

RESOLUTION NO. R2020-009

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUMA, ARIZONA, AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION TO THE ARIZONA STATE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND FOR RIVERFRONT REGIONAL PARK RENOVATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States has authorized the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 (LWCF) (Public Law 88-578) to provide matching grants to States, and through the States to local governments, for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Yuma has been a(n) LWCF partner since 2001 with the development of Gateway Park, one of three Specialized Parks in the Riverfront Regional Park (Riverfront Park) system; and,

WHEREAS, the Arizona State Parks Board (Board) is responsible for the administration of the LWCF within the State of Arizona, setting up necessary rules and procedures governing application by eligible applicants under the program; and,

WHEREAS, the adopted Board application rules and procedures require the applicant to certify by resolution the approval of the application, signature authorization, the availability of local matching funds and the administrative surcharge, and authorization to execute a Project Agreement with the Board prior to submission of the application to the Board; and,

WHEREAS, the City is an eligible applicant and project sponsor, and the proposed grant project is consistent and compatible with the City of Yuma General Plan, the 2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and the updated 2017 West Wetlands Master Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed project site for the LWCF grant project is the Riverfront Park, situated along the Lower Colorado River, adjacent to neighborhoods in Census Tracts 1, 3.01, 109.13, and 109.14; and,

WHEREAS, between 50% and 72% of residents living in the census tracts adjacent to the Riverfront Park qualify as Low-to-Moderate Income (LMI) and Low Income households; and,

WHEREAS, the 19-year old, LWCF Park (Gateway) is in need of upgrades and renovations; and,

WHEREAS, maintaining existing LWCF sites in a state of good repair and condition, improving recreation service to economically-disadvantaged neighborhoods, and encouraging economic development are core program goals of the LWCF; and,

WHEREAS, Riverside and the West Wetlands Parks are the other two Specialized Parks of the Riverfront Park in need of major infrastructure development and amenity improvements; and,

WHEREAS, Riverside and the West Wetlands Parks will be added to the LWCF inventory, if awarded; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Riverfront Park Renovations and Development Project is aligned with the key objectives of Arizona's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP); and,

WHEREAS, the proposed Riverfront Regional Park Renovations and Development Project furthers Arizona's SCORP 2018-2022 Priority Issues: accessibility and inclusion; preservation and conservation; engagement, marketing, communication and education opportunities; and collaboration and partnerships; and,

WHEREAS, if awarded, the LWCF grant will cover the costs of: (i) ADA accessibility; (ii) Amenity additions; (iii) Beach soil amendments; (iv) Demolition and relocation of existing maintenance compound; (v) Engineering; (vi) Fencing; (vii) Forestation; (viii) Green waste removal; (ix) Ground demolition; (x) Irrigation; (xi) Leash-free dog park development; (xii) New compound construction; (xiii) Outdoor ecological education and outreach expansion (*emphasizing youth and minority residents*); (xiv) Paved parking construction; (xv) Phragmites mitigation; (xvi) Public restroom installation; (xvii) Ramada Construction; (xviii) Seeding; (xix) Trail additions and improvements; and (xx) Utility upgrades; and,

WHEREAS, if awarded, the City is committed to paying the grant's 10% administrative fee (\$50,000), as well as, a 50% (\$500,000) in-kind match in the form of salaries, fringe benefits, materials, supplies, marketing, and operating expenses of City-owned construction equipment.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Yuma as follows:

SECTION 1: An application to the Board for LWCF financial assistance through the 2020 grant funding cycle is approved.

SECTION 2: The grant application is consistent and compatible with the City's General Plan, the 2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the updated 2017 West Wetlands Master Plan, and all other adopted plans and programs of the City for urban park development.

SECTION 3: The City certifies its compliance with all appropriate procedures, guidelines, and requirements established by the Board as a part of the application process.

SECTION 4: If awarded, the City will comply with any and all State and federal regulations, policies, procedures, guidelines, and requirements that relate to the LWCF grant application.

SECTION 5: The City certifies that, if awarded, the City will provide matching funds of \$500,000 from in-kind contributions, and will also contribute \$50,000 to satisfy the required 10% administrative fee.

SECTION 6: The City Administrator, is authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to conduct negotiations and execute all documents, to include the Project Agreement, to carry out the purpose and intent of this Resolution.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____, 2020.

APPROVED:

Douglas J. Nicholls
Mayor

ATTESTED:

Lynda L. Bushong
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FROM:

Richard W. Files
City Attorney