



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: June 25, 2013

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Facilities Division, Waterfront Department

SUBJECT: Santa Barbara Beautiful Grant for Sea Landing Walkway

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Authorize the receipt of grant funds totaling \$6,000 from Santa Barbara Beautiful; and
- B. Increase appropriations and estimated revenues for Fiscal Year 2014 by \$6,000 in the Waterfront Fund for the Sea Landing Pedestrian Walkway Landscaping Project.

DISCUSSION:

Located in the northeast corner of the harbor, the Sea Landing has tens of thousands of visitors every year. Many participate in the activities offered at the location such as whale watching, sport diving and sport fishing. Sea Landing also serves as the secure facility for passengers disembarking from cruise ships. With the recent increase in cruise ship visits, the number of people passing through the Sea Landing area has increased significantly and provides many visitors a first impression of the Santa Barbara.

The Sea Landing building is the responsibility of the tenant. The adjacent sidewalk and landscaping are the responsibility of the Waterfront and are currently in poor condition. With the significant increase in visitors, staff contracted with Arcadia Landscaping to design improvements to areas within Waterfront's responsibility with the goal of making the area safer and more aesthetically appealing.

Arcadia prepared detailed plans to improve the sidewalk, install a handrail, and enhance the landscaping to be consistent with the rest of the Waterfront. The sidewalk component includes new concrete with a tile mosaic of the City seal. A new handrail is proposed along the harbor side of the walkway where there currently is none. New landscaping consisting of palms and drought tolerant plants will replace the diseased myoporum trees currently located along the walkway.

Similar improvements were considered as part of the Redevelopment Agency-funded West Beach Pedestrian Improvement Project in 2009, but were never approved or constructed. The current project, as proposed, was approved by the City's Architectural Board of Review on September 24, 2012 and was found to be in substantial conformance with Planning Commission Resolution 016-08 for the West Beach Pedestrian Improvement Project by the Planning Commission on November 1, 2012.

This project was considered by Council as part of the Waterfront's FY 2014-2019 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The cost estimate for the entire project is \$250,000 with the landscaping component alone estimated at \$60,000.

Santa Barbara Beautiful, formed by civic leaders in 1965, is dedicated to beautifying our area and works cooperatively with the City and local community groups. The organization's Board of Directors expressed interest in participating in the Sea Landing Pedestrian Walkway Project and approved the award of a \$6,000 grant to the City of Santa Barbara towards the funding of the landscaping component of the project. The balance of the funding for the entire project will come out of the Waterfront's Harbor Preservation Fund.

Staff recommends that Council accept this grant award as it is an excellent demonstration of the community's commitment to help improve the safety and aesthetics of this increasingly popular part of the Waterfront.

PREPARED BY: Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Scott Riedman, Waterfront Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office