

COUNCIL AGENDA: JANUARY 20, 2015

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES DIRECTOR TO APPLY FOR LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT

SOURCE: PARKS AND LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

COMMENT: Parks are unique places where children play, people exercise, families bond, seniors socialize, youth are mentored, cultures share and celebrate their differences, and everyone connects with nature. For these reasons, vibrant parks funded by the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant program will be a cost-effective means of creating humane, livable communities.

Parks and Leisure Services requests authorization to submit an application for the LWCF Grant. LWCF funds are intended to increase outdoor recreational opportunities. Eligible applicants include cities, counties and districts authorized to acquire, develop, operate and maintain park and recreation areas. Projects eligible to receive funding include acquisition or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities. Development projects include restroom buildings, parking lots, landscaping, public art, picnic areas, trails, campgrounds, and playgrounds. Property acquired or developed under the program must be maintained in perpetuity for public outdoor recreational use. Grant applications are due February 3, 2015, and the announcement of funding recommendations will be made by May 30, 2015.

The grant submitted will be for a portion of the planned development of the City-owned property at 604 N. Henry St., just north of Murry Park. The grant application will be for \$350,000. The LWCF grant is a reimbursement-only program in which the funding sources to initially "cash-flow" 100% of the total project cost must be identified at the time of the application. LWCF will reimburse the City up to 50% of the total project cost, not to exceed \$2,000,000 per application. If awarded the grant, the matching funds for this project would come from funding obtained from the insurance settlement due to the loss of the home on the property which will provide replacement cost, and funds in a prior Housing Related Parks Program grant which has \$61,000 remaining.

 Director

 Appropriated/Funded

 City Manager

ITEM NO.: 10

RECOMMENDATION: That the City Council:

1. Authorize the Parks and Leisure Services Director to proceed with the grant process; and
2. Adopt the attached draft resolution.

ATTACHMENT: Draft Resolution

RESOLUTION NO.: _____ -2015

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTERVILLE
APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR LAND
AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND GRANT
MURRY PARK NORTH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Congress under Public Law 88-578 has authorized the establishment of a federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant-In-Aid program, providing Matching funds to the State of California and its political subdivisions for acquiring lands and developing Facilities for public outdoor recreation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the California Department of Parks and Recreation is responsible for administration of the program in the State, setting up necessary rules and procedures governing Applications by local agencies under the program; and

WHEREAS, the **Applicant** certifies by resolution the approval of the Application and the availability of eligible Matching funds prior to submission of the Application to the State; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Porterville hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an Application for Land and Water Conservation Fund assistance for the proposed: Murry Park North Improvement Project; and
2. Agrees to abide by **SECTION 6(f)(3)** of Public Law 88-578 which states "No property acquired or developed with assistance under this section shall, without the approval of the National Secretary of the Interior, be converted to other than public outdoor recreation uses. The Secretary shall approve such conversion only if he finds it to be in accord with the then existing comprehensive statewide outdoor recreation plan and only upon such conditions as he deems necessary to assure the substitution of other recreation properties of at least equal fair market value and of reasonably equivalent usefulness and location."
3. Certifies that said agency has Matching funds from eligible source(s) and can finance 100 percent of the Project, which up to half may be reimbursed; and
4. Appoints the Director of Parks and Leisure Services as agent of the **APPLICANT** to conduct all negotiations and execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, Applications, Contracts, amendments, payment requests, and compliance with all applicable current state and federal laws which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned Project.

Passed, approved and adopted the 20th day of January, 2015.

Milt Stowe, Mayor

ATTEST:

John D. Lollis, City Clerk

By: Patrice Hildreth, Chief Deputy City Clerk