



CITY OF POMONA COUNCIL REPORT

October 15, 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 Amending the FY 2018-19 South Garey Assessment District Operating Budget by Appropriating \$39,546 from Available Reserves for Replanting and Irrigation System Upgrades to South Garey Avenue Medians**

OVERVIEW

Recommendation – That the City Council:

1. Adopt a Resolution (Attachment 1) amending the FY 2018-19 Adopted Special Revenue Operating Budget by appropriating \$39,546 to the South Garey Assessment District Fund from its available reserves, and
2. Authorize work (replanting and irrigation system upgrades to South Garey Avenue medians) as outlined in Attachment 2 to be performed by MCE Corporation, the current contractor for median landscaping.

Fiscal Impact – The adoption of the Resolution will appropriate \$39,546 from the South Garey Assessment District Fund's available reserves to the FY 2018-19 South Garey Assessment District Operating Budget (253-4075-52932-00000) to perform the median renovations.

Previous Related Action – On February 4, 2014, the City awarded a three year contract, with (2) two, (1) one year extension options to MCE Corporation for landscaping maintenance for Parks and Medians.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The recommended action will appropriate funding in the amount of \$39,546 to the FY 2018-19 South Garey Assessment District Operating Budget from available reserves for the labor, equipment and materials for planting sea lavender (*Limonium perezii*) and lantana 'New Gold' (*Lantana x 'New Gold'*), and replacement/upgrade of existing irrigation in the medians covered under the assessment. The renovations will be performed by the City's current median contractor, MCE Corporation, on South Garey Avenue medians from 12th Street to County Road.

DISCUSSION

In response to a severe drought throughout the State of California, Governor Brown previously approved an emergency order making it illegal to water turf in medians. The City stopped irrigating median turf in response to this water restriction resulting in medians Citywide that require renovation. Staff is working to phase-in median renovation to replace turf with more sustainable plantings. The area that is being renovated through this City Council action includes the medians along South Garey Avenue from 12th Street to County Road. These medians were formerly landscaped with society garlic (*Tulbaghia violacea*) and daylilies (*Hemerocallis sp.*) on the endcaps, with ornamental turf in between.

Staff is recommending replacement of the society garlic, daylilies, and former turf area, with lower maintenance and more drought tolerant shrubs/groundcover. The plants chosen for replacement - sea lavender (*Limonium perezii*) and lantana 'New Gold' (*Lantana x 'New Gold'*) (see images below) were selected based on these criteria, as well as the desire to maintain an attractive, colorful appearance, with a similar overall color. Additionally, several palo verde trees are being considered for placement in the South Garey medians, with this work possibly being handled under a separate contract.



Sea lavender



Lantana 'New Gold'

In order to renovate these medians with drought tolerant plantings, an appropriation is required from the South Garey Assessment District. The South Garey Assessment District (which includes medians from Ninth Street to SR 71) has available reserves which can be utilized for this work. The cost for the irrigation retrofit and plant replacement is anticipated to be \$39,546. With City Council approval, the work will be performed under the existing landscape maintenance contract with MCE Corporation as described in Section H (Plant Replacement) and M (Maintenance of Irrigation Systems and Watering) of the contract.

Upon approval of the Resolution, Staff will work with the contractor to begin the renovation expeditiously.

Attachments: 1) Resolution
2) South Garey Avenue – Median Renovation 2018: Description of Work

Prepared by: Michael Sledd, Parks and Facilities Manager