

CITY OF SANTA ROSA
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
FROM: JEN SANTOS, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PARKS

SUBJECT: STATEWIDE PARK DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY
REVITALIZATION GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE
IMPROVEMENT OF COFFEY NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the Recreation and Parks Department that the Council, by resolution: 1) authorize the submittal of an application to the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant for the improvement of Coffey Neighborhood Park in the amount of \$2.5 million; 2) authorize the Assistant City Manager to negotiate and execute the grant agreement and any amendments thereto, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney; 3) authorize the Assistant City Manager to administer the grant; and 4) authorize the Chief Financial Officer to increase appropriations in revenue and expenditures by the amount of the grant award.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The approved resolution will authorize the Recreation and Parks Department to apply for a California Department of Parks and Recreation Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant to fund improvements at Coffey Neighborhood Community Park.

BACKGROUND

The State of California Parks and Recreation Department has indicated that funding is available from Prop 68 and Prop 84 for Round 3 of the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (Revitalization Grant). Grant applications are due to the state by August 5, 2019 for this competitive grant. This is the largest park related grant program in California's history and possibly U.S. history, with over \$1 billion in funding between the 2018 Prop. 68 and 2006 Prop. 84 Bond Acts.

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After lengthy analysis of the Revitalization Grant opportunity, it has been determined that Coffey Neighborhood Park is likely a good opportunity to be accepted into the Revitalization Grant program due to its unique circumstances. The neighborhood park serves a vital role in the recovery of the Coffey Park neighborhood and therefore seeking funding for reconstructing the park is a priority.

Prior to the October 2017 fires, which destroyed all park amenities and infrastructure, Coffey Park was a fully developed Neighborhood Park. Built in the mid 1980's, Coffey Neighborhood Park is approximately 5.85 acres of developed park land located in the northwest quadrant of the City of Santa Rosa. The neighborhood park site contained two playgrounds, several picnic areas, BBQ's, large open space of irrigated turf, looped walking path, wood monument signs, wooden bollards surrounding the entire park. All infrastructure including standard structures for irrigation and electrical, landscape areas and more than half the park trees need to be replaced.

On April 2, 2019 Council adopted the Master Plan for Coffey Neighborhood Park. The Master Plan includes a native plant garden, dog park, multiple path ways, turf and play areas, picnic areas, a portable restroom, and fitness stations.

PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

Not applicable

ANALYSIS

The Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Grant requires Council to authorize, by resolution, the application for grant funds and appoint an agent to conduct all negotiations and execute all documents necessary to complete the project. The City of Santa Rosa meets the minimum eligibility requirements to apply under the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Grant for Coffey Neighborhood Park.

The project site, Coffey Neighborhood Park was reviewed for competitiveness and the ability to complete the project within the required timeline of June 30, 2022. The grant program is a highly competitive process and all eligible applications are evaluated using the following criteria: proximity to existing parks, demographics, community challenges and project benefits, community involvement, availability, organizational capacity, and water conservation measures. This grant places emphasis on community partnership with local organizations including a health organization. The Recreation and Parks Department maintains working partnerships with local organizations such as the CoffeyStrong non-profit and Kaiser Health and they have expressed interest in continuing to partner with the City for improvement of Coffey Neighborhood Park.

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The State generally awards grants at approximately +/- 1/2 the maximum allowable request of \$8.5 million. The preliminary cost estimate to design and rebuild Coffey Neighborhood Park is \$5 million. It is estimated that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) and local fundraising will provide for half the cost to recover the park, leaving approximately \$2.5 million unfunded. The grant application to the Revitalization Grant would fund the remaining \$2.5 million and staff will prepare the grant application to the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Grant for this amount.

Revitalization Grant reimbursable project expenses include, but are not limited to, design, construction and construction management. The funding requested for the Coffey Neighborhood Park will allow the city to design and improve parts of the park improvement project not funded by other sources such as but not limited to; arborist report, tree and landscaping removal and replacement, playground equipment, dog park, community corner, and the native pollinator garden.

Staff have conducted more than the five required “targeted” community meetings to collect feedback regarding what park amenities they desire within their park. Meetings included youth, families and the members of CoffeyStrong. The information assisted the City with completion of the Master Plan. Meetings continue with the community on an on-going basis to keep them involved in the details of the recovery project.

Successful Program applicants will enter into the California Standard Agreement for distribution of funds. Upon execution of a Standard Agreement, program grant funds must be fully spent no later than June 30, 2022.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of this action does not have a fiscal impact on the General Fund. Maximum grant award is \$8.5 million; final award amount is determined by the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation. This grant has no requirements for match. Approval of this resolution authorizes the Chief Financial Officer to appropriate any awarded grant funds to the Coffey Neighborhood Park JL Key #17598.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The project has been reviewed in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The project is statutorily exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15269 in that the project is required to restore a public park facility that was destroyed as a result of a disaster in a disaster-stricken area which as State of Emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor pursuant to the California Emergency Services Act.

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 - Coffey Park Master Plan
Attachment 2 – Grant Administration Guide
Resolution

CONTACT

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