



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 16, 2013

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Creeks Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing Execution Of A Grant Agreement In The Amount Of \$10,000 With The U.S. Fish And Wildlife Service For Installation Of Native Trees On Mission Creek At The Caltrans Channels

RECOMMENDATION: That Council:

- A. Adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Authorizing the Parks and Recreation Director, or Designee, to Execute an Agreement and any Amendments for a Grant in the Amount of \$10,000 from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for installation of native trees on Mission Creek at the Caltrans Channels; and
- B. Increase the appropriation and estimated revenue by \$10,000 in the Creeks Capital Fund for the Mission Creek Fish Passage Project at the CalTrans Channels.

DISCUSSION:

The Creeks Division is currently constructing improvements to the concrete flood control channels on Mission Creek, known as the "CalTrans Channels", in order to allow upstream steelhead trout migration. Phase I of the construction, which included fish passage modifications to the upper (.3 mile long) channel, was completed in July 2012. Phase II involves fish passage modifications to the lower (.8 mile long) channel. Phase II will be complete in October of 2013.

The Creeks Division has been awarded a \$10,000 grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to plant native trees along the Caltrans Channels. The trees will improve water quality by providing shade and reducing water temperatures in Mission Creek. This will benefit not only the endangered Southern California Steelhead trout, but will also help reduce algae blooms and improve habitat for other aquatic species in Mission Creek and in Mission Lagoon. Native trees also provide very important habitat for birds and terrestrial species. In order to execute the grant agreement and receive the grant funds, a resolution from the City Council is required.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The cost estimate for the native tree planting along the Caltrans Channels is \$40,000. The Creeks Division will be receiving \$10,000 in grant funding through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The remaining amount would be funded with Measure B matching funds, which have been appropriated in the Creeks Division Capital Fund.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

The purpose of the project is to improve water quality and riparian habitat in Mission Creek. These efforts will contribute to local, regional, and federal objectives of improving water quality and riparian habitat.

PREPARED BY: George Johnson, Creeks Supervisor

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

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office