



## AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

### CITY OF HAWTHORNE City Council AGENDA BILL

For the meeting of February 13, 2024

Originating Department: City Manager

City Manager:

  
Vontray Norris

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#### SUBJECT:

Allocation of the RPOSD Technical Assistant Program Fund for the City Hall Expansion and Civic Park Project

#### RECOMMENDED MOTION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approves, receives and file this report.

#### DISCUSSION:

During the September 12, 2023 meeting, City Council directed staff to look into the RPOSD Technical Assistant Program Fund. The Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District is tasked with overseeing and executing the 2016 Los Angeles County Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks and Beaches Measure, commonly known as Measure A. In November 2016, 75% of Los Angeles County voters approved Measure A. This measure enables the allocation of exclusive local funding for projects associated with parks, recreation and open spaces, as well as their continuous upkeep. This funding is facilitated through an annual special tax levied on real property within the County.

Measure A makes available financial resources to eligible applicants for a variety of projects, encompassing the restoration and improvement of parks and recreational facilities, the creation of new parks, the preservation and safeguarding of open spaces and beaches, and the promotion of recreational programs. It set aside a separate fund categorized as TAP Multi-Jurisdictional funding allocations for projects that span across multiple cities and unincorporated areas.

The City applied for and was approved \$285,000 in funding for the civic park portion of the City Hall Expansion and Civic Park Project.

The funding will focus on enhancing accessibility while creating a green space for residents and

staff to enjoy as part of the City Hall Expansion and Civic Park Project, serving as a hub for relaxation, recreation, and community gatherings. It will include a design for sustainable landscaping with greenery, benches and recreational activities, emphasizing environmental sustainability with native plantings and energy-efficient lighting. It will also support community outreach, engagement efforts, and necessary design and environmental studies.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Investing in parks, recreational facilities, and open spaces in the City of Hawthorne can significantly support its economic development strategic plan in several ways. Well-maintained parks and attractive open spaces can become destinations for tourists, leading to increased tourism-related spending in the City, benefiting local businesses like hotels, restaurants, and shops.

Well-maintained parks and green spaces can enhance property values in the surrounding areas. Higher property values can result in increased property tax revenues for the City, contributing to its financial stability. In addition, parks and recreational activities often serve as hubs for community gatherings and events. These activities can foster a sense of community and belonging, which can have a positive impact on civic engagement and social cohesion. Lastly, green spaces contribute to improved air and water quality and help mitigate the urban heat island effect. These environmental benefits can make the city a more attractive and sustainable place to live and do business.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None. The amount of \$285,000 is available in the adopted fiscal year's budget and will be funded with the Technical Assistance Program Funds.

**NOTICING PROCEDURES:**

72 hours posted notice pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

None