the applicant (City) prior to a formal submittal to the ORLP program. The State does not require nor have standard language at this time for approval, they are only accepting basic applications that describe the project and if the project moves through the secondary process and is recommended as part of the third process, then a formal application with Resolution will be prepared and submitted for Council consideration.

\$150 million is available for all states on a competitive basis. The minimum grant request per project application is \$300,000 and the maximum is \$5,000,000. The administrative requirements of LWCF apply to ORLP, including no less than a 50% match of the total project cost. This means that the grant can fund up to, but not more than, 50% of the total project cost.

The ORLP program can fund acquisition and/or development projects for Parks. Specifically, the program is intended for areas located within jurisdictions delineated by the Census Bureau from the 2010 Census as urbanized areas; areas that have a population of 50,000 or more with high density. Further, the program targets projects located in or directly accessible to neighborhoods or communities that are underserved in terms of parks and recreation resources, and its population is economically disadvantaged.

Revitalization of the Martin Luther King Jr. Neighborhood Park is an eligible capital development project supporting recreational needs for the surrounding neighborhood that is historically disadvantaged. The project proposes to reimagine the park with the neighborhood to update the Master Plan and specifically to install an artificial turf, multi-purpose sports field with lighting, and landscaping and pathways. The updated Master

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Plan (reimagining) will provide the approvals necessary so that as additional funding becomes available future phases of the Master Plan, such as but not limited to playground upgrades and relocation can be implemented.

The estimated total future project cost, including design, construction is \$2,273,000.

The State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) does not require City Council to authorize the grant application for funds at this time. Rather, staff are requesting approval to submit the project application to OGALS and return at a later date, as Requested by OGALS, with a Resolution for Council's review to submit a final grant application and approve funding. OGALS will provide notification to applicants in July 2021 if their applications will be submitted to ORLP and at that time staff will return with a Resolution for Council review.

As a preliminary step, prior to consideration of this agenda item, the Council must address compliance with the Council's Early Agenda Policy and with Section 1-10.030(G) of the City Code. The approval of staff's application for this grant did not appear on the City's preliminary agenda for the June 8, 2021 Council Meeting.

Pursuant to the Council's Early Agenda Policy and the Council's direction for early implementation of section 1-10.030(G) of the City Code, an urgent item of business that does not appear on the preliminary agenda may nevertheless be placed on a final agenda, and discussed and acted on by Council, but only if there is a showing of good cause and only with the concurrence of six Council Members. Pursuant to the Early Agenda Policy and section 1-10.030(G), a showing of good cause requires a finding by Council that as a result of exceptional circumstances beyond the control of Council, compliance with the preliminary agenda requirement would "impose a substantial burden on the City's ability to conduct its business or result in prejudice to a private person."

Staff recommends that Council find submitting the application prior to the grant deadline to avoid missing out on subsequent phases of the grant process is exceptional circumstance beyond the control of the Council, and (b) that any potential delay in submitting the application would impose a substantial burden on the City's ability to conduct its business.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

Not applicable

ANALYSIS

The City of Santa Rosa has already met the eligibility requirements to apply consistent with the ORLP by its status as a City within the State of California.

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Revitalization of the Martin Luther King Jr. Neighborhood Park is a project identified under Section 6-2 of Santa Rosa's 2035 General Plan and fills a community need for updating severely disadvantaged neighborhoods. The grant application includes the revitalization of a park in one of the city's severely disadvantaged neighborhoods.

All project applicants will be first reviewed by OGALS and then OGALS will notify each applicant of its status to submit an application to ORLP. All ORLP improvement projects are estimated to be completed by October 1, 2025. Final dates are to be determined.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of this action does not have a fiscal impact on the General Fund. There is no request for approval of funding at this time. However, the future estimated total project amount is \$2,273,000 which includes a 50% (\$1,136,500) match from the City which are available from Park Development Impact fees for the Southeast Zone.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed action is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) and 15378 in that there is no possibility that the implementation of this action may have significant effects on the environment and the action is not defined as a project under CEQA. Therefore, no further environmental review is required at this time.

BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 - Master Plan Martin Luther King, Jr. Park

CONTACT

Jen Santos, [jsantos@srcity.org](mailto:jsantos@srcity.org) , 707-543-3781