



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL DATE: DECEMBER 6, 2016

FROM: PUBLIC UTILITIES DEPARTMENT WARDS: ALL

SUBJECT: ACCEPT AN IN-KIND DONATION FROM THE TORO COMPANY NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING FROM THE AUDUBON INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM FOR \$2,500 TO BE UTILIZED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE DEMONSTRATION GARDEN AT STREETER PARK (JANET GOESKE CENTER) TOTAL NOT TO EXCEED \$52,500

ISSUES:

Accept from the Toro Company an in-kind donation not to exceed \$50,000 for high efficiency irrigation materials; and grant funding from the Audubon International Sustainable Communities Program in the amount of \$2,500, for the construction of the Demonstration Garden at Streeter Park (Janet Goeske Center).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Accept the donation of high-efficiency irrigation materials from the Toro Company in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 for use in constructing the demonstration garden at Streeter Park (Janet Goeske Center); and
2. Accept a grant in the amount \$2,500 from the Audubon International Sustainable Communities Program for the demonstration garden at Streeter Park (Janet Goeske Center); and
3. Authorize an increase in estimated revenues in the amount of \$2,500 and appropriate expenditures in the same amount to a project account as assigned by the Finance Department.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

On October 24, 2016, the Riverside Public Utilities' Board unanimously approved to forward recommendation to the City Council to accept, from the Toro Company, an in-kind donation not to exceed \$50,000 for high efficiency irrigation materials and to accept grant funding from the Audubon International Sustainable Communities Program in the amount of \$2,500 for the construction of the Demonstration Garden at Streeter Park (Janet Goeske Center).

BACKGROUND:

On September 22, 2015, the City Council authorized a supplemental appropriation in the amount

of \$300,000 for landscape demonstration projects to the 521 water conservation fund.

On August 22, 2016, the Board of Public Utilities approved the demonstration garden project at the Janet Goeske Center and awarded the design-build agreement to R.B. Development for the construction of the turf conversion and demonstration garden. The City of Riverside Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCSD) is administering the design-build contract on behalf of RPU. The Streeter Park Turf Conversion and Demonstration Garden at the Janet Goeske Center will be built for conservation education and will include California-native and drought-tolerant plants demonstrating various methods of landscaping and water-efficient irrigation practices.

DISCUSSION:

The concept of the demonstration garden at the Janet Goeske Center has attracted The Toro Company to assist with the project through a public-private partnership. The Toro Company is a leading worldwide provider of innovative solutions for the outdoor environment including turf maintenance, irrigation, and outdoor lighting solutions.

With their international irrigation headquarters located locally here in Riverside, the Toro Company, along with its sister brand Irritrol, have generously offered an in-kind donation of many of the high-efficiency irrigation products that will be installed during construction. This in-kind donation will be valued at up to \$50,000. These products will include Weather Based Irrigation Controllers, high-efficiency sprinklers, and drip irrigation equipment. Toro and Irritrol personnel will also be lending technical assistance to the project as an industry leader in efficient irrigation design and practices.

The Toro Foundation is also generously providing a separate \$2,500 grant, administered through Audubon International Sustainable Communities Program, for the enhancement of a sustainable demonstration site. The funding from this grant will be utilized to create educational signage that explains to visitors how they may replicate portions of the project at their homes and businesses.

The PRCSD Director concurs with the donation acceptance recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total grant award is \$2,500. The in-kind donation of materials, valued up to \$50,000 and the grant of \$2,500 will be utilized for the construction of the Janet Goeske Center Demonstration Garden.

Prepared by: Girish Balachandran, Public Utilities General Manager
Certified as to
availability of funds: Scott G. Miller, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer
Approved by: John A. Russo, City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Project Map
2. Public Utilities Board Meeting Minutes October 24, 2016
3. Presentation