

County Of Sonoma Agenda Item Summary Report

Clerk of the Board Use Only
 Meeting Date Held Until
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 Agenda Item No: Agenda Item No:
 _____ _____

Department: Regional Parks

4/5 Vote Required

Contact:
Elizabeth Tyree

Phone:
(707) 565-2575

Board Date:
10/27/2009

Deadline for Board Action:

AGENDA SHORT TITLE: Guerneville River Park Phase 2 funding

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION: Resolution accepting a Department of Boating and Waterways Boating Trails Access Facility Grant for access to the Russian River at Guerneville River Park, and authorizing the Director of Regional Parks to execute the agreement.

Resolution authorizing necessary budgetary adjustments to recognize revenue from the California Department of Boating and Waterways grant.

Resolution authorizing the Director of Regional Parks to apply for funding from the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District for Guerneville River Park Phase 2 and to act as agent for the County to execute and submit all documents that may be necessary to secure the grant awards for the aforementioned projects.

CURRENT FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT

EXPENDITURES:

ADDITIONAL FUNDS REQUIRING BOARD APPROVAL:

Estimated Cost	\$0	Contingencies (Fund Name:)	\$0
Amount Budgeted	\$0	Unanticipated Revenue (Source: State grant)	\$323,208
Other Available Appropriations (Explain Below)	\$0	Other Transfers (Source:)	\$0
Additional Requested	\$0	Additional Funds Requested	\$323,208

Explanation (if required): None.

Prior Board Action:

October 5, 2004 – Guerneville River Park Project Master Plan adopted
 January 23, 2007 – Notice of Completion for Guerneville Phase 1 construction.

Alternatives – Results of Non-Approval: Additional park improvements will not be constructed until other sources of funding are secured.

Background:

Regional Parks is seeking to fund the second phase of planned improvements to Guerneville River Park. The Board approved the park Master Plan in 2004 and Regional Parks has explored a number of funding sources to develop the park. Grant funding to construct most of the Phase 2 improvements has been offered by California Boating & Waterways. Regional Parks is seeking a Matching Grant from the Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District (District) for the remaining work.

Guerneville River Park is located at the intersection of Highway 116 and the Russian River on land surplussed by Caltrans after construction of the new highway bridge. The first phase of park construction included vehicle access and parking, a restroom building, pathways, and group and family picnic sites on the west side of Highway 116. This work was completed in 2008 with funding from the State Natural Resources Agency and State Parks Proposition 12 Per Capita grants. A small outdoor stage is proposed, with funding from the Russian River Redevelopment Agency.

Phase 2 includes an entry driveway on the east side of Highway 116, parking, boat turn around, boat launch ramp/portage, trail connecting to the first phase, picnic area, trash cans, and signage. The total estimated cost is \$431,208.

Regional Parks submitted a letter of interest to Boating and Waterways in May 2009 outlining a request for new Russian River public boating access at Guerneville River Park. In response, Boating and Waterways has offered a \$323,208 grant to construct most of the Phase 2 improvements including the entry driveway, parking, boat turn around, and boat launch ramp/portage. A resolution accepting Boating and Waterways grant funds is now required.

The Boating and Waterways grant agreement contains standard grant language. County Counsel has noted that the agreement allows Boating and Waterways to terminate the Agreement without cause upon 30 days notice. In the unlikely event that such a cancellation were to occur, Regional Parks would seek reimbursement for work already completed within that 30 days notice period. It should be noted that Boating and Waterway's funding for the Guerneville project is already allocated and does not come from State bonds and is not affected by bond freezes.

Regional Parks is seeking funding from the District for the Phase 2 trail and picnic area, which were not eligible for funding from the Boating and Waterways grant. The District has issued a call for applications for its Matching Grant Program 2009. This competitive grant program provides funding for land acquisition, restoration and improvements for urban open space projects, and recreation projects within or near incorporated areas or other urbanized areas of Sonoma County. The grant program requires a 50% matching contribution, which the Boating and Waterways grant would provide. The District also seeks projects that can be completed in a timely manner.

The Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District anticipates awarding \$2 million countywide in Matching Grant Projects this year to cities, the County, other public agencies, and non-profit organizations. Regional Parks is proposing to submit a grant application for \$108,000 for Guerneville River Park Phase 2 for the trail connecting to Phase 1, picnic area, and appurtenances. A resolution authorizing grant application is required.

Should all the development funding be secured, completion of Phase 2 is anticipated summer of 2011. Regional Parks has planned for future additional maintenance of \$5,094 per year, which will be funded within Regional Parks' current operating budget.

Recommendation

Approve resolution accepting a Department of Boating and Waterways Boating Trails Access Facility Grant for access to the Russian River at Guerneville River Park, and authorizing the Director of Regional Parks to execute the agreement.

Approve resolution authorizing necessary budgetary adjustments to recognize revenue from the California Department of Boating and Waterways grant.

Approve resolution authorizing the Director of Regional Parks to apply for funding from the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District for Guerneville River Park Phase 2 and to act as agent for the County to execute and submit all documents that may be necessary to secure the grant awards for the aforementioned projects.

Attachments: Resolutions.

On File With Clerk: None.

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Board Action (If other than "Requested")

Vote: