



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Angel Rios, Jr.

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: March 5, 2018

Approved

D. DSYL

Date

3/13/18

COUNCIL DISTRICT: 5 & 6

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDING, AND NEGOTIATE AND EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENTS WITH SANTA CLARA COUNTY FOR THE ALL-INCLUSIVE GRANT PLAYGROUND PROGRAM

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution to:

- (a) Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to submit a grant application in an aggregate amount up to \$1,000,000 to Santa Clara County for the All-Inclusive Playground Grant for Alum Rock Park; and
- (b) Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to submit, negotiate and execute agreements with Santa Clara County for All-Inclusive Playground Grants for Emma Prusch Farm Park in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000, Lincoln Glen Park in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, and Alum Rock Park in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

OUTCOME

Funding from Santa Clara County will substantially supplement City funds for Emma Prusch, Lincoln Glen and Alum Rock parks for the design and construction of the All-Inclusive playground that serve all members of the community.

BACKGROUND

Over 10,000 children in Santa Clara County have “major disabilities,” and over 20,000 utilize special education in the county’s schools. For the past several years, PRNS has focused on going

“above and beyond” traditional accessibility requirements to create more inclusive playgrounds in San Jose. This has included enhanced accessibility at playgrounds such as Willow Street Frank Bramhall Park, Berryessa Creek Park, Newhall Park, and the Rotary Playgarden.

In Summer 2017, the Mayor and City Council directed staff to apply for multiple grants from the All-Inclusive Playground Grant program sponsored by the County of Santa Clara to increase the City’s chances to be awarded funding. Grant program funds come from two sources: half from the 2012 Measure A Reserve, and half from other County fund sources. The funding is to be used on a matching basis for the construction of one or two all-inclusive playgrounds in each of the five Supervisorial Districts.

In Fall 2017, PRNS staff submitted grant proposals, and last month (January 23, 2018), the Santa Clara County Supervisors approved the award of grants for various projects in the County. Included in the approval was the award of \$2,000,000 to construct an all-inclusive playground at Emma Prusch Farm Park and \$1,000,000 to construct an all-inclusive playground at Lincoln Glen Park.

ANALYSIS

Santa Clara County has indicated recently that an additional \$1,000,000 is available under the All-Inclusive Playground Grant program in Supervisorial District 3. The Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services Department (PRNS) is evaluating the feasibility of constructing a new all-inclusive playground at Alum Rock Park, since the park is located in Supervisorial District 3.

The City was awarded two all-inclusive grants from Santa Clara County for Emma Prusch Farm Park and Lincoln Glen Park in January 2018. The City must now enter into two agreements with Santa Clara County for the two parks. PRNS is requesting that the Council authorize the City Manager, or designee, to submit, negotiate and execute agreements with Santa Clara County for the All-Inclusive Playground grants for Emma Prusch Farm Park, Lincoln Glen Park, and Alum Rock Park, if the City determines a project is feasible, applies for a grant and is awarded grant funding for Alum Rock Park.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

Should the City apply and be awarded grant funding for the All-Inclusive Playground Grant for Alum Rock Park, PRNS will return to City Council through the budget process to recognize the final grant amount and recommend budgetary actions.

POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Alternative #1: Do not apply for grant

Pros: Does not require staff time in preparation of an application package and funds that would go towards matching the grant can be allocated to the capital projects.

Cons: The City will lose an opportunity to apply and potentially receive a grant to serve an underserved need in the community.

Reason for not recommending: This approach is inconsistent with current City Council policy to promote projects through pursuit of a variety of grant sources.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

This memorandum will be posted on the City's website prior to the March 27, 2018 City Council meeting. During the project design process there will be further communication with stakeholders and community organizations.

COORDINATION

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

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION/INPUT

This item is not subject to the review of City commissions at this time.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

The proposed action is consistent with the Council-approved Budget Strategy Economic Recovery section in that it will spur construction spending in our local economy.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

At this time, staff estimates that the operating and maintenance impact of an all-inclusive playground would be approximately \$25,000 per year for each of the half-acre playgrounds contemplated for Emma Prusch Farm Park, Lincoln Glen Park, and Alum Rock Park. All-inclusive playgrounds cost more to maintain due to extra inspections of the playground equipment, and the need for staff to monitor the park during the day.

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A more precise estimate of the operating and maintenance impact will be developed when plans for the park are developed. As the playgrounds will likely be completed in a few years, costs for the park will be included in the 2018-2022 Five-Year General Fund Forecast (scheduled for release spring 2018).

CEQA

Exempt, File No. PP18-022 and PP18-023, CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, Existing Facilities.

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

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