

MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

DATE: April 7, 2021
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Jackie Nelson, Environmental Education Supervisor
REVIEWED BY: Rafael Payan, General Manager
SUBJECT: Approval to submit for the National Recreation and Park Association Resilient Park Access Grant

SUMMARY:

It is recommended that the Board approve and authorize staff to apply for the 2021 National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) "Resilient Park Access" grant.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Potential grant award from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

FUNDING SOURCE:

To be determined.

FUNDING BALANCE:

To be determined.

DISCUSSION:

NRPA has announced funding and coaching to advance community-driven, systems-level strategies for equitable park access focused on improving the resilience and health of communities. The grant program supports park and recreation professionals in partnership with leaders from community-based organizations. Projects that address system-wide park access planning, data collection/analysis, policies and/or capital improvements with a focus on creating climate-ready parks will receive \$300,000 to \$500,000 over a period of 2.5 years. There is no match required for this grant.

In addition to being innovative, the MPRPD adopted 2021-2025 Strategic Plan aligns congruently with the NRPA's *Resilient Park Access* grant three pillars of 1. advancing community health and wellbeing; 2. equity at its center; 3. climate ready parks. Staff proposes applying for grant monies in support of the completion and implementation of the Cachagua Community Park's Graphic Master Plan (Goal 2), an environmentally and culturally significant property.

Coordinating efforts, interdivisional and with Regional Government Services, MPRPD staff shall work with community members from the Esselen Nation, Carmel Unified School District, Cachagua Community Park Board, and residents to obtain letters of support for the development of a park master plan focusing on trails, facilities, and interpretive panels to educate, inform and direct the protection and enjoyment of the site's cultural and natural resources.

In preparation for applying for the grant, staff attended an NRPA grant webinar and believes the proposed implementation of the Cachagua Community Park Master Plan addresses the criteria of demonstrating a clear commitment to advancing systems-change that prioritizes justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and has community leadership support.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff respectfully recommends the Board authorize staff to apply for the NRPA *Resilient Park Access* grant due April 23, 2021.