

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing submittal of three grant applications requesting a combined total of up to \$3.35 million from the State of Washington's Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) for (1) up to \$2 million to assist with the cost of constructing a neighborhood park on 140th Avenue NE in the Bridle Trails Neighborhood Area, (2) up to \$997,400 to assist with the cost of constructing a multi-use trail at Mercer Slough Nature Park to connect the Mountains to Sound and Eastrail regional trails, and (3) up to \$350,000 to assist with the cost of replacing the existing aged synthetic turf sports field at Newport Hills Park.

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Parks & Community Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Resolution authorizes submission of three grant applications that will assist in developing and improving public parks, trails and sports facilities in north, central and south Bellevue neighborhoods. If awarded, state grant funds up to a combined total of \$3.35 million will leverage City budgeted funds to improve and provide new park and recreation facilities for all Bellevue residents.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10109

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) is a state agency that provides leadership and funding to protect and improve Washington's natural and outdoor recreation resources, now and for future generations.

The first RCO grant application requests assistance with developing a new 1.65-acre park for the Bridle Trails neighborhood. The park will feature a combination of passive and active use elements, offering visitors a variety of recreation opportunities, including play areas serving a range of ages, a picnic shelter, and parking. The location of the park is accessible to both the single-family and multi-family neighbors, including a large King County Housing Authority apartment complex. Other park features include a restroom, walking paths, benches, open lawn area, landscaping, and street frontage improvements including a sidewalk and flashing crosswalk.

The second RCO grant application requests assistance in filling a trail gap in the Mercer Slough Nature Park trail system that also serves as a connector to link the 42-mile Eastrail with the 100-mile Mountains to Sound Trail. This access between the Eastrail and Mountains to Sound Trail will be provided along the eastern edge of Mercer Slough, bordering 118th Avenue SE, just north of the I-90 overcrossing.

The third RCO grant application requests assistance with replacement of the synthetic turf sports fields

at Newport Hills Park. The soccer field and baseball infield were transitioned from natural surfaces to synthetic turf in 2011. Both fields have reached their full useful life cycle (expected 8-10 years). The fields are beginning to degrade and consistently require additional maintenance to meet safety requirements.

RCO requires Council authorization in order to submit grant applications to the agency. This Resolution authorizes only the grant applications, it does not authorize or commit the City to proceed with any project. The decision to proceed will be made in the future on a project by project basis as part of the CIP Budget process or separate City Council action.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

City of Bellevue Comprehensive Plan: Parks, Recreation & Open Space Element

- PA-3. Equitably distribute a variety of parks, community centers and other indoor and outdoor recreation facilities throughout the City.
- PA-4. Connect Bellevue's parks and trails to the regional system of nearby state, King County and neighboring city parks, greenways, trails and facilities.
- PA-9. Actively seek funding from a variety of sources to help implement a park acquisition and development program.
- PA-12. Develop pedestrian and bicycle linkages between neighborhoods and major natural areas, recreation facilities, schools and commercial centers.

Fiscal Impact

This action will only authorize submission of the grant applications. There is no fiscal impact associated with submitting these grant requests. If awarded, the City is required to provide matching funds. Based upon funding availability, award amount and other factors, the City will decide whether to proceed with each project in a separate future City Council action.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing submittal of three grant applications requesting a combined total of up to \$3.35 million from the State of Washington's Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) for (1) up to \$2 million to assist with the cost of constructing a neighborhood park on 140th Avenue NE in the Bridle Trails Neighborhood Area, (2) up to \$997,400 to assist with the cost of constructing a multi-use trail at Mercer Slough Nature Park to connect the Mountains to Sound and Eastrail regional trails, and (3) up to \$350,000 to assist with the cost of replacing the existing aged synthetic turf sports field at Newport Hills Park.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS

A. RCO Resolution for Authorization Form
Proposed Resolution No. 10109

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A