
CITY OF TEMPE
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION**Council Meeting Date: 11/12/2015**
Agenda Item: 5A2

ACTION: Approve a Capital Improvements Program budget appropriations transfer in fiscal year 2015/16 from Parks Grant Contingency to establish spending authority for the Escalante Park Improvements project in the Park Improvements/Recreation Program capital budget.

FISCAL IMPACT: The funding source for the project budget is entirely from grants. \$450,000 of the \$500,000 fiscal year 2015/16 appropriations will be transferred from Capital Improvement Project No. 6309863, Parks Grant Contingency, to Capital Improvement Project No. 6307921, Infrastructure Improvements – Escalante Park. Total Capital Improvement Program appropriations will not increase as a result of the transfer.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the spending authority transfer.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In April 2014, staff from multiple departments (Community Services, Community Development, Human Services, Police, and Public Works) met to address ongoing concerns regarding the Escalante Park area. Survey responses received through multiple community events identified a number of programs and improvements for a greater activation of the park and which would qualify for grant funding. Escalante Park is unique from other city neighborhood parks in that the campus also houses a multi-generational community center and swimming pool, and is adjacent to Thew Elementary School.

From July 2014, through April 2015, staff from multiple departments applied for several grants for which the Escalante Park would be eligible. This included Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding due to qualifying demographics of the nearby Thew Elementary School students and residents living in the Escalante area. In partnership with Thew Elementary School, another grant was applied for and awarded by the National Football League (NFL) Grassroots Foundation Program. In total, the following five grants will fund this project:

\$50,000	Super Bowl Host Committee
\$100,000	National Football League's Grassroots Foundation Program
\$300,000	Salt River Pima MIC
\$385,406	Fiscal Year 2015 CDBG funds
\$5,878	MaryAnn Corder Neighborhood Grant

The Parks Grant Contingency Capital Improvement Project (CIP) exists for the purpose of creating additional spending authority for park improvement-related grants that may become available mid-fiscal year. This CIP does not have a source of funds and is only used for spending authority when another funding source is available. This request transfers appropriations for the first three grants (\$450,000) from the Parks Grant Contingency CIP to the Escalante Park project. The appropriations for the CDBG funds and the MaryAnn Corder Neighborhood Grant already exist in other cost centers.

The project components include: Install a lighted, multi-use field in the area where there is currently a baseball field; create a fitness/walking path and fitness equipment; expand the existing play area and add rubberized surfacing; and install a volleyball court. The new lighted multi-use field will be utilized by the city's Recreation Division for youth flag football and soccer programs, by Thew Elementary School for physical education programs and soccer and flag football instruction, and will add to the city's available sports fields for the four football organizations that practice/play in Tempe.

ATTACHMENTS: N/A

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