



Agenda Report

City Council

Date: November 9, 2021

To: Brian Saeki, City Manager

From: Virginia Santana, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Subject: State of California Specific Grant for Parnell Park Renovation

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt Resolution No. 2021- 87 to submit an application for the State of California Specific Grant funds for the renovation of Parnell Park; and authorize the City Manager to conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, necessary for the completion of the Grant.

BACKGROUND

Parnell Park, located originally at 10711 Scott Avenue, is a 12.8-acre park in a residential neighborhood between Lambert Road and Mulberry Drive. The Park was developed in 1967 after the City purchased the 6.4 acres from the Parnell Preparatory School for Girls and acquired an additional 6.4 acres from the County. The current Parnell Park Community and Senior Center now resides at 15390 Lambert Road and includes traditional amenities such as picnic tables, barbeques, a play area with play equipment, one basketball half-courts, restrooms, and three parking lots. There is minimal security lighting in and around the park. In addition, there is a softball diamond, a spray pool, the recreation facility offering classes, trainings, events, sports classes, and a farm animal zoo.

The playground equipment was last upgraded in 2009, including installation of rubberized surfacing. Due to wear and tear, the existing rubberized surfacing does not meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, or current "fall zone" safety standards. Playground equipment has begun to crack and chip and no longer meets the current play styles of children and youth. Under regular conditions the playground usage is estimated at 8,000-10,000 children annually.

On March 9, 2021, City Council approved the filing for a statewide park development and community revitalization program grant, to begin seeking funds to renovate Parnell Park. The application process was multifaceted and required community outreach and input of the project. The community had several opportunities to submit surveys to include their desired amenities or changes to the Parnell Park site. An 'all-abilities' playground, splash pad, new restrooms, fitness equipment, walking path, lighting and updated landscape and irrigation were the most requested items. The submitted application did not require matching funds and is still under review. Announcements of grant awards are still to be determined by the review committee.

DISCUSSION

Through the state budget process, budget trailer bills AB 170 and SB 170 included \$5 million as a designated grant to the City of Whittier for Parnell Park. California State Parks staff recently requested a meeting with City staff to begin discussing the application and funding process.

Guided by the prior public outreach process and previous consideration by City Council, the following items are proposed to be funded by the Specific Grant for the Parnell Park renovation:

- Youth Sports Fields, lighting and ancillary improvements
- Playground and Rubberized Surfacing
- Fitness Par Course
- New Restroom Facility
- Splash Pad

Should City Council desire to undertake the proposed State of California, Specific Grant, the first step would be the consideration of a resolution (Attachment A) authorizing a grant application and authorizing the City Manager to sign the subsequent grant agreement. If such authorization is granted, staff would return to City Council with a budget amendment after execution of the grant agreement, to allow for the acceptance of the grant funds and allocation of funds for the project. The project would proceed as a standard Capital Improvement Project, following the public works design-bid-build process. No matching funds are required for the grant.

In the event the application to the Statewide Park Development Program is also funded, staff will work with the State Parks grant officers on complementary, non-duplicative scopes of work for Parnell Park. Future City Council action would be necessary to accept and appropriate any potential funds and approve proposed changes to the scope of work for the Statewide Park Development Program.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

STRATEGIC PLANNING GOAL

Goal 4: Transparent and Open Government

ATTACHMENTS

A. Resolution No. 2021-87

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-87

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA, TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SPECIFIC GRANT FUNDS FOR THE RENOVATION OF PARNELL PARK

RECITALS

- A. The State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility by the Legislature of the State of California for the administration of a grant to the City of Whittier, setting up necessary procedures governing application(s).
- B. Said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the applicant's Governing Body to certify by resolution the approval of project application(s) before submission of said applications to the State.
- C. The applicant will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete project(s).

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITTIER, CALIFORNIA, DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The above recitals are true and correct and are a substantial part of this resolution.

SECTION 2. Approves the filing of project applications for specified grant projects.

SECTION 3. Certifies that City of Whittier has or will have available, prior to commencement of project work utilizing specified grant funds, sufficient funds, including those provided by this grant, to complete the projects.

SECTION 4. Certifies that the City of Whittier has or will provide sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project(s).

SECTION 5. Certifies that the City of Whittier has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the General Provisions contained in the contract shown in the Procedural Guide.

SECTION 6. Delegates the authority to the CITY MANAGER, or designee to conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the project scope(s).

SECTION 7. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and guidelines.

SECTION 8. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption hereof.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of November 2021.

JOSEPH A. VINATIERI, Mayor

ATTEST:

RIGOBERTO GARCIA, JR. City Clerk
(seal)