



# Memorandum

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR  
AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Angel Rios, Jr.

**SUBJECT:** SEE BELOW

**DATE:** November 27, 2017

Approved

Date

12-7-17

**COUNCIL DISTRICT:** 3, 10

**SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT, NEGOTIATE, AND EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENTS WITH THE SANTA CLARA VALLEY OPEN SPACE AUTHORITY FOR AN AMOUNT UP TO \$100,000 FOR THE MEASURE Q GRANT**

**RECOMMENDATION**

Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit, negotiate, and execute grant agreements with the Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority for an amount up to \$100,000 for the following projects:

1. Guadalupe Oak Grove Park Vegetation Management Project for \$50,000; and
2. Viva CalleSJ (placemaking) for \$50,000.

**OUTCOME**

Successful pursuit of this grant opportunity will secure up to \$100,000 in the Open Space, Wildlife Habitat, Clean Water and Increased Public Access Measure (Measure Q) program funds through the Santa Clara County Open Space Authority (OSA).

**BACKGROUND**

In November 2014, voters within the OSA’s jurisdiction approved Measure Q. Measure Q is intended to increase the capacity of the OSA to protect and preserve natural open space areas for future generations by improving parks, open space and trails; protecting land around creeks, rivers, and streams to prevent pollution and improve local water quality; preserving and restoring wildlife habitat and natural areas; expanding public access; enhancing environmental education; and protecting scenic hillsides.

Through a \$24 annual parcel tax, Measure Q will generate approximately \$7.9 million per year for open space protection through year 2030.

In August 2016, the City applied for three Measure Q grants, and each grant application was for \$250,000. Unfortunately, the City did not receive any funding from the grant applications last year.

### **ANALYSIS**

Projects that qualify for funding under the Measure Q Program include preserving open space through land acquisition of fee title or conservation easement; establishing or improving parks trails or other recreational facilities that connect people to nature; enhancing and restoring habitat, natural resources, and water resources; enhancing access to healthy food through urban farms and gardens; and developing environmental education programs or facilities. The grant funding this year ranges from \$25,000 up to \$100,000 per project.

The City is required to prepare grant applications for each of the two projects that outlines the projects' scope, goals, and other details. This is a competitive grant program and there is no guarantee that the City will receive any of the funding. The City's applications are to be reviewed by the OSA's Citizen Advisory Committee and the OSA Board to ensure consistency with the OSA's mission and funding goals. City staff believes that each project is consistent with the Program goal.

The program guidelines require a minimum cost-share/match of 33 percent from a local funding source. The cost-share match will be approximately \$16,500 for each of the \$50,000 projects and may be provided in cash or in-kind contributions, such as staff time, use of volunteers and/or donated time over three years.

The grant application is due to OSA by January 12, 2018 and notifications of award are anticipated by June 2018.

### **Guadalupe Oak Grove Park Vegetation Management Project**

The Guadalupe Oak Grove Park is a 49.62-acre parcel of land in the southern portion of the City of San José in Council District 10. The park harbors one of the last remaining large tracts of deciduous oak savanna and woodland in the Santa Clara Valley, and as such, represents an invaluable resource to the City and to oak woodland conservation in the Bay Area. The Guadalupe Oak Grove Vegetation Management project will implement improvements that will preserve and enhance the natural resources of the park. The City will be hiring H.T. Harvey and Associates as a consultant to implement the management plan for the park. The main task of the management plan that the consultant will perform will be vegetation/revegetation maintenance. This process will remove/control the invasive plant species, reduce the negative impacts of fire

suppression, encourage natural regeneration of oak woodlands and savannas, preserve, and enhance the quality of grasslands habitat, and reduce unplanned fires in natural settings.

### **Viva CalleSJ**

Viva CalleSJ is an “open streets” event encouraging active transportation, recreation, and community building by temporarily closing public streets to vehicular traffic and converting them into active open space. The main goal of Viva CalleSJ is to help residents embrace new transportation habits as San Jose becomes one of the nation’s leaders in safe active transportation. The Viva CalleSJ event started in October 2015 and has grown over the past three years in both participation and in route miles. The goal is to continue this trend over the next few years.

### **EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP**

Should any of the grant applications be accepted, staff will return to the City Council with the associated budget actions, along with the terms and conditions of the negotiated agreement and seek City Council’s authority to proceed.

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

This memorandum will be posted on the City Council’s Agenda website prior to the December 19, 2017 City Council meeting.

### **COORDINATION**

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney’s Office and the City Manager’s Budget Office.

### **COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION/INPUT**

No commission recommendation or input is associated with this action.

### **FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT**

This project is consistent with the Council-approved Budget Strategy Economic Recovery section in that it will spur construction spending in our local economy with the additional project program elements.

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### **COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS**

Based on OSA's required grant match of 33 percent, the amount for each of the \$50,000 grants requested will be \$16,500. Each of the projects/programs will do some form of in-kind matching which may include San Jose Conservation Corps, volunteer groups, and the use of City equipment and City staff time.

Upon award of the grant(s), the grant amount and corresponding matching funds (if applicable) would be recommended to be allocated as part of the annual budget process or through a future City Council memorandum. The grant funding would be received on a reimbursement basis, therefore funds would need to be "fronted," then reimbursed as the grant funds are received. Fronting funds may come from the Construction Tax and Property Tax Conveyance Tax Fund, Subdivision Park Trust Fund, or another eligible funding source.

At this time, staff estimates that there will be no additional operations and maintenance impact for the Guadalupe Oak Grove Park Vegetation Management Project or Viva CalleSJ. If it is determined, at a later time, that additional costs are needed to maintain any of the parks as a result of any of the programs, a request will be made to include funding in a future Five-Year General Fund Forecast.

### **CEQA**

Exempt, File No. PP17-073, CEQA Guidelines 15308, Actions by Regulatory Agencies for Protection of Natural Resources.

/s/

ANGEL RIOS, JR.  
Director, Parks Recreation and  
Neighborhood Services

For questions, please contact Matt Cano, Assistant Director, at (408) 793-5553.

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