



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Works and
Community Services
Department No.: 054 and 052
For Agenda Of: November 14, 2017
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department George Chapjian, Director of Community Services, 568-2467
Director(s) Scott D. McGolpin, P.E. Director of Public Works, 568-3010
Contact Info: Brian Yanez, Deputy Director, Community Services, - Parks
Division, 568-2461
Mark Schleich, P.E. Deputy Director, Public Works, 882-3605

SUBJECT: Authorization to Apply for Habitat Conservation Fund Grant

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form:

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the Director of the Community Services Department, or designee, to apply for a grant from the California Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services for a Habitat Conservation Fund grant by submitting the grant application, including all required supporting documentation; and
- b) Adopt and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute the Resolution for authorizations by and designations of the Director of Community Services Department, or designee, as part of the Office of Grants and Local Services application for a Habitat Conservation Fund grant; and
- c) Authorize the Director of Community Services Department, or designee, to execute and submit a Grant Agreement in an amount up to \$103,775 in a form substantially similar to the Office of Grants and Local Services sample grant agreement as shown in the Grant Administration Guide and upon review and concurrence of County Counsel, Auditor-Controller, and Risk Manager or their designee if the Office of Grants and Local Services grant is awarded; and
- d) Find that the above recommended actions are taken in furtherance of the Baron Ranch Trail Improvements Project that was approved by the County Planning Commission on June 28, 2017, and

that pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines section 15162, no substantial changes are proposed, and there are no substantial changes in circumstances or new information of substantial importance regarding significant impacts or feasibility of mitigation measures and alternatives, and therefore, this action is within the scope of the project covered by the mitigated negative declaration noted in the Notice of Determination dated July 26, 2017, No. 17NGD-00000-00007, SCH No. 2017021030, and no subsequent environmental document is required.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to give authorization to apply for a Habitation Conservation Fund Grant. Approval of the attached resolution will enable the Community Services Director or his or her designee to apply for a Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) Program grant to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (CADPR) and to accept and use funds from the CADPR's HCF Program for the extension and improvement of the Baron Ranch Trail.

Background:

Pursuant to the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002, the State of California is authorized to oversee and manage grants to eligible entities for the purposes stated within its provisions. Funding for this grant program is made available through the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002. Further, in order to protect, restore, and enhance wildlife habitat and fisheries, the people of California voted to enact the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990. Based on applicable sections of the California Fish and Game Code, funds in the Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF) may be used for acquisition of habitat to protect deer, mountain lions, and other wildlife and endangered species; to enhance or restore wetlands and riparian habitat; and to develop and restore trails, among other purposes.

Located in a coastal valley approximately 25 miles west of Santa Barbara, Baron Ranch (Ranch) is comprised of 1,083 acres and is managed by the County Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division (RR&WMD). The Ranch contains a six-mile loop trail with a trailhead at the Calle Real frontage road that parallels the north side of Highway 101. The Public Works Department, RR&WMD and the Community Services Department, Parks Division, are working on relocating and expanding the Trail to extend it through the Los Padres National Forest to West Camino Cielo at the crest of the Santa Ynez Mountains with connections to Gaviota State Park. It is currently open only to pedestrian users, Saturday through Monday of each week, from 8:00 a.m. to dusk.

The Public Works Department, RR&WMD and the Community Services Department, Parks Division, prepared an application for this HCF grant and with assistance from the Santa Barbara County Trails Council (Trails Council) propose to:

- a) Construct a 1.35 mile realignment of the existing Trail from the eastern side of the Creek to its western side, ultimately reconnecting with the existing Trail at an at-grade stream crossing;
- b) Construct a 65-foot diameter vehicle turnaround area (approximately 3,320 square feet) to accommodate equestrians with horse trailers, school buses, and an anticipated increase in the number of users of the Trail; and

- c) Construct and install four gates and 1,475 feet of fencing, a kiosk, benches, and directional and interpretive signs.

The realignment will increase accessibility to the Trail by the public to seven days a week and will expand the non-motorized trail use to include bicyclists, horseback riders, and others in an unsupervised setting, as well as connect the internal trail to West Camino Cielo. Per Santa Barbara County Code regulations, use is limited to daylight hours. This action will also enhance the user experience through the Arroyo Quemada riparian corridor, where the Public Works Department has been conducting a large-scale native plant restoration.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There are no fiscal impacts for the submittal of an application for a Habitat Conservation Fund grant to the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			\$103,775
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			\$103,775
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 207,550.00

Narrative: The project period for the use of a HCF grant is July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023. To supplement the HCF grant of \$103,775, the Santa Barbara County Trails Council will be providing the following matching funds: \$72,000 from WWW Foundation; \$20,000 from the County of Santa Barbara Coastal Resource Enhancement Fund; \$2,750 from the UCSB Coastal Fund; and \$10,000 from the Sierra Club. Project activities are anticipated to occur from July 2018 through January 2019.

Special Instructions:

Please provide a copy of the signed resolution to Brian Yanez of the Community Services Department, Parks Division.

Attachments:

- Attachment A: Resolution
- Attachment B: Grant Admission Guide

Authored by:

Alan Nakashima, Senior Program Specialist, Public Works Department, Resource Recovery & Waste Management Division, extension 3616