

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Matthew Fertal
Dept.: City Manager
Subject: HABITAT CONSERVATION FUND PROGRAM GRANT RESOLUTION

From: Kimberly Huy
Dept.: Community Services
Date: September 25, 2007

OBJECTIVE

That the City Council adopt a Resolution approving an application for a Habitat Conservation Fund Program Grant, which would assist in funding an outdoor education program targeted at youth ages 13 to 17.

BACKGROUND

The Habitat Conservation Fund Program allocates funds each year to the California Department of Parks and Recreation "to provide grants to local entities...to provide for nature interpretation programs and other programs, which bring urban residents into parks and wildlife areas." Staff has reviewed the grant criteria and determined that the Garden Grove Outdoor Recreation Program (GGORP), which seeks to provide outdoor activities for youth and families and includes the elements of discovery, skill and service, would be an eligible program.

DISCUSSION

Each year, GGORP has provided Garden Grove residents with a variety of outdoor experiences including hiking, kayaking, camping and sailing. All of these activities take place fairly close to the City. This grant would allow staff to plan more extensive outdoor experiences specifically targeted at youth ages 13 to 17.

The proposed program would be conducted in partnership with existing agencies or programs, which host group activities of this type. As this is a multi-year program, and funds received are expendable over a five-year period, the program can be conducted each year for five years, reaching approximately 30 youth each year. The actual activity would change every year, and would include weeklong excursions in a variety of settings. The goal of the program is to provide new experiences for youth who would not otherwise have the opportunity, and thereby encourage them to make the outdoors a more integral part of their lives. These experiences will also educate participants about a variety of natural habitats and provide healthy activities to foster health and wellness skills.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The grant requires a 50% match. As in-kind matches are allowable, there is sufficient funding in the division budget through in-kind salaries and direct expenditures to allocate \$5,000 each year for the five years of the program. This would allow the City to apply for \$25,000 in matching grant funding.

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COMMUNITY VISION IMPLEMENTATION

This supports the community vision to “sponsor high-quality community events and recreational opportunities.”

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that City Council:

- Adopt the attached Resolution approving an application for grant funds from the Habitat Conservation Fund Program

KIMBERLY HUY
Director

By: Pilar Alcivar McCoy
Recreation and Human Services Manager

Attachment: Resolution