

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Parks Department



DATE: November 16, 2015

COMMISSION MEETING DATE: December 3, 2015

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Cecily Harris, Development Consultant

SUBJECT: Alternative Funding, Program Development and Project Management Report

RECOMMENDATION

Review and accept report.

BACKGROUND

This report covers alternative funding, program development and project management activities since the Commission's October 2015 meeting.

DISCUSSION

1) Alternative Funding

There are no new grants awards to report at this time. There has, however, been time spent reviewing and discussing grant guidelines for potential facility improvements, interpretative programs and trail projects. There are also number of December 2015 deadlines for state and federal grants for us to consider.

a) Applications Submitted

In September 2015, a \$250,000 grant application was submitted to the California Natural Resources Agency for a Museum Program Grant for the Sanchez Adobe Gateway Facility Project. The proposed Gateway Facility is a small capital project at the Sanchez Adobe historical site that could make a large difference in our ability to provide enhanced services to the public for school groups, public guided tours and community events in partnership with the San Mateo County Historical Association. The Project provides for improved orientation of the Adobe site entrance by shifting the arrival of the visitor to the south to provide an improved approach to the Adobe and overall site, with better sight lines. From the parking area, we will convert an existing garage into a multi-purpose facility, called the Gateway, where all visitors would begin their journey into history. A new standalone prefabricated restroom building will provide stalls for men and

women and a pathway from the Gateway will meet Americans with Disabilities Act standards. Site visits will be made in February/March with grant decisions to be made in June 2016. The Department has matching funds from Measure A for this Project..

In November 2015, a \$35,000 application to *Get Healthy San Mateo County* and a \$50,000 application to the Coastal Conservancy's *Explore the Coast Program* were submitted for a County Park Explorer Program. If successful, these two grants and additional funding will support the launch of a County Park explorer shuttle program that will bring people from communities of need along the Bay Shore to ridgeline and coastline County Parks on a scheduled basis, on-request basis, and for special events, stewardship, naturalist and community partner programs. A comprehensive Service Plan developed with community and partner input with guidelines, annual calendar, staffing and logistics will be followed by a pilot program year with extensive tracking, reporting, and programmatic adjustments. Grant decisions will be made in December 2015 and February 2016.

Partner interest and momentum is very strong. After a two-year pilot program, the Golden Gate Parks Conservancy will receive funding for three shuttles from the National Park Service in support of the 2016 centennial. They would like to coordinate schedules in San Mateo County. Other potential program partners include Peninsula Open Space Trust and Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District.

b) Applications Planned

Upcoming applications include a December 2015 request to the San Mateo County Transportation Authority's (TA) *Measure A Bicycle and Pedestrian Program* for the Complete the Gap Trail Project. Complete the Gap closes a 600-foot gap in the Crystal Springs Regional Trail along the San Francisco Watershed resulting in 10.3 miles of continuous trail between San Bruno Avenue and Highway 92. Specifically, it closes a gap between the Crystal Springs Dam segment and newly constructed South of Dam segment. The Gap starts at the Crystal Springs Dam travels along Skyline Boulevard and ends at the South of Dam Trail. For trail users' and wildlife safety, K-rail will be installed on the eastern side and chain link fence on the western side. Trail use will be for recreation or commuting and will include pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians. The grant deadline is December 18, 2015 and award recommendations will be made to the TA Board in February/March 2016. The Department has matching funds from Measure A.

The California Coastal Conservancy has invited us to submit an application for the Coyote Point Eastern Promenade Rejuvenation Project in January 2016. This application will cover a portion of the beach, promenade, access point, parking and restroom improvements. Conversations about additional funding have been informally held with the Division of Boating and Waterways and San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail.