

**MEMORANDUM
DEPARTMENT OF FACILITY SERVICES
COUNTY OF PLACER**

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: *MD* Mary Dietrich, Facility Services Director
Mark Rideout, Deputy Director

Date: February 3, 2015

Subject: Housing Related Park Grant – Hidden Falls Connectivity

ACTION REQUESTED:

1. Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Director of Facility Services, or designee, to submit an application for up to \$196,700 to the State Department of Housing and Community Development's Housing Related Parks Program to fund environmental review for the Hidden Falls Trail Connectivity Project, and to execute any and all documents on behalf of the County that are necessary for the application, acceptance and administration of said grant, at no net County cost.

BACKGROUND: The Housing Related Parks Program (HRP) provides non-competitive grant opportunities that derive funding from the Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006 (Proposition 1C). For the 2014-2015 program year, the HRP will provide park/recreational development funding to cities and counties based on the number and nature of building permits issued for low income housing units during the preceding years. In order to qualify, the number of eligible units must reach a threshold level to qualify for a minimum grant value of \$75,000 according to detailed criteria. At the end of December 2014, Facility Services was notified the 64-unit Quartz Ridge Project in Auburn allows Placer County to apply for a \$196,700 HRP grant.

Facility Services reviewed planned projects in the Auburn area, and recommends applying for HRP grant funding to complete environmental review for a future Hidden Falls Regional Park Trail Connectivity project (Project). In 2013, the 1,200-acre Hidden Falls Regional Park (Hidden Falls) was opened to the public with a parking area, restrooms, picnic facilities, overlook decks, and 30 miles of multi-use trails. Hidden Falls is the keystone facility in a regional vision to protect nearly 4,000 acres of foothill habitat with a public trail network of regional significance. Placer County has now acquired continuous public trail rights, from Hidden Falls to the Bear River, which can provide public access to a total of more than 45 miles of trails that are conceptually depicted on Exhibit A. The next step toward realization of this trail network is the environmental review that staff recommends for this HRP grant application. Completion of environmental review, including the necessary resource and traffic studies, is expected to be beneficial in the search for funding to complete construction of the Project. The Project is expected to be constructed in phases as funding for construction and maintenance permits.

Grant guidelines require applications be submitted by February 5, 2015, and the HRP program requires grant funds be spent prior to April 2017. It is anticipated the level of funding provided by the grant is sufficient to fully fund the environmental review required to permit the Project. Further, staff hopes through consultant negotiations and pending environmental clearance there may be HRP grant monies remaining to construct a portion of the trail extending easterly from Hidden Falls to a scenic overlook.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE: Adoption of this Resolution by definition does not constitute a project pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act, Section 15378(b)(4) and (5).

FISCAL IMPACT: The application for \$196,700 in HRP funding is expected to be sufficient to complete environmental review of the Hidden Falls Trail Connectivity Project. Completion of environmental review is expected to be beneficial in the search for additional funding to complete construction of the project. Prior to any construction, staff will return to your Board with a recommendation for construction and ongoing maintenance funding. There are no match requirements for HRP funding, and management of an awarded grant would be accomplished by existing Facility Services' staff. There is no net County cost associated with this action.

ATTACHMENT: EXHIBIT A – HIDDEN FALLS REGIONAL PARK FUTURE TRAIL CONNECTIVITY
RESOLUTION

CC: COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE

MD/MR/JR/AF/KT

T/F/BOS2015/HOUSING RELATED GRANT APP 2014-15.DOCX

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

**In the matter of: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
APPLICATION FOR, ACCEPTANCE, AND
ADMINISTRATION OF A HOUSING RELATED PARKS
GRANT**

Resol. No. _____

The following **RESOLUTION** was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____, 2015, by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chair, Board of Supervisors

Attest: Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, The State of California, Department of Housing and Community Development (Housing Department) has issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), dated October 2, 2013, under its Housing Related Parks Program (HRP); and,

WHEREAS, the County of Placer, a political subdivision of the State of California, (Applicant) desires to apply for a HRP Program Grant and submit the 2014 Designated Program Year Application Package released by the Housing Department for the HRP Program; and,

WHEREAS, the Housing Department is authorized to approve funding allocations for the HRP Program, subject to the terms and conditions of the NOFA, Program Guidelines, Application Package, and Standard Agreement;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

1. Applicant is hereby authorized and directed to apply for and submit to the Housing Department the HRP Program Application Package released December 2014 for the 2014 Designated Program Year in an amount not-to-exceed \$196,700.00. If the application is approved, the Applicant is hereby authorized and directed to enter into, execute, and deliver to the State of California Standard Agreement (Standard Agreement) in an amount not-to-exceed \$196,700.00 and any and all other documents required or deemed necessary or appropriate to

secure the HRP Program Grant from the Housing Department, and all amendments thereto (collectively, the "HRP Grant Documents").

2. Applicant shall be subject to the terms and conditions as specified in the Standard Agreement. Funds are to be used for allowable capital asset project expenditures to be identified in Exhibit A of the Standard Agreement. The application in full is incorporated as part of the Standard Agreement. Any and all activities funded, information provided, and timelines represented in the application are enforceable through the Standard Agreement. Applicant hereby agrees to use the funds for eligible capital asset(s) in the manner presented in the application as approved by the Housing Department and in accordance with the NOFA and Program Guidelines and Application Package.
3. The Director of Facility Services, or designee, is authorized to execute in the name of the Applicant the HRP Program Application Package and the HRP Grant Documents as required by the Housing Department for participation in the HRP Program, and further to accept and thereafter administer the HRP Grant.

