



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: OCTOBER 6, 2020**

FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT **WARDS: 2, 3 AND 6**

SUBJECT: RESOLUTIONS APPROVING THE APPLICATIONS FOR STATEWIDE PARK DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS FOR LOW PARK MASTER PLAN IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,005,000; MYRA LINN PARK MASTER PLAN IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,500,000; AND PATTERSON PARK MASTER PLAN IMPROVEMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,150,000 --- SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION

ISSUE:

Adopt resolutions approving the applications for the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization grant program for Low Park in the amount of \$5,005,000, Myra Linn Park in the amount of \$8,500,000, and Patterson Park in the amount of \$7,150,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council:

1. Adopt the attached resolution approving the application for Prop 68 Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant Funds for the Low Park Master Plan Improvement Project;
2. Adopt the attached resolution approving the application for Prop 68 Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant Funds for the Myra Linn Park Master Plan Improvement Project;
3. Adopt the attached resolution approving the application for Prop 68 Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant Funds for the Patterson Park Master Plan Improvement Project;
4. Upon grant award, authorize the Chief Financial Officer, or his designee, to record and increase revenues in the Grants and Restricted Programs Fund in the amount of \$5,005,000 or the actual amount awarded, and appropriate expenditures in the same amount to the Low Park Development and Revitalization Program following the receipt of the grant award;
5. Upon grant award, authorize the Chief Financial Officer, or his designee, to record and

increase revenues in the Grants and Restricted Programs Fund in the amount of \$8,500,000 or the actual amount awarded, and appropriate expenditures in the same amount to the Myra Linn Park Development and Revitalization Program following the receipt of the grant;

6. Upon grant award, authorize the Chief Financial Officer, or his designee, to record and increase revenues in the Grants and Restricted Programs Fund in the amount of \$7,150,000 or the actual amount awarded, and appropriate expenditures in the same amount to the Patterson Park Development and Revitalization Program following the receipt of the grant; and
7. Authorize the City Manager, or his designee, to accept the grant amount awarded, including lesser or greater than the amount applied for, and execute all grant documents including making minor and non-substantive changes associated with the grant.

BACKGROUND:

On June 5, 2018, California voters passed Proposition 68, the Parks, Environment and Water Bond. Proposition 68 authorizes \$4 billion in general obligation bonds for state and local parks, environmental protection projects, water infrastructure projects and flood protection projects. Multiple State agencies are administering and disbursing funds through various grant programs.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation is administering grant funds through the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization program. The purpose of the grant is to create new parks and recreational opportunities in critically underserved populations. A grand total of \$620,275,000 will be available for this program and will be disbursed through two rounds of grant funding. A total of \$254,942,000 was available for disbursement during the first round of funding for this grant.

The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCSD) presented concept site proposals to the Park and Recreation Commission on June 17, 2019 and received positive feedback.

On July 2, 2019, the City Council adopted resolutions and approved the submittal of grant applications for Low Park, Myra Linn Park and Patterson Park. The PRCSD submitted all three applications, but awards were not granted. This grant was highly competitive, with 478 applications submitted statewide and 62 applications awarded funds.

The amount available for the second round of funding is \$395,302,155. Agencies may submit one application per park with a maximum award amount of \$8,500,000 per application. Matching funds are not required for this grant program.

The City of Riverside will resubmit the Low Park Master Plan, Myra Linn Park Master Plan and the Patterson Park Master Plan. Time constraints and the Novel Coronavirus restrictions make it difficult to go through the application process and requirements in time to submit new applications. The Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department will focus its efforts on improving the applications to increase the competitiveness of the applications.

The PRCSD presented an update on the status of the Proposition 68 grants to the Park and Recreation Commission on September 21, 2020 and received positive feedback.

DISCUSSION:

The State of California has developed certain criteria parks must meet in order to be eligible for grant monies. Parks eligible for grant funding must have three acres or less of parkland or a household median income of \$56,982 or less within a half mile radius of the park site. If a park cannot meet at least one of the criteria, it is ineligible for grant funding. Information in regard to the criteria is gathered from the Community Fact Finder website generated by the State of California. PRCSD staff have researched and identified Low Park, Myra Linn Park and Patterson Park as meeting both criteria, making them highly competitive during the application process.

The grant requires community meetings to incorporate residents' ideas into the design of the park. PRCSD held five community meetings for each park site and developed a Park Master Plan for each site based on the input from the community. Community ideas and recommendations on recreational features, safety features and beautification features will be incorporated into the designs of the parks.

Low Park Master Plan

The Low Park Master Plan proposes the incorporation of passive use play features including playgrounds, fitness equipment, a basketball half-court, and new ADA sidewalks and entry on the existing parkland. The plan will expand Low Park to include the Parent Navel area and a small area located near staff parking across the street from Marcy Library. The plan also proposes to add a new temperature-controlled greenhouse around the Parent Navel Tree along with interpretive signage and "Citrus Industry" history exhibit. Planting, irrigation modifications, site furnishings, and minor grading operations are to be limited to minimize the impact on existing historic trees to remain and only be utilized for footings when necessary.

Myra Linn Park Master Plan

The Myra Linn Park Master Plan proposes the addition of new passive and active use play features including additional fitness nodes, walking and jogging paths, "mini-pitch" soccer fields, pickleball courts, and a splash pad. The plan also includes the revitalization of existing features including playgrounds, basketball court, picnic pavilions, and restroom. Planting, irrigation modifications, new site furnishings, and minor grading operations will be incorporated as necessary. The grant opportunity also allows for the possible acquisition of two adjacent properties which will expand the parkland and create additional parking opportunities.

Patterson Park Master Plan

The Patterson Park Master Plan proposes the incorporation of new passive and active use play features including fitness nodes, "Healthy Eating, Active Living" walking and jogging path, soccer fields, a splash pad, basketball court, and picnic tables. The plan also includes the revitalization of existing features including playgrounds, parking lot, and restroom. Planting, irrigation modifications, new site furnishings, and minor grading operations will also be incorporated as necessary.

CEQA Determination

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department Staff has determined that these Master Plan projects are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant Sections 15302, 15303, 15304, & 15332 of the CEQA Guidelines, as the proposed projects will

not have a significant effect on the environment. Upon Council adoption of these Park Master Plans, Staff will prepare Notice of Exemption (NOE) documentation for each project and file with the County Clerk.

Requirements for the grant application include City Council approval of a resolution for each park authorizing the City to apply for grant funds. The PRCSD requests City Council approve the applications for grant funding and approve the resolutions required to apply for grant funds. The applications are due to the California Department of Parks and Recreation on December 14, 2020. The resolutions certify that the applicant will: 1) have sufficient funds to complete the project; 2) have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project; 3) understands provisions relating to the grant; 4) designates the City Manager to submit all documents including applications, agreements, amendments and payment requests; and, 5) agrees with all federal, state, and local laws and will promote inclusion of diverse populations per Public Resources Code 8001(b) (8A-G).

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no impact associated with authorizing the submittal of the Prop 68 grant applications. Matching funds are not required for this grant. If grant funds are awarded, the estimated fiscal impact is an increase of revenue and appropriations in the Grants and Restricted Programs Fund in the amounts and accounts listed below:

Account Name	Account	Amount
Low Park Development & Revitalization Program	9339600	\$5,005,000
Myra Linn Park Development & Revitalization Program	9339800	\$8,500,000
Patterson Park Development and Revitalization Program	9339700	\$7,150,000

Prepared by: Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director
 Certified as to
 availability of funds: Edward Enriquez, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
 Approved by: Rafael Guzman, Assistant City Manager
 Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments:

1. Low Park Resolution
2. Myra Linn Park Resolution
3. Patterson Park Resolution
4. Low Park Conceptual Design
5. Myra Linn Park Conceptual Design
6. Patterson Park Conceptual Design
7. Myra Linn Intent to Sell