Atascadero City Council
Staff Report – Public Works Department

Atascadero Creek Trail and Restoration Project

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Council:

1. Adopt the Draft Resolution authorizing filing of an application for grant funds from the River Parkways Grant Program; and,

2. Authorize the Public Works Director to sign Amendment #2 to the Grant Agreement which transfers the Grant to the City of Atascadero and extends the project performance period to May 1, 2011.

DISCUSSION:

Background: The Upper Salinas-Las Tables Resource Conservation District (RCD) was awarded an $833,868.00 grant from the Resource Agency of the State of California in 2003 for the design and construction of the Atascadero Creek Trail and Restoration Project (Project). The Project is funded through Proposition 40 - River Parkways Grant Projects (Grant).

A portion of the trail and restoration work was completed by the RCD along Atascadero Creek between Portola Road and San Gabriel Road and at Atascadero Lake Park (Reach Two). The portion of the trail not completed is inside the Caltrans right-of-way and was not completed due to issues Caltrans had with the design. The RCD and Caltrans state that these issues have been resolved.

Reach (or Section) One of the Project is for trail and restoration work along Atascadero Creek from El Camino Real east toward the Salinas River. This work has not been started.

The City has received a request from the RCD to take over the Grant and complete the Project. The reason the RCD gave for this request is “serious financial issues with the
way that the Resources Agency administered the Grant.” The City Council directed staff to accept the remaining Grant for the Atascadero Creek Trail and Restoration Project on February 12, 2008. The remaining budget is $486,366.00.

Analysis: The Public Works staff met with the Grants Administrator for the Resources Agency of the State of California and developed the following schedule for the project:

August 12, 2008 City Council – Resolution accepting Grant
September 2008 City to receive authorization on Grant from the State
Fall-Winter 2008-09 Revise plans for Reach Two. Obtain permit from Caltrans
Summer 2009 Complete construction of Reach Two
Summer 2009 Public Process on Reach One
Winter 2010 Design Reach One
Summer 2010 Construct Reach One
Fall 2010 Complete project
May 1, 2011 Funding expires

Conclusion: The Project can be completed in the revised timeline. Additional funding from another source will be needed. The additional funds can be programmed in the 2009-2011 Atascadero City Budget. Funding will reduce other projects included in the 5 Year Capital Improvement Program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The remaining balance of the Grant is as follows:

$ 35,600.00 Design and right-of-way
$ 442,566.00 Construction
$ 8,200.00 Contingency
$ 486,366.00

The design and right-of-way portion of the Grant will be insufficient to complete the redesign of Reach One and design and right-of-way of Reach Two. The public process, design, right-of-way and construction of this project could cost the City an estimated additional $200,000.00.
It is recommended that the City use the Grant funds to complete Reach Two first. At the same time Staff will begin to calculate additional funding needed to complete Reach One. Based on this information, Staff will recommend funding needed to complete the Atascadero Creek Trail and Restoration Project in a 2009-2011 Atascadero City Budget request process.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment #1 – Draft Resolution authorizing filing of an application for grant funds from the River Parkways Grant Program
Attachment #2 - Amendment #2 to Grant Agreement