



REPORT TO COUNCIL City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604
www.CityofSacramento.org

CONSENT
March 6, 2007

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Title: Additional City Contribution to the American River Parkway Plan Update

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Adopt a **Resolution:** 1) authorizing the City Manager to make a payment in the amount of \$100,000 from Regional Parkways, CIP LV82, to the County of Sacramento for the 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update process.

Contact: J.P. Tindell, Interim Planning and Development Manager, 808-1955

Presenters: Not applicable

Department: Parks and Recreation

Division: Park Planning, Design & Development

Organization No: 4727

Description/Analysis

Issue: The entire budget for the draft 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update process is estimated to be \$989,343, including the Integrated Area Planning (IAP) Phase which spotlights the area of the Parkway within the City of Sacramento. The City of Sacramento contributed \$50,000 to the IAP phase in 2005 which focused on the area of the Parkway within the City of Sacramento. Sacramento County staff has requested a pro-rated share, an additional \$100,000, from the City to contribute towards the 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update process which includes the establishment of Parkway-wide and area specific policies, land use and supporting narrative.

Background information is provided in Attachment 1 (page 4).

Policy Considerations: The preliminary draft of the 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update is consistent with the City's Smart Growth Principles in that it promotes the preservation of a critical environmental area within the urban

environment, while allowing the City to concentrate infill development within the urban core. The 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update is also consistent with the vision and guiding principles for the General Plan Update by allowing improved public access to the American River Parkway.

The 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update is also consistent with the Conservation and Open Space element of the General Plan in that it provides for the conservation and protection of the planned open space areas along the American River, and un-developable floodplains to the extent possible.

Providing parks and recreation facilities is consistent with the City's strategic plan to enhance livability in Sacramento's neighborhoods by expanding park, recreation, and trail facilities throughout the City.

Committee/Commission Action: No previous action has been taken on this item. The Planning Commission recommended that the City Council move forward with the process of updating the Parkway Plan by initiating the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process; the lead agency for this process is the County of Sacramento. The update was also presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review and comment on November 2, 2006, and the Planning Commission on December 7, 2006.

Environmental Considerations: This report concerns administrative activities that will not have a significant effect on the environment, and does not constitute a "project" as defined by the CEQA [CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3); 15378(b)(2)].

Rationale for Recommendation: Much of the 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update discussion has been focused on the area within the City of Sacramento; key issues important to the City, including public safety and visual impacts from adjacent land uses, have been resolved, but the process has not been completed. The additional \$100,000 requested will be applied towards the non-IAP portions of the 2006 Updated Parkway Plan draft which include developing Parkway policies, associated narrative, area-specific policies and land uses.

Financial Considerations: There are sufficient funds in CIP LV82 to issue the payment to the County of Sacramento.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD): Not applicable

Respectfully Submitted by:


CASSANDRA H. B. JENNINGS
Assistant City Manager

Recommendation Approved:

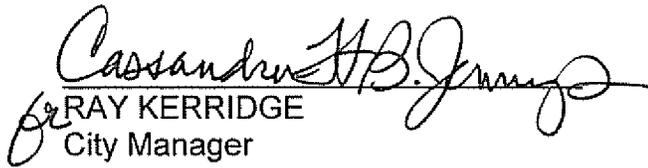

RAY KERRIDGE
City Manager

Table of Contents:

Report	pg. 1
Attachments	
1 Background	pg. 4
2 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update, Budget Summary	pg. 6
3 Resolution	pg. 7

Attachment 1

Background Information

The American River Parkway (Parkway) is a river corridor which functions as a floodway and regional park that extends approximately 29 miles from the Folsom Dam to the Sacramento River. The American River Parkway Plan (Parkway Plan) is a land use and policy document that guides the development and management of the Parkway. The Parkway Plan is adopted by local jurisdictions and the State Legislature. The City and County of Sacramento were the local adopting agencies for the 1985 Parkway Plan. Since 1985, the City of Rancho Cordova, whose boundaries include a portion of the Parkway, was incorporated and has become the third local adopting agency.

In 2003, local governing bodies approved a process for the update and formed the Update Citizens Advisory Committee (UCAC) to work with staff on drafting an Updated Parkway Plan. The UCAC was formed of representatives from various recreation and environmental groups and appointments from both cities and the county. The update process is also guided by the Project Management Team (PMT). This team consists of management staff from the participating agencies: the City of Sacramento, the County of Sacramento, the City of Rancho Cordova, the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, the Water Forum, and Cal Expo.

The 2006 Updated Parkway Plan represents the recommendations of the UCAC and a few additions by the PMT as described in the joint staff report, prepared by the County of Sacramento and Cities of Sacramento and Rancho Cordova. The report was prepared for a broad audience including, but not limited to, the Board of Supervisors and the two City Councils. The joint staff report provides information on the changes to the 1985 Parkway Plan and the discussion that led to those changes. Of approximately 200 issues discussed, there was resolution on all but two land use issues. However, these unresolved issues involve only the City of Rancho Cordova and the County of Sacramento.

Issues of City Interest

Key issues important for the City of Sacramento have been adequately resolved.

Activating the Parkway

City staff identified activation of the Parkway as a way to address public safety within the Parkway. Discussions on access and uses of the Parkway resulted in the proposal to allow new uses and facilities, expand existing facilities, and provide more access points into the Parkway.

Public Safety

Safety and enforcement staff from several agencies were involved in the development of policies and implementation measures to help transition portions of the Parkway that have been impacted by illegal camping into a more appropriate use of the Parkway. New emergency access points, fire breaks, and roads were also identified.

The California Indian Heritage Center (CIHC)

The size and programming of the CIHC and its visual and physical impacts on the Parkway and its natural resources were highly debated. The result was a compromise that the CIHC could have components both within the Parkway and in the Richard's Boulevard Redevelopment/River District Area, thus reducing the footprint and impact of a large facility while accommodating the programming requirements of the CIHC.

Visual Intrusion

A challenge for the update was to address "visual intrusion" issues while avoiding policy language might unnecessarily constrain the City's ability to accommodate the growth anticipated by the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) Blueprint, and implement the Vision and Guiding Principles for the City's General Plan Update. The drafted Parkway Plan provides guidance and tools for local jurisdictions to consider in regulating development on land adjacent to the Parkway.

Downtown/Natomas/Airport-Regional Transit (DNA-RT) Line Crossing

The drafted Parkway Plan recognizes the DNA-RT alignment that was approved by the Regional Transit Board of Directors in December 2003, and contains new policies intended to reduce the impact of the DNA-RT bridge crossing over the Parkway.

Community Outreach

One phase of the 2006 Updated Parkway Plan focused on the area within the City of Sacramento. Three community workshops were held during this planning effort. Additionally, all of the UCAC meetings were publicly noticed and an opportunity for public input was provided. There were a total of 34 UCAC meetings.

Next Steps

On January 16, 2007, the City Council approved sending the 2006 Updated Parkway Plan draft to undergo environmental review pursuant to CEQA. Once the EIR is complete, the document will return to local jurisdictions and finally, the State Legislature for final adoption.

The County of Sacramento, Department of Planning and Community Development, is managing this process, including the budget aspects of the project. County staff estimates the total amount of the Update will be \$989,343. This includes the following: the development of Parkway wide policies; the Integrated Area Planning (IAP) phase which focused on the area of the Parkway within the City of Sacramento; the identification of appropriate land uses; and the update of three area plans, all within the City of Sacramento.

The City of Sacramento has previously paid \$50,000 towards the IAP phase in 2005. The additional \$100,000 requested will be applied towards the non-IAP portions of the 2006 Updated Parkway Plan draft which include developing Parkway policies, associated narrative, area-specific policies and land uses.

Attachment 2

**2006 American River Parkway Plan
Budget Summary**

	TOTAL	Integrated Area Planning (IAP)	Non-IAP	CEQA
Project Costs	\$989,343	\$410,000	\$479,343	\$100,000
Funding Sources				
Cal Expo	50,000		50,000	
City of Rancho Cordova	0		0	
<i>City of Sacramento</i>	<i>150,000*</i>	<i>50,000</i>	<i>100,000</i>	
Grant**	250,000	250,000		
Sacramento County	254,343		154,343	100,000
SAFCA	145,000	110,000	35,000	
Water Forum	140,000		140,000	

*Includes the proposed contribution of \$100,000

**California Bay Delta Authority, Department of Water Resources (DOES NOT INCLUDE STAFF TIME)

RESOLUTION NO. 2007-
Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

March 6, 2007

**APPROVING THE ADDITIONAL CITY CONTRIBUTION
TO THE AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY PLAN UPDATE**

BACKGROUND

- A. The American River Parkway is a river corridor which functions as a floodway and regional park that extends approximately 29 miles from the Folsom Dam to the Sacramento River. The American River Parkway Plan is a land use and policy document that guides the development and management of the American River Parkway.
- B. The City and County of Sacramento were the local adopting agencies for the 1985 American River Parkway Plan. Since 1985, the City of Rancho Cordova, whose boundaries include a portion of the American River Parkway, was incorporated and has become the third local adopting agency.
- C. On November 4, 2003, the City Council approved the American River Parkway Plan Update process, accepted the Final Convening Report, established the Update Citizens' Advisory Committee, and approved the purpose of the Committee and duties of its members.
- D. In 2005, the City of Sacramento contributed \$50,000 to the Integrated Area Planning (IAP) Phase which focused on the area of the Parkway within the City of Sacramento.
- E. In June 2005, staff provided the City Council with a status report on the process.
- F. In January 2007, staff returned to the City Council for acceptance of the 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update as the "project" for California Environmental Quality Act review as recommended by the Committees and the advisory bodies. In addition, the City Council directed staff to proceed with the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and to forward comments from the City Council and the City's advisory bodies to the Project Management Team to evaluate their potential impacts on the proposed policy.

**BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1. The City Manager is authorized to make a payment in the amount of \$100,000 from Regional Parkways, CIP LV82, to the County of Sacramento for the 2006 American River Parkway Plan Update process.

