



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

MEETING DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2016

ITEM NUMBER: **NB-1**

SUBJECT: APPROVE A RESOLUTION FOR THE PARTNERING WITH THE ORANGE COUNTY PARKS DEPARTMENT IN ORDER TO APPLY FOR GRANTS AND OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE TALBERT REGIONAL PARK FINAL HABITAT RESTORATION PLAN

DATE: SEPTEMBER 22, 2016

FROM: PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT / ENGINEERING DIVISION

PRESENTATION BY: JAMES G. ROSS, INTERIM PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: BALTAZAR MEJIA, CITY ENGINEER
(714) 754-5291**

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Adopt a Resolution for the partnering with the Orange County Parks Department for the purpose of applying for grants and other funding opportunities (Attachment 1) for the Talbert Regional Park Final Habitat Restoration Plan.
2. Authorize the Public Services Director or his designee as the City's authorized representative.

BACKGROUND:

In May 2014, Orange County Parks, the managing agency for Talbert Regional Park, retained the services of Moffatt & Nichol and a team of sub consultants to prepare a habitat restoration plan for Talbert Regional Park. The Plan is intended to identify park enhancement opportunities, specific needs and recommended actions. Orange County Parks and their consultant held a number of progress meetings that included adjacent landowners and non-profit organizations, as well as public stakeholder meetings to gather information and develop a comprehensive plan. Three levels of improvements were identified – Alternative 1 (Minimum Touch), Alternative 2 (Moderate Touch) and Alternative 3 (Maximum Touch) (Attachment 2). The full plan document is included as Attachment 3.

On July 28, 2016, the Costa Mesa Parks and Recreation Commission recommended unanimously to partner with the Orange County Parks Department to research and apply for grants and other funding opportunities for certain improvements that were identified in the Talbert Regional Park Final Habitat Restoration Plan. The recommended improvements are highlighted in Attachment 2.

ANALYSIS:

The Talbert Regional Park Final Habitat Restoration Plan prepared by Moffatt & Nichol in December 2015 is a planning document that identifies park enhancement opportunities and specific needs and recommended actions presented as Alternatives but better described as phases since each successive alternative builds on the previous one. It targets removal of invasive plants and opportunities for the restoration of the wetland zone habitat. Actual implementation is dependent upon the type of grants or funds this partnership can obtain.

The Action Minutes and Parks and Recreation Commission staff report are attached for reference (Attachment 4). The Commission's recommendations excluded the pier and boardwalk over Victoria Pond and the enlargement of Victoria Pond.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

The Council may consider adding additional components from the proposed alternatives to this initial phase.

FISCAL REVIEW:

It is recommended that \$50,000.00 be appropriated for staff time and resources to apply for grants and other funding opportunities with the Orange County Parks Department. The funding for the project will come from unencumbered Capital Improvement Funds.

LEGAL REVIEW:

The City Attorney has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

CONCLUSION:

It is recommended that the City Council adopt the attached Resolution for a partnership with the Orange County Parks Department in order to apply for grants and other funding for the Talbert Regional Park Final Habitat Restoration Plan.

JAMES G. ROSS
Interim Public Services Director

BALTAZAR MEJIA
City Engineer

ATTACHMENTS: [1 - Proposed Resolution](#)
 [2 – Summary of Parks and Recreation Commission Recommendations](#)
 [3 - Talbert Regional Park Final Habitat Restoration Plan \(Report\)](#)
 [4 - Action Minutes Excerpts from July 28, 2016 PRC Meeting and Staff Report](#)

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