

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative grant funding from the Wildlife Conservation Board and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Los Angeles River Fish Habitat Pilot Project.

Recommendations for Council action, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAYOR:

1. AUTHORIZE the City Engineer to execute a grant agreement with the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) for \$5,265,505 to complete the design, construction, and monitoring of the L.A. River Fish Habitat Pilot Project-Reach 8A (Project).
2. AUTHORIZE the City Engineer to apply for a grant from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for \$2,093,840 and to execute a grant agreement with CDFW to finance the anticipated remaining cost of the Project.
3. AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Engineering (BOE), or designee, to accept the WCB and CDFW grant funds and deposit the grant funds into a new account in the Engineering Special Services Fund No. 682/50, entitled "L.A. River Fish Habitat Pilot Project", to provide the BOE with funding for Project related expenditures, including City staff costs.
4. AUTHORIZE the City Engineer, or designee, to make any technical or accounting corrections, revisions, or clarifications, as needed, to the above recommendations in order to effectuate the intent of the City Council.
5. INSTRUCT the City Administrative Officer to identify \$1.5 million in front funding for this project through CTIEP or other available options.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The BOE reports that grants discussed in the report dated January 5, 2024, attached to the file, are anticipated to cover the staff, consultant, and construction costs for the Project. However, the grants will be on a reimbursement basis and therefore will require front-funding by the City to cashflow the Project until sufficient grant reimbursements have been received. The Project has already received \$75,000 in CTIEP funding in FY 2023-24 and has a pending CTIEP request for FY 2024-25 of \$100,000.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

At a special meeting held on January 26, 2024, your Energy and Environment Committee considered a Bureau of Engineering report relative to grant funding from the Wildlife Conservation Board and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the Los Angeles River Fish Habitat Pilot Project. On November 22, 2022, the City Council adopted a motion (File No. 22-1461) authorizing the City Engineer to apply for a grant from the WCB and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) for the Project. The WCB staff have reviewed the City's application and believe that the Project has a good chance of receiving WCB board approval for funding in February 2024. However, the WCB requires a signed grant agreement prior to going to their Board to award the grant. Therefore, this report requests the authorization of the City Engineer to sign the WCB grant agreement.

After an opportunity for public comment was held, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations contained in the report dated January 5, 2024, as detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
YAROSLAVSKY:	YES
McOSKER:	YES
RAMAN:	YES
BLUMENFIELD:	YES
HERNANDEZ:	YES

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– NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS –