

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: STEVE BRADY, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST
SANTA ROSA WATER DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF A MATCHING GRANT
APPLICATION TO THE SONOMA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL
PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FOR THE
LOWER COLGAN CREEK RESTORATION – PHASE 2 PROJECT

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Transportation & Public Works and Water Departments, that the Council, by resolution: 1) approve a matching grant application to the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District for construction of the Lower Colgan Creek Restoration – Phase 2 Project in the amount of \$532,390 and authorize the Director of Santa Rosa Water (Director) to submit a grant application; 2) authorize the Director of Transportation and Public Works to accept the grant and execute any and all grant agreements and amendments thereto, and all other documents necessary for the completion of the project, subject to approval by the City Attorney; and 3) authorize the Chief Financial Officer to increase appropriations by the approved grant award.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The approved resolution will authorize the Water Department to apply for the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District's (District) Matching Grant Program (Program) and execute required documents to provide funding toward construction of the Lower Colgan Creek Restoration – Phase 2 (Project). The Project is consistent with City Council Goal 3, "Provide Leadership for Environmental Initiatives" by enhancing habitat along a reach of Colgan Creek in southwest Santa Rosa.

BACKGROUND

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1. Since the District's inception, the City has partnered with the District on numerous projects through the Program and other partnership opportunities including acquisition of land for the Lower Colgan Creek Restoration, Bayer Neighborhood Park and Gardens, Roseland Creek Community Park, and the Prince Memorial Greenway.
2. In this funding cycle the District has \$2,500,000 available for acquisition and development projects and requires a 1:1 match.
3. On August 27, 2013, the Council adopted an update to the Santa Rosa Citywide Creek Master Plan which authorized staff to seek funds for implementation of the Lower Colgan Creek Restoration Project. The Master Plan includes a detailed conceptual restoration plan for Lower Colgan Creek.
4. The Colgan Creek Restoration Project is a three-phased project stretching along 1.4 miles of the creek in southwest Santa Rosa. The three phases are anticipated to cost over \$10,000,000 and will restore the creek from a trapezoidal flood control channel to a healthier seasonal creek that includes riffles, pools, instream habitat structures, and native plantings. It will also include a bicycle and pedestrian pathway and increase the flood capacity of the channel to carry the 100 year flood. Phase 1 near Elsie Allen High School was constructed in the summer of 2014. Phase 2 is located between Victoria Drive and Boron Avenue and could be constructed in 2017 if all necessary funding is secured.
5. Transportation & Public Works and Water Department staff have been completing the final design, executed a Cooperative Management Agreement with the Sonoma County Water Agency, and executed a conservation easement with the District for the entire Lower Colgan Creek Restoration Project.
6. With an anticipated cost of \$2,535,632 for Phase 2, the City is seeking \$532,390 from the Program to secure the remaining funds needed to ensure construction in 2017.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

On November 19, 2002, the City Council, by resolution No. 25475, adopted the Lower Colgan Creek Restoration Plan.

On December 2, 2008, the City Council, by resolution No. 27267, amended the Lower Colgan Creek Restoration Plan.

On May 6, 2014, the City Council, by Resolution No. 28475, authorized submittal of a grant application for partial funding of the Project to the Program for \$995,360.

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On February 24, 2015, the City Council, by Resolution No. 28606, authorized submittal of a grant application for partial funding of the Project to the California Department of Water Resources' Urban Streams Restoration Program for \$941,224

On September 22, 2015, the City Council, by Resolution No. 28693, authorized submittal of a grant application for partial funding of the Project to the California Resources Agency's River Parkways Program for \$494,903.

ANALYSIS

1. The Project is consistent with the District's Program Guidelines and the City is currently working with the District to fund a portion of the Phase 2 construction and acquire land for the overall Lower Colgan Creek Project under two previous matching grant awards.
2. Secured outside funding for the Project to date includes \$617,710 from the Program in 2014 and \$941,224 from the California Department of Water Resources' Urban Streams Restoration Program for a total of \$1,558,934.
3. If successful, this grant application would secure the remaining funds necessary to build the project in 2017.
4. Matching funds requirements for the Project will be met by the California Department of Water Resources' Urban Streams Restoration Program grant funds already secured for the Project, which is consistent with the Program guidelines.
5. A Council resolution is required in order for an application to be deemed complete, which was submitted on March 31, 2016.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of this action does not have a fiscal impact on the General Fund. If the grant application is awarded funding, then the grant would reduce the Storm Water Enterprise funds needed to construct the Project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The Council approved and adopted, by Resolution No. 27736, a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Colgan Creek Restoration and Park project on September 21, 2010.

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BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

ATTACHMENT

- Resolution

CONTACT

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