

STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - LAND USE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024, 9:00 AM
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION CENTER, ROOM 310
1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

Order of Business

A. REGULAR SESSION: Meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m.

PRESENT: Supervisors Terra Lawson-Remer, Vice-Chair; Monica Montgomery Steppe; Jim Desmond; also, Ryan Sharp, Assistant Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

ABSENT: Supervisors Nora Vargas, Chair; Joel Anderson

B. Statement (just cause) and/or Consideration of a Request to Participate Remotely (emergency circumstances) by a Supervisor, if applicable.

C. Closed Session Report

D. Non-Agenda Public Communication: Opportunity for members of the public to speak to the Board on any subject matter within the Board's jurisdiction but not an item on today's agenda.

E. Approval of the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the meeting of December 6, 2023.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors approved the Statement of Proceedings/Minutes for the Regular Board of Supervisors meeting of December 6, 2023.

AYES: Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: Vargas, Anderson

F. Consent Calendar

G. Discussion Items

NOTICE: THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ANY ACTION WITH RESPECT TO THE ITEMS INCLUDED ON THIS AGENDA. RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY COUNTY STAFF DO NOT LIMIT ACTIONS THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT RELY UPON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE BOARD LETTER AS DETERMINATIVE OF THE ACTION THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MAY TAKE ON A PARTICULAR MATTER.

Board of Supervisors' Agenda Items

- | Agenda # | Subject |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. | ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:
SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE: TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION (12/06/2023 - ADOPT RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDING INTRODUCING AN ORDINANCE; 01/10/2024 - SECOND READING OF AN ORDINANCE, UNLESS ORDINANCE IS MODIFIED ON SECOND READING)
[FUNDING SOURCE: STATE HIGHWAY USER TAX ACCOUNT] |
| 2. | PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES - AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROPOSITION 64 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS
[FUNDING SOURCE: PROPOSITION 64 PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS]
(4 VOTES) |
| 3. | AUTHORITY TO ADVERTISE AND AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR KUMEYAA VALLEY PARK (LACHAPPA BALLFIELDS) AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION
[FUNDING SOURCE: PRIOR YEAR GENERAL FUND FUND BALANCE] |
| 4. | ADOPT RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM 30X30 GRANT PROGRAM AND ESTABLISH APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SYCAMORE CANYON AND GOODAN RANCH PRESERVE COVERED SPECIES THREAT REDUCTION PROJECT AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION
[FUNDING SOURCE: GRANT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (CDFW); EXISTING GENERAL PURPOSE REVENUE IN DPR AS DETERMINED BY THE NATURE OF THE PROJECT OR PROGRAM]
(4 VOTES) |
| 5. | INCREASING LOCAL BROADBAND CAPACITY BY IDENTIFYING WAYS TO STREAMLINE AND EXPEDITE NEW BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS |
| 6. | PUBLIC COMMUNICATION |

**1. SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE ITEM:
 SECOND CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE:
 TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND RELATED CEQA
 EXEMPTION (12/06/2023 - ADOPT RECOMMENDATIONS
 INCLUDING INTRODUCING AN ORDINANCE; 01/10/2024 - SECOND
 READING OF AN ORDINANCE, UNLESS ORDINANCE IS MODIFIED
 ON SECOND READING) (DISTRICTS: 2 & 5)**

OVERVIEW

On December 6, 2023 (07), the Board of Supervisors took action to further consider and adopt the Ordinance on January 10, 2024.

The Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) supports the Department of Public Works (DPW) traffic engineering program. The TAC was established by the Board of Supervisors (Board) in the 1960s to provide traffic regulations and recommendations within the unincorporated areas of the region. To be effective, the TAC proposes policies that will enhance safety, reduce congestion, and be legally enforceable. The TAC meets every six weeks to review proposed additions, deletions, or changes to regulatory traffic control devices such as speed limits, stop signs, traffic signals, and parking regulations on County of San Diego (County) maintained roads. Upon receipt of a request or recommendation for the implementation of a traffic safety measure in unincorporated areas, the TAC reviews and investigates the requested item, including engineering and traffic condition studies. The TAC recommendations are provided to the Board for consideration.

The TAC recommends the Board act on four items from the July 28, 2023, TAC meeting agenda:

Items from the 07/28/2023 TAC Meeting			
District	Item	Location	Action
2	2-A	Ha Hana Road from Los Coches Road to Lakeview Road in Lakeside	Certify the 35 miles per hour (MPH) speed limit.
2	2-B	La Cresta Boulevard from Mountain View Road to Suncrest Boulevard in La Cresta	Certify the 30 MPH speed limit.
2	2-C	Rios Canyon Road and Calle de Ernesto/Rios Elementary School Driveway in Glenview	Establish an all-way stop intersection.
5	5-A*	Pepper Tree Lane/Calavo Road from McDonald Road to Stage Coach Lane in Fallbrook	Reduce the 40 MPH speed limit to 35 MPH and certify.
* Indicates second reading of the ordinance is required.			

Approval of Item 2-A on Ha Hana Road in Lakeside (District 2), Item 2-B on La Cresta Boulevard in La Cresta (District 2), and Item 5-A on Pepper Tree Lane/Calavo Road in Fallbrook (District 5) would allow for speed enforcement which enhances roadway safety. Properly posted speed limits provide feedback to drivers to improve traffic safety, reduce the number and severity of collisions, and allow for enforcement.

Approval of Item 2-C at Rios Canyon Road and Calle de Ernesto/Rios Elementary School Driveway in Glenview (District 2) will provide safety enhancement measures for pedestrians, bicyclists, and all other roadway users by assigning a full stop to all approaches at intersections. Properly posted stop controls at intersections reduce the number and severity of collisions by assuring reasonable drivers enter intersections at a low speed and have more time to take heed of the traffic situation.

The Board's action on Item 2-A on Ha Hana Road in Lakeside (District 2), Item 2-B on La Cresta Boulevard in La Cresta (District 2), and Item 2-C at Rios Canyon Road and Calle de Ernesto/Rios Elementary School Driveway in Glenview (District 2) does not revise the San Diego County Code of Regulatory Ordinances (County Code) and therefore does not require a second reading of an ordinance. Board direction on December 6, 2023, would allow for implementation by DPW.

The Board's action on Item 5-A on Pepper Tree Lane/Calavo Road in Fallbrook (District 5) would introduce an ordinance to amend a speed limit zone. This action would revise the County Code and requires two steps. On December 6, 2023, the Board would consider the TAC items. If the Board takes action as recommended on December 6, then on January 10, 2024, a second reading and adoption of ordinances amending the County Code would be necessary to implement the Board's direction. If the proposed ordinance is altered on December 6, 2023, then on that date a subsequential meeting date will be selected for the ordinance's adoption.

RECOMMENDATION(S)
TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

District 2:

Item 2-A. Ha Hana Road from Los Coches Road to Lakeview Road in Lakeside - Certify the 35 miles per hour (MPH) speed limit.

Item 2-B. La Cresta Boulevard from Mountain View Road to Suncrest Boulevard in La Cresta - Certify the 30 MPH speed limit.

Item 2-C. Rios Canyon Road and Calle de Ernesto/Rios Elementary School Driveway in Glenview - Establish an all-way stop intersection.

District 5:

Item 5-A. Pepper Tree Lane/Calavo Road from McDonald Road to Stage Coach Lane in Fallbrook - Reduce the 40 MPH speed limit to 35 MPH and certify for radar enforcement.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Consider and adopt the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 72.169.55.3. OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS ON COUNTY MAINTAINED ROADS IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY. (Item 5-A)

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The review of traffic signs, intersection controls, and roadway markings supports vehicle safety on County of San Diego-maintained roads. The transportation system must be safe for all road users, for all modes of transportation, in all communities, and for people of all incomes, races, ethnicities, ages, and abilities. Understanding travel patterns, where correctable crashes are occurring, and the disproportionate impacts on certain communities will allow the Department of Public Works to identify actions to address the underlying causes, improve safety, and ensure there is justice in the enforcement of traffic regulations.

DPW’s Local Roadway Safety Plan reviews correctable collisions along road segments within the unincorporated areas of the region and utilizes the Healthy Places Index (3.0) and CalEnviroScreen 4.0 to ensure underserved populations are prioritized. The Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) relies on the Local Roadway Safety Plan and performs reviews of regulatory traffic control devices such as signs and markings. While adherence to sign and marking standards developed by the California Department of Transportation is crucial to obtaining the compliance of the majority of drivers, the TAC also relies on various community engagement methods such as the Tell Us Now! Mobile app, toll-free hotlines, and a customer service request program to intake reports on a wide variety of traffic concerns and ensure the concerns are addressed.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Traffic Advisory Committee has made addressing sustainability a top priority by partnering with local communities and industry leaders in a public forum every six weeks to find timely, reasonable, and cost-effective in-road traffic solutions that reduce costly traffic delays, mitigate vehicle idling to reduce emissions, improve fire response times and regional readiness, and ensure justice in enforcement of traffic regulations.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operational Plan in the Department of Public Works Road Fund. If approved, this request will result in current year costs and revenue of \$6,360 for staff time, materials, and supplies. The funding source is State Highway User Tax Account. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent, and adopted Ordinance No. 10886 (N.S.), entitled: ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 72.169.55.3. OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY CODE RELATING TO SPEED LIMITS ON COUNTY MAINTAINED ROADS IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY.

AYES: Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: Vargas, Anderson

2. **SUBJECT: PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES - AUTHORITY TO ACCEPT THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROPOSITION 64 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

OVERVIEW

On January 27, 2021 (4), the Board of Supervisors (Board) directed the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) to develop a Socially Equitable Cannabis Program (SECP) for the unincorporated area, that would allow for a variety of cannabis uses, establish a cannabis permitting program that would prioritize social equity, access, and business opportunities, and help rectify the injustices caused by the War on Drugs. On October 26, 2022 (06), the Board acted to further consider and on November 16, 2022 (01), adopted ordinances authorizing the transfer of the cannabis licensing program from the Sheriff’s Department to Planning & Development Services (PDS). In addition, Code Compliance continues to address unlicensed cannabis activities throughout the unincorporated areas of San Diego county.

In early 2023, Planning & Development Services (PDS) staff became aware of the Proposition 64 Public Health & Safety Grant Program administered by the California Board of State Community Corrections (BSCC). The program provides grant funds to local governments that assist with law enforcement, fire protection, or other programming to address public health and safety associated with the implementation of the Control, Regulation, and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act. Cannabis regulation is a relatively new activity for local governments throughout California as well as the State cannabis licensing entity, the Department of Cannabis Control, which is frequently updating cannabis regulations in response to new legislation and industry needs.

PDS staff applied for this grant program in April 2023 and recently received notification that our application was approved and awarded by the BSCC Board. The BSCC grant funds will enhance the new licensing program and related compliance activities at both licensed and unlicensed cannabis facilities.

This request is to authorize PDS to accept the grant from BSCC for the Proposition 64 Public Health and Safety Grant Program in the amount up to \$2,092,520 for the grant performance beginning May 1, 2023, and ending on April 30, 2028.

RECOMMENDATION(S)
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find that the proposed action is not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Section 21065 and Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3) because there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, and does not have a potential to result in a direct or indirect foreseeable physical change in the environment.
2. Authorize PDS to accept \$2,092,520 of one-time funds from the Board of State and Community Corrections for the grant project period beginning May 1, 2023, and ending on April 30, 2028.
3. Adopt a resolution titled: A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO AUTHORIZING DIRECTOR, PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF STATE AND COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROPOSITION 64 PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY GRANT PROGRAM.
4. Authorize the Director of Planning & Development Services and/or designee to execute all required grant and grant-related documents, including any annual extensions, amendments, and/or revisions thereto that do not material impact or alter the services or funding level.
5. Establish appropriations of \$2,092,520 in PDS, Services & Supplies for enhancement of cannabis licensing and permitting activities based on Proposition 64 Public Health & Safety Grant. **(4 VOTES)**

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

These grant funds will help support efforts to ensure a robust legal cannabis market within the unincorporated areas and the future Social Equity Program, which is addressing the impacts of the War on Drugs. Regulating cannabis facilities and addressing unlicensed cannabis activities support public health and safety in the unincorporated areas of San Diego county. The grant funds will directly support the Code Compliance Division, which conducts routine inspections to ensure these facilities operate in accordance with local ordinances.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed action supports addressing unlicensed cannabis activities and their negative impacts on public health, safety, and natural resources. Unlawful cannabis cultivation has been shown to negatively impact the environment through the depletion of groundwater and the pollution of both surface and groundwater. Halting unlawful cultivation helps to ensure groundwater may continue to be utilized as a safe and sustainable resource in the future. Safe and sustainable groundwater is a necessity for residents of the unincorporated area its continued availability promotes the health and wellbeing of the community. The protection of both surface and groundwater quality is in alignment with the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goals. The proposed action and BSCC grant funds will support the Code Compliance Division's efforts to address unlawful cultivation.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 Operational Plan in the Department of Planning & Development Services (PDS). If approved, this request would result in estimated costs and revenue of up to \$2,092,520 for the grant term (five years) in Fiscal Years 2024-25 through Fiscal Year 2028-29. If approved, the recommendation will establish appropriations of \$2,092,520 in PDS, Services & Supplies. The funding source is the Proposition 64 Public Health & Safety Grant Program from the State of California, Board of State and Community Corrections (\$2,092,520). If accepted, the assigned award number from the Auditor and Controller will be 509520.

The Board approved a waiver of Board Policy B-29 for LUEG grants on June 24, 2020 (1), therefore a waiver is not requested as part of this action. If a grant is accepted, any unrecovered cost per Board Policy B-29 would be funded by existing General Purpose Revenue in PDS as determined by the nature of the project(s) or program(s).

There will be no change in the General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

The Board of Supervisors continued this item to January 24, 2024.

- 3. **SUBJECT: AUTHORITY TO ADVERTISE AND AWARD A CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT FOR KUMEYAAY VALLEY PARK (LACHAPPA BALLFIELDS) AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICT: 2)**

OVERVIEW

On March 3, 2021 (3), the County of San Diego (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) approved funding towards improvements to the Kumeyaay Valley Park - LaChappa Ballfields, also known as the Lakeside American Little League fields, to meet County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and Building Code Standards.

The 11-acre LaChappa Ballfields facility in the unincorporated community of Lakeside was purchased by DPR from the Helix Water District as part of a 98-acre land acquisition in February 2021. Through a lease agreement with the County, the Lakeside American Little League has maintained and operated the baseball complex over multiple generations with the support of Little League appointed staff, community volunteers, and family. The facility offers five grass baseball fields, scoreboards, announcer booths, dugouts, warmup areas, picnic tables, bleachers, and a concession stand, portable restrooms, landscaping, irrigation, and parking. In line with DPR’s mission to maintain its properties in good working condition for safety and delivery of high-quality experiences, the complex was identified for needed improvements due to the disrepair of its amenities over time.

In partnership with the local community and Lakeside American Little League, DPR identified needed improvements, which will include the replacement of an existing concession building, the replacement of temporary restroom facilities with a permanent restroom building and septic system, irrigation improvements, and implement Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) statutory requirements. The project will improve public access throughout park facilities by providing ADA accessible pathways and parking. Having a permanent restroom is a vital amenity for an active ballfield complex and will support the playability of the complex year-round. Providing safe and reliable facilities for the public supports park user experiences and ensures access for the community now and many years into the future.

Today's requested action will authorize the Department of Purchasing and Contracting Director to advertise and award a construction contract estimated at \$2,641,000 for the Capital Project 1024372, Kumeyaay Valley Park - LaChappa Ballfields project. The total projects cost is \$9,560,400 which includes: construction costs estimated at \$2,300,000 with a 10% contingency; \$3,104,577 for acquisition of the property and initial stewardship; and \$3,814,823 for future trail development and restoration along the San Diego River. The remaining project funds of \$341,000 will be used for project costs, including, inspection services, construction management, and project administration. If approved, construction for the concession and restroom buildings is expected to begin in Spring 2024 and construction for the irrigation improvements, ADA pathways and parking, and the septic system is expected to begin in Fall 2024. All improvements are anticipated to be complete in Winter of Fiscal Year 2024-25.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find that the proposed actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15301, 15302, and 15304 of the CEQA Guidelines.
2. Authorize the Director, Department of Purchasing and Contracting, to advertise and award a construction contract and take any other action authorized by Section 401 et seq. of the Administrative Code with respect to contracting for the construction of the Kumeyaay Valley Park - LaChappa Ballfields.
3. Designate the Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, as the County of San Diego Officer responsible for administering the contract for the construction of the Kumeyaay Valley Park - LaChappa Ballfields in accordance with Section 430.4 of the County Code of Administrative Ordinance and Board Policy F-41, Public Works Construction Projects.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The community of Lakeside, where Kumeyaay Valley Park - LaChappa Ballfields is located, is an underserved community, meaning residents' incomes are either at or below 80 percent of the statewide median income or below a threshold designated as low-income by the Department of Housing and Community Development (Assembly Bill 1550). According to the 2020 Park Master Plan, Lakeside has a total of 2 acres of local parkland per 1,000 residences and 9 acres of regional parkland which is below the County of San Diego's Level of Service standard of 3 local acres per 1,000 residents and General Plan goal of 10 acres per 1,000 residents, respectively. Lakeside has a Healthy Places Index score of 36.6 which is influenced by a lack of sufficient park and recreation space to support the population. Additionally, the LaChappa Ballfields

complex has experienced disrepair over time that is not up to County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation standards or regulatory standards to provide a safe facility for the community.

To meet these standards, the project will provide improved public access, enable safe accessibility to park facilities, and implement statutory requirements to provide improved accessibility under the ADA. A permanent restroom facility is a vital amenity to an active ballfield complex and will support the playability of the field complex year-round. Providing safe and reliable facilities for the public supports park user experiences and will help ensure access for the community now and many years into the future.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed Kumeyaay Valley Park - LaChappa Ballfields project contributes to many of the County of San Diego's Sustainability Goals: provide just and equitable access; protect health and well-being; and protect ecosystems, habitats, and biodiversity. This project is contributing to the health and well-being of Lakeside, an underserved community that has limited access to recreational activities and green amenities. The project will improve access to safe recreational facilities through a new restroom facility and ADA improvements. The project will also include buildings that meet the latest water and energy efficiency standards that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from building operations.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operational Plan for the Capital Outlay Fund. If approved, this request will result in construction and project costs of \$2,641,000 for Capital Project 1024372, Kumeyaay Valley Park - LaChappa Ballfields Project, related to recommendations above; itemized as follows, construction cost estimated at \$2,300,000 including 10% contingency, and remaining funds estimated at \$341,000 for related project expenses including design, inspection, services, construction management, and project administration. In addition, there are \$3,104,577 property acquisition and initial stewardship costs and \$3,814,823 future trail development and restoration costs along the San Diego River. Total project cost for Capital Project 1024372 is \$9,560,400. The funding source is prior year General Fund fund balance.

Upon project completion, annual operations and maintenance will be provided by the lessee of the property and existing Department of Parks and Recreation staff. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: Vargas, Anderson

4. SUBJECT: ADOPT RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM 30X30 GRANT PROGRAM AND ESTABLISH APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE SYCAMORE CANYON AND GOODAN RANCH PRESERVE COVERED SPECIES THREAT REDUCTION PROJECT AND RELATED CEQA EXEMPTION (DISTRICT: 2)

OVERVIEW

The State of California’s 30x30 initiative is part of an international movement to conserve natural areas across our planet, with a specific goal of conserving 30 percent of lands and coastal waters by 2030. The 30x30 Grant Program administered by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) allocates funds for projects associated with planning and implementation of established conservation programs such as the County of San Diego’s (County) Multiple Species Conservation Program (MSCP). The MSCP is a long term, regional habitat conservation program focused on balancing the protection of plant and animal species with recreation, development, and agricultural activities within the San Diego region. On October 22, 1997 (1), the County Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted the 50-year MSCP South County Subarea Plan, which includes the unincorporated areas in the southwestern portion of the region.

The County Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) evaluated eligible projects that are part of the MSCP in conjunction with the requirements of the 30x30 Grant Program and determined that the Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch Preserve Covered Species Threat Reduction Project (Project) would meet a known conservation need and be competitive for available grant funding. The Project includes efforts to remove invasive non-native plant species and restore coastal sage scrub and chaparral habitat within Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch Preserve (Preserve). Removal of invasive non-native plant species will result in the improvement of habitat for plant resources, particularly the San Diego thornmint, the willowy monardella, and the variegated dudleya, which are rare species that contribute to local biodiversity and exist within the Preserve. Additionally, by restoring habitat in the Preserve, the Project will also benefit wildlife species such as the coastal California gnatcatcher, and mountain lion.

Today’s requested action is to adopt a resolution authorizing DPR to accept up to \$888,054 of 30x30 grant funds from CDFW and establish appropriations in the Department of Parks and Recreation, Services & Supplies. In addition, today’s actions will authorize the Director of DPR, or designee, to conduct all negotiations and to execute and submit all documents that may be necessary to accept the grant funds.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Find that the proposed Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch Preserve Covered Species Threat Reduction Project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15304 because the project involves minor alterations in the condition of vegetation which does not involve removal of healthy, mature, or scenic trees.
2. Adopt the Resolution entitled: RESOLUTION OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS FROM THE 30x30 GRANT PROGRAM FOR SYCAMORE CANYON AND GOODAN RANCH PRESERVE COVERED SPECIES THREAT REDUCTION PROJECT.

3. Establish appropriations of \$888,054 in the Department of Parks and Recreation, Services and Supplies, for the Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch Preserve Covered Species Threat Reduction Project, based on funding from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. **(4 VOTES)**
4. Authorize the Director, Department of Parks and Recreation, or designee, as agent of the County of San Diego, to conduct all negotiations and submit all documents necessary to accept grant funds, if awarded, including but not limited to, grant contracts, payment requests, and if funds are awarded, to execute the grant agreements, including any extensions or amendments thereof that do not materially impact or alter the grant programs or funding levels.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The Department of Parks and Recreation’s proposed efforts to accept grant funds through the 30x30 Grant Program to enhance natural habitat in Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch Preserve is anticipated to result in a positive impact on all residents and visitors by improving water and air quality and providing opportunities to engage in passive recreational experiences in the County of San Diego’s parks and preserve lands.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The proposed action of the Department of Parks and Recreation to accept grant funds through the 30x30 Grant Program to enhance natural habitat in Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch Preserve supports two County of San Diego Sustainability Goals including County Sustainability Goal No. 4 by expanding opportunities for community members to access outdoor recreation and nature and County Sustainability Goal No. 6 by protecting native ecosystems and habitats.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are not included in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 Operational Plan in the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). If approved, this request would result in costs and revenue of \$888,054 related to recommendation 3. The funding source is grant funds from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). If approved, the proposed action would also adopt a resolution authorizing DPR to accept up to \$888,054 of 30x30 grant fund from CDFW for the Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch Preserve Covered Species Threat Reduction Project related to recommendation 2.

The Board approved a waiver of Board Policy B-29 for LUEG grants on June 24, 2020 (12), therefore a waiver is not requested as part of this action. If a grant is awarded, any unrecovered cost per Board Policy B-29 would be funded by existing General Purpose Revenue (GPR) in DPR as determined by the nature of the project or program.

The 30x30 grant program strongly encouraged matching funds for all project proposals. Matching funds will be provided through in-kind services in the form of County staff time up to the amount of \$10,243 for the Sycamore Canyon and Goodan Ranch Preserve Covered Species Threat Reduction Project. The funding source is existing GPR in DPR. There is no net change to General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

The Board of Supervisors continued this item to January 24, 2024.

5. SUBJECT: INCREASING LOCAL BROADBAND CAPACITY BY IDENTIFYING WAYS TO STREAMLINE AND EXPEDITE NEW BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

Throughout San Diego County there are communities that lack access to affordable and reliable Broadband high-speed internet. This digital divide has disproportionately impacted people of color, households that are lower-income, and those that are living in unincorporated and rural areas.

The Covid-19 pandemic only highlighted the need for digital equity in these unserved and underserved areas. In a world that has increasingly become dependent on technology and data, having reliable internet has become an integral and essential part of life. San Diegans need to remain connected and engaged digitally, to reliably attend school, work remotely, access healthcare, and connect with family and friends.

There was an unprecedented level of government funding through the Federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding (BIL) that became available for broadband investment during the pandemic which presented a substantial opportunity to address gaps and improve access in the unincorporated areas of our County. While these federal dollars have primarily been allocated at this time, programs like the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program have a slower rollout period which differs per state. BEAD funds are monies set aside to build Broadband infrastructure in unserved and underserved communities, however, a condition of receiving those funds is that projects must be completed in 18 to 24 months if the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

The County currently has a Self-Certification program in place for faster timelines as it relates to Broadband project maintenance needs if a provider opts into the County’s program annually. This allows for registered professionals to take responsibility for certifying a project’s compliance with building codes, standards, and ordinances.

However, the County has a prime opportunity to identify ways to speed up timelines for new Broadband projects and help the industry meet the deadlines of the various funding programs that are being rolled out nationwide. Ultimately, increasing access to internet service for our communities across the region.

RECOMMENDATION(S)

VICE-CHAIR TERRA LAWSON-REMER

1. Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to engage with Internet Service Providers and regional broadband stakeholders to develop options to streamline processes and expedite the review and approval of new broadband related projects, including potential budgetary costs and funding sources.

2. Report back to the Board of Supervisors within 120 days with options to expedite review and streamline new Broadband infrastructure projects, including recommendations for Board action.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Access to quality Broadband is imperative for our local San Diego families. It helps connect individuals to career opportunities, educational resources, and communication technology. The Covid-19 pandemic exacerbated the digital divide between served, and low-income and underserved communities, highlighting the essential need for all to have access to efficient Broadband networks. This item will help to expedite Broadband projects and provide faster and more efficient internet service to areas that have historically had challenges receiving them.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Efforts to promote the development of Broadband networks in areas that are unserved or underserved can result in improved connectivity for the home and businesses. This improved access to the internet can help provide enhanced educational resources, hybrid or remote career options, and better remote communication technology. Ultimately, this has the potential to reduce vehicle miles traveled and create less greenhouse gas emissions by providing less need to travel for Broadband access or its associated benefits.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with these recommendations. There may be fiscal impacts associated with future recommendations related to this action. Any such recommendations would return back for consideration and approval by the Board of Supervisors. Upon return by staff, funding for future costs will need to be identified by the department and will proceed once identified. At this time, there will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

Streamlining Broadband deployment will be of great benefit to the general public as well as for businesses that are involved in the Broadband deployment process, helping to create jobs and economic growth. Increased access to Broadband will also benefit local businesses by providing a fast, reliable connection to the internet and internet marketplace.

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Desmond, seconded by Supervisor Montgomery Steppe, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

ABSENT: Vargas, Anderson

6. SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMUNICATION (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

Robert Germann spoke to the Board regarding Gillespie Field Airport noise complaints.

Justin Castro spoke to the Board regarding illegal immigration and elections.

Paul Henkin spoke to the Board regarding un-needed land-use projects.

Terri-Ann Skelly spoke to the Board regarding the link of marijuana use and schizophrenia.

Kathleen Lippitt spoke to the Board regarding the harmful effects of high THC marijuana products.

Consuelo spoke to the Board regarding public participation at Board meetings.

Kevin Stevenson spoke to the Board regarding comments and posts made by Supervisor Jim Desmond.

Scott Chipman spoke to the Board regarding the harmful effects to the brain from drug-use.

Truth spoke to the Board regarding actions by the Board of Supervisors.

Audra spoke to the Board regarding actions by the Board of Supervisors.

Ann Riddle spoke to the Board regarding the ban of flavored marijuana projects.

Becky Rapp spoke to the Board regarding the negative health impacts of flavored marijuana products.

Peggy Walker spoke to the Board regarding legal and black-market marijuana businesses.

ACTION:

Heard, Referred to the Chief Administrative Officer.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

ANDREW POTTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of San Diego, State of California

Consent: Marshall

Discussion: Zurita

NOTE: This Statement of Proceedings sets forth all actions taken by the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors on the matters stated, but not necessarily the chronological sequence in which the matters were taken up.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK.