

**MONTEREY PENINSULA REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

DATE: October 19, 2021
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Jackie Nelson, Environmental Education Supervisor
REVIEWED BY: Rafael Payan, General Manager
SUBJECT: Consider Approval of Resolution #2021-11 Approving Application for Regional Park Program Grant (RPP) and Resolution #2021-12 Approving Construction of Bark and Nature Park Elements

SUMMARY:

Staff respectfully requests that the Board approve Resolution #2021-11 authorizing staff to submit the Regional Park Program Grant application (**ATTACHMENT 1**), entitled “Bark and Nature Park Project.”

It is further recommended that the Board approve Resolution #2021-12 to adopt the construction elements of the Bark and Nature Park Project (**ATTACHMENT 2**), approving the project qualifies as a CEQA exempt project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Awards may be made from \$200,000 to a maximum of \$3 million.

FUNDING SOURCE:

California Department of Parks and Recreation “Parks, Environment, and Water Bond Act of 2018” (Proposition 68) with \$23,125,000 available for one round of grant applications. Maximum grant request per application is \$3,000,000 with no match requirement.

FUNDING BALANCE:

To be determined.

DISCUSSION:

The Regional Park Program (RPP) is intended to create, expand, or improve regional parks and park facilities. This program is funded by Proposition 68 (2018 Bond Act) which is found in Public Resources Code §80065(a). The RPP is a state grant program supporting projects which create at least one new recreation feature that attracts visitors from a 20-mile radius or county-wide population to a regional park. The new recreation feature(s) will offer nature appreciation, athletic activities, historical or cultural enrichment, or other recreational activities and creates or expands multi-use trails. The application is due November 5, 2021, with awards scheduled to be announced in Spring, 2022.

It is a competitive grant with a maximum of \$3 million per selected project. The process requires extensive public participation resulting in community design direction. Staff, with support from consultants, recently completed a community outreach campaign and heard from almost 2,000 community members through a variety of traditional and social media

methods due to the Covid-19 restrictions. Community priorities include off-leash dog park, adjacent parking to the dog park, shade structures, universal access playground design, natural site features, habitat restoration, wildlife viewing, and wildlife/ecology education.

The District entered into agreements with architectural firms in FY2018-19 to begin the program development phase of this planning effort. Plans are now in the draft schematic design development phase (**ATTACHMENT 3**) and will be incorporated into the grant application package. Included in the attachment are the project cost estimates with a multi-use trail currently under development and whose costs shall be incorporated.

The next required step in the process is the Board's approval of a resolution authorizing the filing of the application and delegating the authority to the General Manager, or his designee 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(s).

The Authorizing Resolution serves two purposes:

1. It is the means by which the grantee's Governing Body agrees to the terms of the contract; it provides confirmation that the grantee has the funding to complete, operate, and maintain projects associated with the contract.
2. Designates a position title to represent the Governing Body on all matters regarding projects associated with the contract. The incumbent in this position is referred to as the Authorized Representative.

In addition, Staff recommends the Board approve Resolution 2021-12, approving the construction of the project as it qualifies as a Class 3 and as a Class 4 Categorical Exemption pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), California Code of Regulations (CCR) CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301, 15303 and 15304 and that there are no exceptions pursuant to CEQA Guidelines CCR Section 15300.2.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Staff respectfully recommends that the Board adopt Resolution 2021-11 authorizing Staff to file Regional Park Program Grant application and delegating the authority to the General Manager, and adopt Resolution 2021-12 approving the project qualifies as a CEQA exempt project.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Resolution 2021-11 Approving filing Application for Regional Park Program Grant](#)
2. [Resolution 2021-12 Adopting the Project as a CEQA Exempt Project](#)
3. [Concept drawings of the Bark and Nature Play Project](#)