

The County of Yuba



TO: Land Use & Public Works Committee

FROM: Community Development and Services, Michael Lee

SUBJECT: Project approval for the use of Per Capita Program grant funding related to the Parks and Water Bond Act of 2018 (Proposition 68)

DATE: April 27, 2021

NUMBER: 198/2021

Recommendation

Staff recommends that your Board allocate Yuba County's share of the Per Capita Program grant funding from the Parks and Water Bond Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) to the following two projects. Project A will construct a 0.48-mile segment of a proposed bike and pedestrian path in Plumas Lake. Project B will improve and expand usable parkland at Sycamore Ranch, part of which will add additional camping capacity.

Background

The grant program originates from Proposition 68, placed on the ballot via Senate Bill 5 (DeLeon, Chapter 852, statutes of 2017), and approved by voters on June 5, 2018. Funds are available for local park rehabilitation, creation, and improvement grants to local governments on a per capita basis. Projects must be capital outlay for recreational purposes, either acquisition or development. The allocation for the General Per Capita funds for Yuba County is \$400,000. Projects not serving a "severely disadvantaged community" (median household income less than 60% of the statewide average) require a 20% match. Grantees must use Per Capita grant funds to supplement existing expenditures, rather than replace them.

This funding should be distinguished as a separate opportunity from similar funding opportunities related to the passage of Proposition 68. The other grant funding opportunities are competitive, whereas, this is a non-competitive funding grant, allocated based on population.

Yuba County has an adopted Bikeway Master Plan (Final – December 2012), furthermore, an adopted General Plan (2030 General Plan), the Plumas Lake Specific Plan (adopted August 1993), as well as the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Master Plan that all speak to the development of bicycle paths within the Valley Growth Boundary.

On January 14, 2020, the Board of Supervisors gave direction to continue the pursuit of a 7.3-mile bike and pedestrian path surrounding Plumas Lake (644/2019).

Sycamore Ranch currently has fifty-six available campsites. A steady increase in occupancy has been witnessed over recent years, often times with all campsites filled on weekends (pre-Covid, when we did not have to limit access).

Discussion

The two proposed projects will serve the local communities and add to the regional draw. The projects will increase both the aesthetic appeal and the usability of public lands, and promote health in the community through creating engaging spaces for outdoor recreation. The subject land for both proposed projects is currently owned by the County. Therefore, costs of acquisition are avoided, and funds can be focused on site improvements. According to the Office of Grants and Local Services, a part of the California Department of Parks and Recreation, both proposed project locations do not serve a “severely disadvantaged community” (median household income less than 60% of the statewide average) within the required proximity. This means a local match of 20% is required of the County.

PROJECT A

Project A is construction of a 0.48-mile bike and pedestrian path segment that will be the first segment of a larger and eventual 7.3-mile bike and pedestrian path around Plumas Lake. It will consist of a 10-foot wide, two-way, paved bike and pedestrian path accessible to non-motorized traffic. It will begin on the south side of Feather River Boulevard, 750-feet west of River Oaks Boulevard, and it will wrap along the perimeter of the neighborhood, traveling southeasterly, and terminating at the base of the Bear River levee. The route will be accessible from Feather River Boulevard, Windsor Court, Greenbrae Court, Glenhaven Court, Ventana Court, Dos Rios Court, and Atherton Way. *See Attachment A.*

PROJECT B

Project B consists of a series of beautification, safety, and camp expansion projects at Sycamore Ranch. Primarily, Project B will develop an additional 65,000 square feet of campground space. As usage and popularity of the park has increased, the demand for more camping has increased. This area has the potential to open up ten to twenty new sites, serving public demand and increasing operating revenues. The proposed area is in the northeast corner of the park on an oak and pine woodland hill. Another component of this project will improve the surrounding aesthetics of the newly installed restroom facilities building by installing landscape and supportive irrigation. Lastly, Project B will install lighting and signage for safety in various locations throughout the park.

Fiscal Impact:

General Fund: None

Non-General Fund:

\$400,000 Per Capita Grant funds

Approximately \$50,000 local match from Trust Fund 188 (Countywide Traffic Impact Fees)

Approximately \$30,000 local match from Trust Fund 189 (Park Land Fees)

Current estimates for allocating Per Capita funds is \$250,000 to Project A and \$150,000 to Project B.

Allocations may be shifted between the projects based on construction costs. The local match estimates would shift accordingly.

Attachments

ATTACHMENT A – BIKE PATH SEGMENT MAP