

**CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA
REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

AGENDA ITEM

Report: Clean California Local Grant Program

1. Resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute a Clean California Local Grant Program (CCLGP) Restricted Grant Agreement with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the City of Glendale San Fernando Road Beautification Project.
2. Resolution authorizing the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute a Clean California Local Grant Program (CCLGP) Restricted Grant Agreement with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) for the City of Glendale Permeable Alley Project.

COUNCIL ACTION

Item Type: Consent Item

Approved for August 16, 2022 **calendar**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Department of Public Works received grant funding to clean and beautify the San Fernando Road corridor that runs parallel to the railroad tracks as well as various alleys throughout the City. A resolution authorizing the execution of the grant agreements with Caltrans is needed for the City to execute the Restricted Grant Agreements and to receive the grants funds for both projects.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Environmental Stewardship: These grants will provide greening to provide shade, reduce the urban heat island effect, capture and treat storm water runoff, and use native drought-tolerant plants for a positive impact on health, reduce pollution, aquifer recharge, and save water.

Mobility/Connectivity/Safety: Improving access to public spaces by improving walking paths, installing shade trees, and the addition of traffic calming measures will improve safety for all modes of travel.

Infrastructure: Infrastructure for all modes of travel will be improved, storm water capture infrastructure will be implemented, and public transit infrastructure will be upgraded.

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute CCLGP Restricted Grant Agreements with Caltrans for the City of Glendale San Fernando Road Beautification Project and Permeable Alley Project.

BACKGROUND

Caltrans developed the CCLGP for local communities to beautify and improve local streets and roads, tribal lands, parks, pathways, and transit centers to clean and enhance public spaces. Through the combination of adding beautification measures and art in public spaces along with the removal of litter and debris, this effort will enhance communities and improve spaces for walking and recreation.

The goals of the CCLGP are to:

- Reduce the amount of waste and debris within public rights-of-way, pathways, parks, transit centers, and other public spaces;
- Enhance, rehabilitate, restore, or install measures to beautify and improve public spaces and mitigate the urban heat island effect;
- Enhance public health, cultural connection, and community placemaking by improving public spaces for walking and recreation; and
- Advance equity for underserved communities.

On December 1, 2021, Caltrans released the Call for Projects for the CCLGP inviting applicants to apply for grant funding. With an aggressive application deadline of February 1, 2022, Caltrans received a total of 329 grant applications. After ranking the proposals, Caltrans identified 105 top ranked projects for funding recommendations, with \$5 million being the maximum amount awarded for any one project.

The City of Glendale was awarded \$10,289,500 to fund three projects. These include the San Fernando Road Beautification Project, which was awarded \$4,999,000 (total project cost of \$6,928,000); the Permeable Alley Project, which was awarded \$4,998,000 (total project cost of \$6,042,000); and the Southeast Glendale Greening Project, which was awarded \$292,500 (total project cost of \$320,000). The remainder of the funds will come from various City funds as required local match sources.

The design of the Permeable Alley Project will be administered in-house and the design for the San Fernando Road Beautification Project will be completed by a consultant. Once design has been completed and public outreach with the community has been done, the construction of the project will be bid out and managed by the City of Glendale. The implementation of the Southeast Glendale Greening Project will be managed by the City's on-call tree maintenance contractor.

ANALYSIS

Caltrans developed project selection criteria that incorporated the following:

- Community need
- Potential to enhance and beautify public space
- Potential for greening to provide shade, reduce the urban heat island effect, and use native drought-tolerant plants
- Potential to improve access to public space
- Public engagement in the project proposal that reflects community priorities
- Benefit to underserved communities

San Fernando Road Beautification Project

The project will be constructed on San Fernando Road from Grandview Avenue to Elk Avenue. New drought-tolerant, native landscaping will provide ground cover and new plantings will be added on the west side of the roadway. Meandering sidewalks will be provided on the east side of the roadway, providing a consistent 5-foot wide sidewalk and providing larger spaces for plantings, increasing pervious surfaces, and reducing storm water runoff to improve water quality. Additional improvements will include high visibility and creative crosswalks at intersections, a new bus shelter with trash receptacles, as well as median islands with bioswales, drywells, curb bulb-outs, and ADA ramps at roadway intersections. All project improvements will be located along city-owned public right-of-way on the western and eastern sides of San Fernando Road.

Permeable Alley Project

This is a project that will repave alleys in western and southern Glendale neighborhoods, replacing the current asphalt pavement with permeable pavement. There are thirty-eight (38) alley segments identified to be part of the project for a total length of 2.67 miles. Various types of pervious pavement include porous asphalt and concrete, open joint pavers, interlocking concrete or permeable pavers, and plastic or concrete grid systems with gravel-filled voids. The project also includes construction of bioswales and drywells to collect, treat and infiltrate surface runoff to support groundwater recharge.

Southeast Glendale Greening Project

The project calls for the planting of 750 new street and park City trees and the area is located across a section of southern Glendale. Locations would be limited to the City right-of-way between the sidewalk and curb, as well as three City parks in south Glendale. Further details about this project will be brought forward in a separate report to Council.

STAKEHOLDERS/OUTREACH

A project-specific community engagement effort was conducted to collect feedback on the Project prior to the application for grant funds. As part of the public information campaign, a factsheet was prepared that summarized key components of the project with a link to a brief

online survey. This information was provided to the public through an email blast to stakeholder groups and posted on the City's website and social media platforms (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, etc.). The Public Works department also created a project webpage, which included a brief description of the project and images representing potential improvements for the corridor. Furthermore, the San Fernando Road Beautification Project is an outcome of the public's involvement in developing the South Glendale Community Plan and supports the goals of other city planning efforts. Finally, the Permeable Alley Project locations are identified in the 2021 Pavement Management Program as necessary alleys for improvement to improve the City's pavement condition index.

Public engagement materials included a fact sheet which provided an overview of the Project's improvements and benefits. It also illustrated examples of several infrastructure elements like curb bulb outs, planted medians and sidewalk plantings. The fact sheet also included links to the project website and project survey. The project survey also included background information on the Project, with questions given to stakeholders for public input that focused on the following topics:

1. The type of improvements that would be supported
2. Input on landscape improvements
3. Information on how respondents first heard of project
4. Requested contact information to keep respondents informed of the Project's progress and other related information.

The public was overwhelming in support of both projects due to the multiples benefits to the community stakeholders as a result of these projects, which will include the following:

- More livable communities;
- Improved safety for all users;
- More walking and bicycling to improve public health;
- Increased transportation choices; and
- Greenhouse gas reduction and improved air quality.

Additional community outreach and touchpoints will be planned during the later engineering design process to further bring awareness about the project to the businesses, residents, and visitors of the corridor by the end of Summer 2023. The construction of these projects are anticipated to begin by the end of Fall 2023, and be completed by June 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for these projects in the amount of approximately \$10.3 million will be funded by CCLGP grant funds administered by Caltrans, and the City will be contributing \$3 million of local match funds from the State Gas Tax Fund and Measure W Municipal Return Fund to fully fund the projects. During Council award of a construction contract, staff will return with a request to appropriate funding, if applicable.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The Project is categorically exempt from environmental review because of CEQA Guidelines §§ 15301.

CAMPAIGN DISCLOSURE

Not Applicable

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1: Approve the resolutions authorizing the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute CCLGP Restricted Grant Agreements with Caltrans for the City of Glendale San Fernando Road Beautification Project and Permeable Alley Project.

Alternative 2: Do not approve the resolutions authorizing the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute CCLGP Restricted Grant Agreements with Caltrans. Doing so, however, will not fully fund the projects and return approximately \$10.3 million to Caltrans.

Alternative 3: Consider any other alternative not proposed by staff.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

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Approved by:

Roubik R. Golanian, P.E., City Manager

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS

Exhibit 1: San Fernando Road Beautification Project Location Map

Exhibit 2: Permeable Alley Project Location Map