

REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

City of Salinas, California

DATE: March 7, 2017

FROM: Gary Petersen, Director of Public Works

BY: Michael Ricker, Environmental Resource Planner

SUBJECT: **STATE PARKS YOUTH SOCCER AND RECREATION DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM GRANT**

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council approve the attached Resolution regarding the application for a Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Program Grant.

DISCUSSION:

In 2002, state voters passed Proposition 40 that provides funds for local assistance grants, including development of neighborhood, community and regional parks, recreational areas, and land and water conservation programs. Late last year, City staff submitted a grant application for recreational improvements under Proposition 40 and the State of California's Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Program. Submittal of the initial application began a multi-phased process that if successful would culminate in active sports play improvements to Cesar Chavez Park. Proposed improvements would include transforming the open, unimproved field at the park's west-end into a regulation-sized soccer field, and adding two youth soccer fields and a half-court basketball court near the middle of the park at North Hebborn Avenue.

City staff are continuing to work with State Parks staff in pursuit of a one million dollar youth soccer grant. Review of grant applications includes a scoring process that includes 5% of the total score for projects that provide matching funds for non-construction cost. As competition for these funds is highly competitive, providing matching funds would increase the City's competitive position. Provision of matching funds can be deferred until the next fiscal year, pending grant application review. One step that needs to be acted on now is submittal of a resolution in support of the City's grant application. The California State Parks Office of Grants and Local Services requires grant applicants to provide a resolution from their governing body approving the grant application. Rejecting the resolution of support for the grant application would terminate the City's grant application. The State's resolution language is provided at the end of this report.

ISSUE:

Shall the City Council approve a resolution in support of its Youth Soccer Grant application for Cesar Chavez Park?

FISCAL IMPACT:

To maximize the City's competitive grant position, it would be advantageous for Salinas to pay a small portion of the project cost. These "soft cost", as they are called, include non-construction cost for park design, City permit fees and City staff time. Should the state approve the City's grant application, Salinas would be committing to spend approximately \$200,000 in soft match funds. This amount is approximately twenty-percent (20%) of the projected total project cost of \$1 million. Therefore, if awarded the grant, the City would earn a 5 to 1 return on its investment. If the City is successful in its grant application, Public Works would request funds to cover the match portion as part of next fiscal year's budget.

TIME CONSIDERATIONS:

As securing grant funds is highly competitive and State Parks staff are currently reviewing applications, approval of the proposed resolution on March 7, 2017 and submittal soon thereafter is highly desired.

ALTERNATIVES/IMPLICATIONS:

State grant requirements do not allow for amendments to language contained within the resolution. The City Council may, however, reject the resolution outright. Staff does not recommend this approach as it would cause the City's application to be rejected and thereby risk the loss of up to \$1 million in grant funding.

CITY COUNCIL GOALS:

The proposed park improvements address three of the five City Council goals of: 1. Safe and Livable Community; 2. Excellent Infrastructure; and 3. Quality of Life.

CONCLUSIONS:

Securing a state grant to provide park improvements to Cesar Chavez Park is consistent with the City Council's recent action to accept the Neighborhood Vibrancy-Urban Greening Plan. Proposed park improvements would provide a healthy recreational amenity in a densely-populated, disadvantaged neighborhood of Salinas. Park improvements offer a brighter and more energetic future for the Alisal neighborhood.

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SALINAS APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR
YOUTH SOCCER AND RECREATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANT FUNDS**

WHEREAS, The State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility by the legislature of the State of California for the administration of the Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Program, setting up necessary procedures governing the application; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the Applicant to certify by resolution the approval of the application before the submission of said application to the State; and

WHEREAS, successful Applicants will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete the Grant Scope project;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Salinas City Council hereby: Approves the filing of an application for the Cesar Chavez Park Active Play Renovation, and

1. Certifies that said Applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, the sufficient funds to complete the project; and
2. Certifies that if the project is awarded the Applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project, and
3. Certifies that the Applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the General Provision contained in the contract shown in the Grant Administration Guide; and
4. Delegated the authority to the City Manager to conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Grant Scope; and
5. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, and regulations and guidelines.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 7th day of March 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

Joe Gunter, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia M. Barajas, City Clerk