



CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

July 2, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Linda Lowry, City Manager

Submitted by: Meg McWade, Public Works Director

Subject: **Adopt a Resolution Authorizing the Submittal of a Grant Application for the San Jose Creek Greenway Trail Project to the California Natural Resources Agency's Urban Greening Grant Program for a Total Grant Request of \$2,675,363**

OVERVIEW

Recommendation – That the City Council adopt a Resolution (Attachment):

1. Authorizing Staff to submit a grant application for the San Jose Creek Greenway Trail Project, for the California Natural Resources Agency's (CNRA) Urban Greening Grant Program (Round 2) in the amount of \$2,675,363; and
2. Authorizing the City Manager to execute the grant application and any related documents required for submittal.

Fiscal Impact – There is no fiscal impact with the proposed action at this time. The estimated project cost is \$9,409,534, with the grant potentially funding \$2,675,363, and the remaining \$6,734,171 in funding being sought through other prospective sources of funds, including the Active Transportation Program Cycle 4 Call for Projects. If the Urban Greening Grant is awarded, Staff will return to City Council for approval to receive the grant funds and to amend the appropriate Fiscal Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget. The future maintenance costs, estimated to be \$95,000 per year, will be the responsibility of the City with General Fund and transportation funds such as Prop C and Measure M as eligible funding sources for these costs.

Previous Related Action – On March 17, 2014, City Council approved the submission of a Grant application to the Active Transportation Program (ATP) Cycle 1 for the "Bike Path – San Jose Creek," Project No. 428-2590-xxxxx-58072.

Environmental Determination – San Jose Creek Greenway Trail Project - Pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and based on an initial evaluation, a Negative Declaration will be prepared for this project.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The San Jose Creek Greenway Trail Project will be a 3.5-mile off-road bike and pedestrian greenway in the City of Pomona, enhancing the community and providing direct connections to schools, parks, and employment centers. Adoption of the Resolution will provide formal City Council authorization for the submitted CNRA Urban Greening Grant application and approval of project scope. Total project costs for design and construction of the trail are approximately \$9.4 Million. The Urban Greening Grant request is for approximately \$2.7 Million with Staff pursuing other funding sources, such as Active Transportation Plan (ATP) Cycle 4 Grant funds, for approximately \$6.7 Million.

DISCUSSION

The CNRA's Urban Greening Program, funded by the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, was created in 2016 to support the development of green infrastructure projects that reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and provide multiple benefits in accordance with the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006. The Urban Greening Program will fund projects that reduce greenhouse gases by sequestering carbon, decreasing energy consumption and reducing vehicle miles traveled, while also transforming the built environment into places that are more sustainable, enjoyable, and effective in creating healthy communities. These projects must establish and enhance parks and open spaces by using natural solutions to improve air and water quality, reduce energy consumption, create more walkable and bike-able trails, and must meet at least one of the following three statutory conditions:

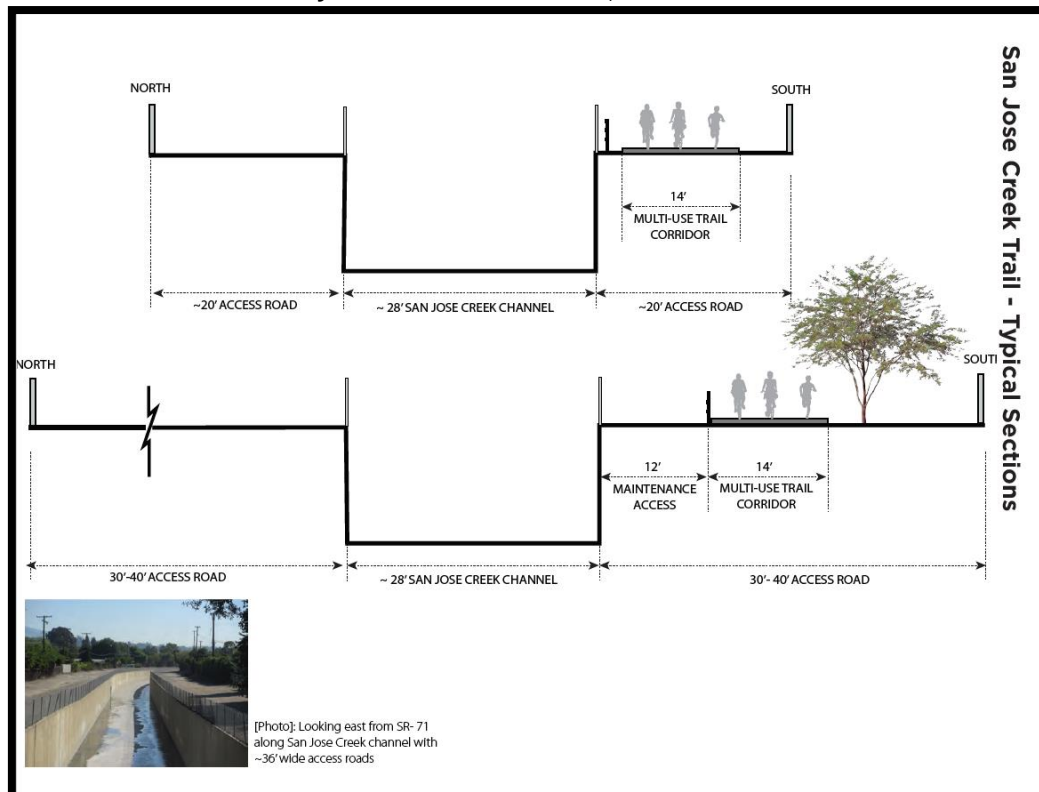
1. Sequester and store carbon by planting trees
2. Reduce building energy use by strategically planting trees to shade buildings
3. Reduce commute vehicle miles traveled by constructing bicycle paths, bicycle lanes or pedestrian facilities that provide safe routes for travel between residences, work places, commercial centers, and schools.

In coordination with the SGVCOG, Staff researched the grant guidelines and determined the project that most aligns with the funding opportunity is the proposed San Jose Creek Greenway Trail Project. In the City's CIP, this project is known as "Bike Path – San Jose Creek," Project No. 428-2590-xxxxx-58072. In 2014, with City Council approval, this project was submitted to ATP Cycle 1, but unfortunately was not selected for funding.

The proposed Project, now known as the San Jose Creek Greenway Trail Project, will be a 3.5-mile, 14-foot wide shared-use trail from a point near the intersection of Temple Avenue and S. Campus Drive to a point near Interstate 10 at Casa Vista Drive and Murchison Avenue. It will provide an off-road, non-motorized connection to a myriad of key destinations in Pomona, including commercial, residential, and employment centers. It will provide direct connections to many parks, K-12 schools, and California State Polytechnic University. Additionally, the project itself will create construction and related employment opportunities. The proposed trail route and a sample cross-section from the grant application are shown in the depictions on the following page with additional site maps included in Attachment 2:



San Jose Creek Greenway Trail - Cross Section (North/South location under consideration)



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The proposed Project is in strong alignment with the Urban Greening Program and will provide multiple benefits including: 1) reduce GHG emissions and vehicle miles traveled (VMTs) by providing a non-motorized trail with great potential to encourage a modal shift for commuters and Safe Routes To Schools; 2) establish new plantings in greenway segments and trailheads, and expand access to existing community parks; 3) serve a disadvantaged community whose residents will directly benefit from the health, recreational, and employment opportunities that result from this project; 4) use existing public lands along the San Jose Creek, and facilitate the use of public resources and investments, specifically making use of the existing flood control channel and its connections to public schools and parks; and 5) providing close interagency cooperation with county, regional, and City entities.

The potential impact of the project on spurring regional investment in active transportation cannot be understated. This trail has the potential to inspire adjacent communities to complete planning and design work for their segments of the San Jose Creek Trail, which can feasibly span 17.5 miles between Pomona and South El Monte, where the only other built segment of the San Jose Creek Trail exists and directly connects to the 35-mile San Gabriel River Trail. It should be noted that if this Project comes to fruition, the City would be responsible for ongoing maintenance costs of this trail (estimated at \$95,000 per year); funding for said maintenance would still need to be identified.

The estimated cost of the San Jose Creek Greenway Trail project is \$9,409,534, as follows:

Grant Funded Costs	Total Cost	Urban Greening Grant	Additional Funding Source*	City of Pomona**
Site Preparation	\$343,709	\$343,709		
Landscape Improvements	\$535,007	\$222,750	\$312,257	
Construction	\$4,905,497	\$1,443,904	\$3,461,593	
Design and Project Management	\$2,584,903	\$665,000	\$1,919,903	\$59,993
Contingencies	\$1,040,418		\$1,040,418	
Total	\$9,409,534	\$2,675,363	\$6,734,171	\$59,993

*Staff is preparing grant application for ATP Cycle 4 funding and may submit for other sources to ensure full funding. Support from the Urban Greening Program will enable the City to leverage dollars to secure other such grants.

**FY 2017-18 Budget for "Bike Path – San Jose Creek," Project No. 428-2590-xxxxx-58072 is \$59,993 and is not part of the Total Project Costs being requested from granting agencies. The funding is being utilized for internal costs related to project development.

On April 11, 2018, Staff, in partnership with the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), submitted to the CNRA's Urban Greening Program a grant application to secure a place for this grant funding opportunity. Adoption of the Resolution will provide formal City Council authorization for the submitted CNRA Urban Greening Grant application and approval of project scope, as required by CNRA. If the City Council does not authorize the submittal of the grant application or project scope, the resolution will not be submitted to the State of California and the application will become void.

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Therefore, Staff recommends City Council adopt the attached Resolution authorizing Staff to submit one (1) grant application to the CNRA Urban Greening Program for the San Jose Creek Greenway Trail Project, requesting \$2,675,363 in grant funds, and authorize the City Manager to execute the grant application and any related documents needed for submittal. Should the City be successful in obtaining the grant, acceptance of the funds would be handled through formal City Council action.

Attachments: 1) Resolution
 2) Urban Greening Grant – San Jose Creek Greenway Trail Site Maps

Prepared by: Rene Guerrero, City Engineer

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