



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

Approved by:


Arnaldo Rodriguez, City Manager

Council Meeting of: January 19, 2022

Agenda Number: B-12

SUBJECT:

Clean California Local Grant Program Funds – Fresno River Project

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Resolution Authorizing Submission of the Clean California Local Grant Program Funds application for the Fresno River Project

SUMMARY:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) developed the Clean California Local Grant Program (CCLGP) as part of a two-year program through which approximately \$296 million in funds will go to local communities to beautify and improve local streets and roads, tribal lands, parks, pathways, and transit centers to clean and enhance public spaces. Through the combination of adding beautification measures and art in public spaces along with the removal of litter and debris, this effort will enhance communities and improve spaces for walking and recreation.

The application is due February 1, 2022.

DISCUSSION:

The Clean CA Local Grant Program is intended to achieve the following:

- Reduce the amount of waste and debris within public rights-of-way, pathways, parks, transit centers, and other public spaces.
- Enhance, rehabilitate, restore, or install measures to beautify and improve public spaces and mitigate the urban heat island effect.
- Enhance public health, cultural connection, and community placemaking by improving public spaces for walking and recreation.
- Advance equity for underserved communities.

As part of the effort, Caltrans developed project selection criteria that incorporates:

- Need for the project
- Potential to enhance and beautify public space
- Potential for greening to provide shade, reduce the urban heat island effect, and utilize native low-water plants
- Potential for abatement of litter and debris that improves access to use of public space
- Local public engagement process that culminated in the project proposal and reflects community priorities
- Benefit to underserved communities

The City intends to submit an application specific to the Fresno River. The project application plans to address the increase in refuse in the Fresno River and immediate surrounding areas over the last years. The application plans to augment the work already being done by the City under the riverbed cleanup pilot program, as well as add beautification projects and an educational component as part of the maintenance aspect. The application plans to include:

- Request for funds to complete riverbed cleanup to reduce the amount of waste and debris within public rights-of-way, pathways, and the general public spaces within the proximity of the riverbed.
- Request for funds to install solar lighting along riverbed pathway trails.
- Request for funds to install trash receptors throughout the riverbed, while adding an educational component for the public.
- Request for pilot-program stipend-program that would entice community agencies to adopt areas of the riverbed for cleanup. This will help add an ownership component, continued community engagement, and community collaboration.
- Request for funds for rehab of existing pathways in need of slurry seal, to beautify and improve the space.
- Request to add exercise equipment along the river.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Staff is currently working with a grant consultant to assist with the submission of this application. Townsend Public Affairs, Inc. has been issued a purchase order for the full completion and submission of the application for the lump sum of \$7,500. The costs associated with the grant consultant will be expended from adopted Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget; there will be no additional General Fund impact.

Additionally, recognizing the diverse funding needs and abilities of local agencies across the state, the Clean California Local Grant Program guidelines are developed with a framework that does not apply a one-size fits all approach. The local match component will range from 0% to 50% of the project costs and will be based on the capacity of the community to leverage local capital.

Additionally, with an eye on equity, half of the overall program funds will benefit or be located in underserved communities. The maximum project amount is \$5 million.

CONSISTENCY WITH THE VISION MADERA 2025 PLAN:

The recommended actions support the following Vision Madera 2025 strategies:

Strategy 412: Develop the Fresno River into a major water feature and lake, providing seasonal recreation, entertainment opportunities and water storage.

Strategy 131: Establish and enforce visual standards for neighborhoods and businesses in Madera including design review and code enforcement.

Strategy 132: Connect Madera's neighborhoods through streets, trails and walkways that promote community.

Strategy 401: Develop and promote Madera as a walkable community with an emphasis on improving the quality of the natural resources.

ALTERNATIVES:

Council may elect to not approve the Resolution for the CCLGP submission for the project at the Fresno River.

Failure to approve application submission will result in the City forfeiting this grant opportunity as grant is due February 1, 2022.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution – Approving Application for Fresno River Project

RESOLUTION NO. ____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MADERA,
CALIFORNIA APPROVING THE APPLICATION(S) FOR CLEAN CALIFORNIA
LOCAL GRANT PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) developed the Clean California Local Grant Program as part of a two-year program through which approximately \$296 million in funds will go to local communities to beautify and improve local streets and roads, tribal lands, parks, pathways, and transit centers to clean and enhance public spaces; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) require submission of application should include signature of an authorized Chief Executive Officer, Public Works Director, or other officer authorized by the governing board; and

WHEREAS, the undersigned affirms that their agency will be the “Implementing Agency” for the project if funded with CCLGP funds and they are the Chief Executive Officer, Public Works Director or other officer authorized by their governing board with the authority to commit the agency’s resources and funds. They are also affirming that the statements contained in this application package are true and complete to the best of their knowledge. For infrastructure projects, the undersigned affirms that they are the manager of the public right-of-way facilities (responsible for their maintenance and operation) or they have authority over this position; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Madera hereby:

APPROVES THE FILING OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE FRESNO RIVER PROJECT; AND

1. Certifies that the Applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the general provisions contained in the Program Guidelines; and
2. Delegates the authority to the City Manager 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 Grant Scope; and
3. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines.
