

DATE: January 22, 2018

TO: RMC Governing Board

FROM: Mark Stanley, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Item 9: Consideration of a resolution authorizing a grant extension to the City of South Gate for the Southern Avenue Park & Bikeway Project (RMC15105)

PROGRAM AREA: Urban Lands

PROJECT TYPE: Development

JURISDICTION: City of South Gate

PROJECT MANAGER: Marybeth Vergara

RECOMMENDATION: That the RMC authorize a grant extension to the City of South Gate for the Southern Avenue Park & Bikeway Project (RMC15105). This grant extension will allow the City to request the final retention for this project in the amount of \$35,000 from the total grant amount of \$350,000. The extension will be through March 31, 2018 to allow for the administrative close out of this project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The Southern Avenue Park & Bikeway Project was the third phase of the City of South Gate's Cesar Chavez Park Project; a project which enhances connections to an underserved, urbanized area towards the Los Angeles River, with a 20-acre linear park and dedicated bike and pedestrian paths, stretching over 2.25 miles from the City of South Gate (City) to the Los Angeles River. The grant provided funding for the State Street Park, completing the final phase of a linear park which now extends from State Street to Hildreth Avenue, towards the LA River, encompassing five additional blocks completing the linear park. The park groundbreaking was held on November 2, 2015 and the park was completed in the Fall of 2016. This grant extension will allow the City to request the final retention for this project in the amount of \$35,000.

BACKGROUND: The project is located in the City of South Gate, along Southern Avenue between State Street and Burke Avenue, within the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) utility right-of-way, please see Exhibit D: Vicinity Map. The City of South Gate is a densely populated urban city within the South East Los Angeles area, located at the confluence of the Los Angeles River and the Rio Hondo channels. In addition, the City of South Gate has many underutilized utility right-of-ways running throughout their City, in particular, the LADWP utility lines which travels nearly 2.5 miles from the Los Angeles River to Alameda and encompasses the project location. The grant funds were utilized along the LADWP utility right-of-way and provide a critical link for South Gate and surrounding cities to the Los Angeles River Bicycle Trail by developing a regional Class 1 bicycle trail along Southern Avenue between State Street and Burke Avenue, referred as the State Street Park/Southern Avenue Bikeway Project. The State Street Park/Southern Avenue Bikeway Project follows the LADWP right-of-way along Southern Avenue, a secondary arterial primarily used by residents which provides connections to several local schools, the City's 96 acre community park, and local bus lines and terminating at an entrance to the Los Angeles River Bicycle Trail. The completed project provides a dedicated

bicycle path and pedestrian walkway. In addition, the pedestrian path will be constructed from decomposed granite to allow for storm water infiltration and improve water quality and allow for improved groundwater recharge. Street crossing improvements were made to increase safety where the cyclists and pedestrians cross city streets.

The completed project has been designed with the latest environmental standards and practices, including, LED and solar powered lighting provides low electrical consumption while providing safety and security. Storm water retention has been a priority with water permeable surfaces such as decomposed granite trails and interlocking paver hardscape which will encourage storm water infiltration. Native landscaping and drought tolerant vegetation will reduce water use and irrigation systems designed to allow for future connection to reclaimed water. In addition, a native plant demonstration garden has been included to encourage residents to redesign their own landscape with drought tolerant and native vegetation.

See attached Exhibit A- Timeline.

FISCAL INFORMATION: The total cost for the State Street Park/Southern Avenue Bikeway Project was \$5,822,317 with \$3,331,600 of grant monies, and \$1,029,000 in matching funds. The grant provided by the RMC was \$350,000.

Funding for this project was allocated from the following Proposition 84 allocations.

75050. The sum of nine hundred twenty eight million dollars (\$928,000,000) shall be available for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources in accordance with the following schedule:... (g) The sum of seventy two million dollars (\$72,000,000) shall be available for projects within the watersheds of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers according to the following schedule:

(1) \$36,000,000 to the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy pursuant to Division 22.8 (commencing with Section 32600).....

75060. The sum of five hundred forty million dollars (\$540,000,000) shall be available for the protection of beaches, bays and coastal waters and watersheds, including projects to prevent contamination and degradation of coastal waters and watersheds, projects to protect and restore the natural habitat values of coastal waters and lands, and projects and expenditures to promote access to and enjoyment of the coastal resources of the state, in accordance with the following schedule:.... (3) To the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy.....\$15,000,000.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND RMC ADOPTED POLICIES/AUTHORITIES: Section 32602: There is in the Resources Agency, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, which is created as a state agency for the following purposes:

- (a) To acquire and manage public lands within the Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds, and to provide open-space, low-impact recreational and educational uses, water conservation, watershed improvement, wildlife and habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvement within the territory.
- (b) To preserve the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River consistent with existing and adopted river and flood control projects for the protection of life and property.
- (c) To acquire open-space lands within the territory of the conservancy.

Section 32604: The conservancy shall do all of the following:

- (a) Establish policies and priorities for the conservancy regarding the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River, and their watersheds, and conduct any necessary planning activities, in accordance with the purposes set forth in Section 32602.
- (c) Approve conservancy funded projects that advance the policies and priorities set forth in Section 32602.

Section 32614.5:

- (a) The conservancy may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of this division.
- (b) Grants to nonprofit organizations for the acquisition of real property or interests in real property shall be subject to all of the following conditions:
 - (1) The purchase price of any interest in land acquired by the nonprofit organization may not exceed fair market value as established by an appraisal approved by the conservancy.
 - (2) The conservancy approves the terms under which the interest in land is acquired.
 - (3) The interest in land acquired pursuant to a grant from the conservancy may not be used as security for any debt incurred by the nonprofit organization unless the conservancy approves the transaction.
 - (4) The transfer of land acquired pursuant to a grant shall be subject to the approval of the conservancy and the execution of an agreement between the conservancy and the transferee sufficient to protect the interests of the state.
 - (5) The state shall have a right of entry and power of termination in and over all interests in real property acquired with state funds, which may be exercised if any essential term or condition of the grant is violated.
 - (6) If the existence of the nonprofit organization is terminated for any reason, title to all interest in real property acquired with state funds shall immediately vest in the state, except that, prior to that termination, another public agency or nonprofit organization may receive title to all or a portion of that interest in real property, by recording its acceptance of title, together with the conservancy's approval, in writing.
- (c) Any deed or other instrument of conveyance whereby real property is acquired by a nonprofit organization pursuant to this section shall be recorded and shall set forth the executory interest or right of entry on the part of the state.

Item 9- Southern Ave Park & Bikeway Project (RMC 15105)

Exhibit A-Timeline

Southern Avenue Park and Bikeway Project

- Sept 2015 – Complete value engineering
- Sept 28, 2015 – Receive award from RMC Board
- Oct 27, 2015 - City to finalize Grant Agreement with RMC
- Oct 27, 2015 – City to award construction contract
- November 5, 2015 – Preconstruction Meeting
- November 16, 2015 – Begin construction
- November 30, 2016 – Complete construction
- March 31, 2018- Administrative Close-Out, Retention request by the City

January 22, 2018 – Item 9

RESOLUTION 2018-01

RESOLUTION OF THE SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC) AUTHORIZING A GRANT EXTENSION TO THE CITY OF SOUTH GATE FOR THE SOUTHERN AVENUE PARK AND BIKEWAY PROJECT (RMC15105)

WHEREAS, The legislature has found and declared that the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, the Lower Los Angeles River and its tributaries, and the San Gabriel Mountains, Puente Hills, and San Jose Hills constitute a unique and important open space, environmental, anthropological, cultural, scientific, educational, recreational, scenic, and wildlife resource that should be held in trust to be preserved and enhanced for the enjoyment of, and appreciation by, present and future generations; and

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 40), the Water, Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50), and the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), which provides funds for the RMC grant program; and

WHEREAS, That the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board authorizes a grant agreement to the City of South Gate for the Southern Avenue Park and Bikeway Project; and

WHEREAS, The RMC may award grants to local public agencies, state agencies, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations for the purposes of Division 22.8 the Public Resources Code; and

WHEREAS, This action is exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); and NOW

Therefore be it resolved that the RMC hereby:

1. FINDS that this action is consistent with the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Act and is necessary to carry out the purposes and objectives of Division 22.8 of the Public Resources Code.
2. FINDS that the grant is consistent with the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 40), the Water, Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002 (Proposition 50), and the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84), which provides funds for the RMC grant program.
3. FINDS that the actions contemplated by this resolution are exempt from the environmental impact report requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act.
4. APPROVES a project timeline extension for the Southern Avenue Park and Bikeway Project from November 30, 2016 to March 31, 2018.

- 5. AUTHORIZES a grant in the amount of \$350,000 to the City of South Gate for the Southern Avenue Park & Bikeway Project (RMC15105).
- 6. ADOPTS the staff report dated January 22, 2018.

~ End of Resolution ~

Passed and Adopted by the Board of the
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS
CONSERVANCY on January 22, 2018.

Motion _____ Second: _____

Ayes: _____ Nays: _____ Abstentions: _____

Frank Colonna, Chair

ATTEST: _____
David Edsall
Deputy Attorney General