



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 2006

ITEM NUMBER:

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE FAIRVIEW PARK WETLANDS AND RIPARIAN HABITAT PROJECT

DATE: AUGUST 24, 2006

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT, ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: ROBERT STAPLES, FAIRVIEW PARK PLAN ADMINISTRATOR

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: ROBERT STAPLES, FAIRVIEW PARK PLAN ADMINISTRATOR (714) 754-5303

RECOMMENDATION

Approve, by way of resolution (Attachment 1), the filing of a grant application with the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Habitat Conservation Fund Program for improvements at Fairview Park.

BACKGROUND

The Fairview Park Master Plan (Attachment 2) was originally approved by the City Council in March of 1998 and has been revised in February 2001, and again in November 2002. As part of the approved Master Plan, proposed improvements to the park include the creation of a wetlands and riparian area, approximately 25 acres in size at the north end of the park.

Grant applications for the State of California's Habitat Conservation Fund grant program are due October 2, 2006.

ANALYSIS

The Habitat Conservation Fund provides grants to local governments for the acquisition and enhancement of wetlands and riparian habitats. Projects funded with these dollars must be maintained in perpetuity for recreational activities. Grant funds are reimbursable and the City must provide a 50 percent match. The proposed project includes removal of non-native plants, grading, and planting of native trees, shrubs, and grasses around the wetland ponds, creating a riparian habitat area. All of these improvements have been previously approved as a part of the Fairview Park Master Plan. The total project cost is estimated at \$420,000; grant funding, if approved, would pay for \$210,000. The remaining City "match" funds would be considered for funding in Fiscal Year 2007/08.

To apply for these grant funds, a resolution approving the filing of an application and naming the Public Services Director as the City's authorized representative is needed. Grant awards will be announced in February 2007. Projects may begin design and construction beginning in July 2007.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

If the Council chooses not to submit a grant application for this project, staff will continue to pursue other grant programs and alternative funding.

If the City is awarded a grant, and is unable to fund the \$210,000 "match" in Fiscal Year 2007-08, the grant funds would be returned to the State.

FISCAL REVIEW

If the grant funding is approved, the Council must consider the approval of a match of \$210,000 in their Fiscal Year 2007-08 budget. These funds will be proposed by the Public Services Department in the Fiscal Year 2007/08 Park Development Fund-Fairview Park Improvements budget.

LEGAL REVIEW

The proposed resolution has been reviewed and approved as to form.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that the Council approve the filing of a grant application with the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Habitat Conservation Fund Program, in the amount of \$210,000, for improvements in and around the planned wetlands/riparian area at Fairview Park.

WILLIAM J. MORRIS
Director of Public Services

BART MEJIA
Parks Project Manager

ROBERT STAPLES
Fairview Park Plan Administrator

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Attachments: 1- [Proposed Resolution](#)
2- [Fairview Park Master Plan](#)

c: City Manager
Assistant City Manager
City Attorney
City Clerk
Management Analyst
Grant Administrator