



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: April 22, 2008

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Administration Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Parks And Recreation Community Foundation Funds And Proposition 40 Grant Funds For The Bohnett Park Expansion Project

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Increase revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$8,060 for a gift from the Bohnett Family held by the Parks and Recreation Community (PARC) Foundation; and
- B. Increase revenues and appropriations in the amount of \$61,159 for a California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 40) Per Capita grant.

DISCUSSION:

Project Description

The Bohnett Park Expansion Project was initiated in October 2002. The goal of the project is to construct a passive pocket park to augment the active recreational features of the existing lower park area. The intent of the pocket park is to provide a refuge along San Andres Street. The pocket park will serve both neighborhood residents and employees of the commercial area on San Andres Street.

The park design includes a variety of unique art and whimsical elements set in an oasis of low water-using plants. The most distinctive feature is the framework of a craftsman style residence featuring a porch arbor, gabled roof, columns, and fireplace. The interior of the "house" will contain a cast concrete couch, planting "bed" complete with wrought iron headboard, and drinking fountains constructed as kitchen and vanity sinks. The rear deck will overlook the recently restored Old Mission Creek. An artificial stream rendered in rubberized playground surfacing will course through sandstone boulders, and security lighting will be integrated into the structure to complement the architecture.

The total cost of the project is \$573,185. Funding for the project includes the General Fund-supported Parks and Recreation Department Capital Program (\$152,968), Community Development Block Grant funds (\$150,000), and a Proposition 40 Roberti-Z'berg Harris California Urban Needs Basis Grant (\$201,000). Now that the project is ready for construction, \$69,217 is needed to complete the project. The Parks and Recreation Department recommends that Council accept and appropriate funds from a gift from the Bohnett Family, and a Proposition 40 Per Capita Grant to meet this need.

PARC Foundation/Bohnett Family Funds

The Parks and Recreation Department received a gift from the Bohnett Family in 2004 in the amount of \$27,500 for the design, fabrication, and installation of art elements for the project. These funds are held by the PARC Foundation and have been used to develop bronze sculptures and a Persian-style "tile rug" of local riparian flora and fauna designs.

Michael McMillen, an internationally recognized artist who specializes in miniature works of art, designed six bronze castings that include a miniature dock and dory along the artificial stream, a treasure chest, an ornate doorway, a mine tunnel and tracks, and an eye looking heavenward, that will be set into natural boulders. The sculptures will be scattered throughout the park to encourage exploration by children. The tiles for the Persian-style rug element were created by Westside neighborhood children participating in a summer program at the Harding Recreation Center. Tina Villadolid of the Santa Barbara Museum of Art provided the art instruction and will oversee the installation of the tiles.

The cost to design and produce these art elements, which is \$19,440, has been paid by the PARC Foundation from the Bohnett family gift. There is \$8,060 remaining of the gift that can be used for art installation during project construction. Council action is needed to appropriate these funds for project construction.

Proposition 40 Funds

The Parks and Recreation Department has received a 2002 Resource Bond Act Proposition 40 Per Capita grant in the amount of \$61,159 to cover the remaining project funding needs. The project complies with the State's guidelines for these grant funds. The California Department of Parks and Recreation, which administers the per capital funds, approved the grant application on April 9, 2008. Council action is needed to appropriate the grant funds for project construction.

Groundbreaking Ceremony/Construction Schedule

A groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for Thursday, May 1, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. It is anticipated that construction will begin by May 7, 2008. Construction is expected to be completed by August 19, 2008, with a community celebration in late August.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funding needs for the completion of the Bohnett Park Expansion Project is \$69,217. Of this amount, \$8,060 will be provided from a Bohnett family gift, held by the PARC Foundation, and used to install art elements. Proposition 40 grant funds in the amount of \$61,159 will be used for general project construction costs.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The project includes the construction of decks made of recycled composite lumber, construction of concrete mow strips to reduce time and energy required for turf maintenance, and installation of landscape irrigation and plants that comply with Water Conservation Requirements for New Construction and Renovations at City Facilities.

PREPARED BY: Billy Goodnick, Landscape Architect

SUBMITTED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office