



AGENDA REPORT

TO: Edward D. Reiskin
City Administrator

FROM: G. Harold Duffey
Director, Oakland Public
Works

SUBJECT: Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant
Application

DATE: November 8, 2021

City Administrator Approval

Date: Nov 22, 2021

RECOMMENDATION

Staff Recommends That City Council Adopt A Resolution: (1) Authorizing The City Administrator To Apply For Accept, And Appropriate Grant Funds From The Proposition 68 – Per Capita Program Grant For The 85th Avenue Mini Park Tot Lot Replacement Project (No. 1006223) For An Amount Not-To-Exceed Seventy-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$77,000) And The Holly Mini Park Renovation Project (No.1004866) For An Amount Not-To-Exceed One Hundred Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$100,952); And (2) Adopting Appropriate California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Findings.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Approval of this resolution will authorize the City Administrator to apply for, accept, and appropriate grant funds from the Proposition 68 – Per Capita Grant program for the 85th Avenue Mini Park Tot Lot Replacement Project (85th Avenue Project) and the Holly Mini Park Renovation Project (Holly Park Project).

The 85th Avenue Project (Council District 6) and the Holly Park Project (Council District 7) meet the Per Capita Program Grant goals to improve access to safe outdoor space, increase social cohesion, and boost outdoor activities among children and adults in a high-crime neighborhood of East Oakland. These two projects are recommended for the grant because they meet the grant criteria, will leverage other available funds, and can be completed by the grant deadline. The City Council's approval of this resolution is required for staff to apply for, accept and appropriate the Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant funding. Approval of this resolution will fully fund the two projects by leveraging existing project funding.

BACKGROUND / LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

California voters passed the ballot measure known as Proposition 68 on June 5, 2018. The General Per Capita Grant Program is funded under Proposition 68 for local park rehabilitation, creation, and improvement to local government on a per capita basis. Grant recipients are encouraged to utilize awards to rehabilitate existing infrastructure and address deficiencies in neighborhoods lacking access to the outdoors.

City Council
December 7, 2021

The grant program goals include: addressing a critical statewide need through public benefits provided by the project, developing future recreational opportunities, providing workforce education and training, contractor and job opportunities for disadvantaged communities, and supporting strong sustainability targets. Grant recipients must also demonstrate proven organizational capacity to deliver the project.

In collaboration with the Oakland Parks, Recreation and Youth Development Department (OPRYD), Oakland Public Works (OPW) staff used a multi-pronged approach discussed below to identify eligible projects among existing capital projects and unfunded projects that could meet the requirements outlined in the Proposition 68 Per Capita Guide.

ANALYSIS AND POLICY ALTERNATIVES

Staff applied the following Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant criteria to identify project candidates for the grant:

1. Project must be a public recreational purpose, either acquisition or development. For example, renovating a gymnasium that includes office space for staff is eligible; renovating City office buildings is not.
2. Project must be a capital outlay – building something new, or for existing structures, activities intended to boost the condition beyond its original or current state.
3. Project must be accessible, including an accessible path of travel to the project.
4. Funds must be used to supplement local revenues in existence.
5. Pre-construction costs may not exceed 25% of the grant amount if the entire grant is used for one project.
6. Project is constructed by December 31, 2023.

Staff reviewed a list of current projects that needed additional funding and reviewed the unfunded capital project list to evaluate potential grant candidates that could meet the grant restrictions. The 85th Avenue Project and Holly Mini Project were determined to be the most suitable projects that met all the grant criteria.

The 85th Avenue Mini Park is located at 1712 85th Avenue in the Elmhurst neighborhood of East Oakland (see **Attachment A – Project Location Map**). The existing tot-lot play structure is suited for children between the ages of two to five years old but is in a state of disrepair and in need of replacement. In addition, the fall zones beneath the play structure are a combination of very worn poured-in-place safety surface and tanbark and are in need of replacement to provide easy access to the play structure.

According to the Oakland Equity Map, approximately 4,600 people live in this High Priority Neighborhood, including People of Color (97.9%), Low-Income People (53.8%), People with Low Educational Attainment (92.4%), Households with Limited English Proficiency (16.8%), and Single Parents (35.5%). The ethnic demographic of this community is primarily Latino (64 percent) and African American (27 percent). Based on census tract data, the Oakland Equity Map, developed by the Oakland Department of Transportation, gives Oakland neighborhoods a level of priority between lowest and highest determined by seven demographic factors: People of Color; Low-Income Households; People with Disabilities; Seniors 65 Years and Over; Single Parent Families; Severely Rent-Burdened Households; and Low Educational Attainment. Neighborhoods are then assigned a lowest, low, medium, high, or highest priority level.

Staff collaborated with OPRYD and the OPW Bureau of Maintenance & Internal Services (BMIS) to identify small projects that would meet the grant criteria and could be completed by the grant deadline. It was determined that replacing only the tot lot and play surface at the 85th Avenue Park could be achieved by leveraging the Proposition 68 Per Capita funds with existing Measure Q funds programmed for this park.

Holly Mini Park is located at 9830 Holly Street in the Elmhurst neighborhood of East Oakland (see **Attachment A – Project Location Map**). The Park is 50-60 years old and in need of refurbishment. The playground suffers from dilapidated play equipment, worn play surfaces that do not meet safety standards, aged park furnishings, and uneven pavement.

Approximately 12,000 people live within a 0.5-mile radius of the park, including roughly 3,400 children under 18. The Park is also located in a High Priority Neighborhood. This population is primarily Latino (58%) and African American (28%), and 62% of households earn less than \$50,000 annually. The Park is used daily by residents and is adjacent to Monarch Academy, a K-5 elementary school that has expressed interest in using the park for class excursions.

The project earned a prioritization score of 54.25 in the adopted FY 2019-21 CIP and received an allocation of Measure KK Bond funding. Proposition 68 Per Capita funds are needed to leverage existing funds to begin the construction phase.

Approval of this resolution advances the Citywide priorities to support **holistic community safety**. In accordance with the Per Capita Grant guidelines, grant recipients are encouraged to rehabilitate existing infrastructure to address deficiencies in neighborhoods lacking access to the outdoors. Both projects meet the Per Capita Program Grant goals to improve access to safe outdoor space, increase social cohesion, and boost outdoor activities among children and adults in a high-crime neighborhood of East Oakland.

Passage of this resolution will enable the City to provide **vibrant, sustainable infrastructure** by replacing a tot lot in disrepair, and by renovating a dilapidated neighborhood park.

FISCAL IMPACT

Approval of the proposed resolution will authorize staff to seek \$177,952 in grant funding from the Proposition 68 Per Capita Grant Program for the 85th Avenue Project and Holly Park Project. The grant is administered on a reimbursement basis. There is no immediate fiscal impact. Should the City be successful and awarded the grant, staff will establish new award numbers for California Parks and Recreation Funds (2134) within Capital Project Organization (30551) Project No. 1006223 for 85th Avenue Mini Park, and within Capital Project Organization (92270), Project No. 1004866 for Holly Mini Park.

PUBLIC OUTREACH / INTEREST

The community strongly supports the rehabilitation of the 85th Avenue Mini Park. During the community intake process of the FY 2021-23 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget, community members requested funding for a comprehensive park renovation project. The full renovation project earned a score of 50 points out of 100 through the Council-adopted

prioritization methodology contained in the CIP budgeting process. This score was not high enough to be recommended for Measure KK Bond funds and was placed on the unfunded project list of the adopted FY 21-23 CIP. During the Proposition 68 Per Capita grant vetting process, staff collaborated with OPRYD and BMIS to identify small projects that would meet the grant criteria and could be completed by the grant deadline. It was determined that replacing only the tot lot and play surface at the 85th Avenue Park could be completed by leveraging the Proposition 68 Per Capita funds with existing Measure Q funds maintenance programmed for this park.

The community also strongly supports the rehabilitation of the Holly Mini Park. For the Holly Mini Park renovation project, the Safety Impact Table group started the project scoping in April 2018, and Oakland Parks and Recreation Foundation (OPRF) began collaborating in May 2018. Community outreach began in May 2018 when the Beat 32X Neighborhood Crime Prevention Committee joined the effort. The first public meeting was held in June 2018. Community representatives comprised of residents in the area, working with OPRF, conducted surveys to compile data and feedback regarding residents' vision for their community. The preliminary design was completed through pro bono services from local landscape architectural firms. The project earned a prioritization score of 54.25 in the adopted FY 19-21 CIP and received an allocation of Measure KK (General Obligation Bond) and Measure HH (Sugar-Sweetened Beverages Tax) funds. The Proposition 68 Per Capita funds are needed to leverage these existing funds to close the construction funding gap.

COORDINATION

This report was prepared and reviewed in coordination with the OPRYD and BMIS. The proposed recommendations and report have been reviewed by the Budget Bureau and the City Attorney's Office.

SUSTAINABLE OPPORTUNITIES

Economic: The application for the grant has no immediate economic impact. However, should the City be successful in obtaining these capital improvement grant funds, businesses associated with the implementation of the projects will receive economic opportunities through contracting for services, construction, material, and supplies.

Environmental: As part of the City's policies and mandates, capital improvement projects must meet various environmental and sustainable programs such as the City of Oakland Green Infrastructure Guide, Bay Friendly Landscaping, etc. These rehabilitation projects will improve the aesthetics and physical conditions of the existing parks and provide continued opportunities for healthy play activity for the community.

Race and Equity: The projects will be developed to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements through design and construction and will enhance the enjoyment of these mini-parks for all ages and abilities. The Projects include new safety surfacing, which will make the entire playground areas accessible, and the new play equipment will feature play components upholding the City's inclusivity policies. Additionally, the Projects will directly benefit the population in the immediate vicinity of the park, where 62 percent of households earn less than \$50,000 annually.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT ("CEQA") REVIEW/FINDINGS

The two projects are exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15268 (Ministerial Projects), 15183 (Projects Consistent with a Community Plan, General Plan or Zoning), 15302 (Replacement or Reconstruction), 15303 (Small Structures), 15304(h) (Minor Alterations to Land), and/or 15061(b)(3) (No Significant Effect on the Environment). Each of the above exemptions provides a separate and independent basis for CEQA compliance.

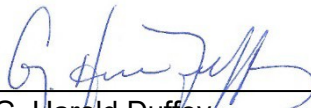
Along with the submittal of the grant application, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination will be completed to meet grant requirements as well as during project implementation if funded.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Staff Recommends That City Council Adopt A Resolution: (1) Authorizing The City Administrator To Apply For, Accept, and Appropriate Grant Funds From the Proposition 68 – Per Capita Program Grant for the 85th Avenue Mini Park Tot Lot Replacement Project (No. TBD) For An Amount Not-To-Exceed Seventy-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$77,000) and the Holly Mini Park Renovation Project (No.1004866) For An Amount Not-To-Exceed One Hundred Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty-Two Dollars (\$100,952); And (2) Adopting Appropriate California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Findings.

For questions regarding this report, please contact Calvin Hao, Acting Division Manager for the Project & Grant Management Division, at (510) 238-7395.

Respectfully submitted,



G. Harold Duffey
Director, Oakland Public Works

Reviewed by:
Matthew Lee, Interim Assistant Director
Bureau of Design & Construction

Reviewed by:
Craig Pon, Capital Improvement Project
Coordinator
Bureau of Maintenance & Internal Services

Prepared by:
Calvin Hao, Acting Division Manager
Project & Grant Management Division

Attachments (1):
A. Project Location Map

