

APPROVED
NOV 05 2020

BOARD OF RECREATION
AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD REPORT

NO. 20-211

DATE November 5, 2020

C.D. Various

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: PROPOSITION 68 STATEWIDE PARK DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION PROGRAM (SPP) 2020 ROUND GRANT; PRELIMINARY AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS

AP Diaz	_____	S. Piña-Cortez	_____
H. Fujita	_____	C. Santo Domingo	_____
V. Israel	_____	*N. Williams	<u>NDW</u>

General Manager

Approved X Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____
With Corrections

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Preliminarily authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to submit various applications for the Proposition 68 Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP) 2020 Round Grant (Grant), to the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation (State), subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council;
2. Direct RAP staff to transmit a copy of this report to the Mayor, Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), and to the City Clerk for committee and City Council for approval to apply for grant funds, pursuant to Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6 *et seq.*; and
3. Direct RAP staff to return to the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners for final authorization to submit applications for the SPP 2020 Round Grant upon finalization of project list, project scopes and cost estimates.

SUMMARY

On June 5, 2018, Proposition 68 (Prop 68) was passed by California state voters to fund a \$4.1 billion "California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor for All Act of 2018." Prop 68 is intended to fund state and local parks, beaches, environmental protection and restoration, water infrastructure, and flood protection projects. An estimated \$650 million dollars has been dedicated to the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP) to be awarded on a competitive basis in the 2019 and 2020 rounds.

On February 25, 2020, the State awarded \$254.9 million in funding for 62 grants to 52 recipients under Prop 68 SPP 2019 Round. Funding awards were prioritized for the creation of new parks

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and expanding existing park. Funds were also awarded for improvements to existing parks, and the creation/renovation of recreation features. The City of Los Angeles was awarded funding of \$19,212,100 for the following four projects:

PROJECT NAME	GRANT AMOUNT	PROJECT TYPE
Allegheny Park	\$6,986,400	New Park
Brooklyn Heights Park	\$5,198,400	New Park
El Sereno Arroyo Playground Expansion	\$2,184,000	Expansion
Lincoln Heights Recreation Center	\$4,843,300	Renovation

On July 10, 2020, the State released SPP 2020 Round in the amount of \$395.3 million to be awarded. As in the SPP 2019 Round, SPP 2020 Round awards grant funds for the creation of new parks, expansion and/or improvements to existing parks, and the creation/renovation of recreation features, located in areas that either lack park space or are significantly low-income. SPP 2020 Round applications under Prop 68 are due **March 12, 2021**.

The Prop 68 funds for the SPP 2020 Round will liquidate on June 30, 2025, as approved through the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 State Budget. The State requires RAP submit a resolution for each project within 60 days of the application submission date.

The deadline to submit Proposition 68 SPP 2020 Round applications is **March 12, 2021**. Due to the time constraints of meeting with Council Offices and scheduling required community meetings affected by COVID-19, RAP staff is requesting preliminary authorization to submit applications for a list of projects which are currently being finalized based on a review of the community needs and the priorities of the respective Council Offices. RAP in determining the final list of projects will be consulting with each of the Council Offices to ensure that each respective Council Office is in accord with the project list. There is a possibility that 5 of the 21 Prop 68 SPP 2019 Round Grant applications will be resubmitted when confirmed by the Council Offices. Prior to submission of the SPP 2020 Round applications, RAP will return to the Board with the final project list, project scopes, cost estimates and any required SPP resolutions along with a request for final authorization to submit the SPP 2020 Round application.

PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Prop 68 SPP 2020 Round application puts a strong emphasis on park space in low income communities. In order to be an eligible project, the project must be located in a community that meets one of the following two criteria for a ½ mile radius around the park as defined by the California Community FactFinder website:

1. 3 acres or less of park space per 1,000 people.

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2. A median household income of \$56,982 (80% of the statewide average) or less.

RAP staff cross-checked parks through the Community FactFinder website to determine if they were a) eligible for the grant, and b) competitive compared to other parks within the City.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

As part of the Grant criteria, five community meetings must be held per project application in order for the project to receive maximum points. RAP, in partnership with the respective Council District Offices, will coordinate and host meetings prior to the application deadline of **March 12, 2021**. Due to COVID-19's impact on social gatherings the State is allowing for alternatives to in-person community-based planning meetings. For SPP 2020 Round, it is in RAP's discretion to have in-person meetings, phone conferences, or webinars, based on the local health guidelines. Constituent input will be incorporated into the design process to ensure that the park reflects the needs of the surrounding community.

ADJUSTMENTS TO PROJECT SCOPE AND GRANT AMOUNTS

RAP staff requires additional time to incorporate community input into the final applications. To commence the process needed for the submission of the SPP 2020 application, RAP is now requesting preliminary approval to submit the SPP 2020 applications. Final project list, scopes of work and cost amounts will be brought back to the Board for approval prior to RAP staff submitting the application for each respective project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Prior to undertaking the activities for which the Grant funds are being sought, as the lead agency for the projects, RAP must perform, complete, and certify the adequacy of the environmental review in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In accordance with the Prop 68 SPP guidelines, CEQA analysis for all projects must be submitted by March 2021. The appropriate CEQA documentation will be submitted for consideration when each grant-related project plan is presented before the Board for final approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no expected fiscal impact to RAP's General Fund in applying for the Prop 68 SPP funds. The maintenance costs in connection with the projects are unknown at this time.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES AND GOALS

Approval of this Board Report advances RAP's Strategic Plan by supporting:

Goal No. 1: Provide Safe and Accessible Parks
Outcome No. 1: Every Angeleno has walkable access to a park in their neighborhood.

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Key Metric: Percentage of Angelenos with park access within a ½ mile radius of their home.
Target: To be Determined when community meetings are completed.
Result: To be Determined when community meetings are completed.

This Report was prepared by Kai Wong, Senior Project Coordinator, Grants Administration, Finance Division and reviewed by Bill Jones, Chief Management Analyst, Grants Administration, Finance Division.