

MARIN COUNTY PARKS

Preservation • Recreation

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PARKS
PRESERVATION • RECREATION

July 29, 2014



Board of Supervisors
County of Marin
3501 Civic Center Drive
San Rafael, California 94903

Linda Dahl
DIRECTOR
GENERAL MANAGER

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE PRESIDENT TO EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENTS WITH SIX GRANTEES TO RECEIVE FUNDING THROUGH THE MEASURE A BREATHE/RESPIRA COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM

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Dear Board Members:

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize President to execute the agreements.

SUMMARY:

On February 25, 2014 your Board approved the formation of the Measure A Breathe/Respira Community Grant Program (Program) and related procedures and documents. The Program provides \$100,000 annually through a competitive grant process to community partners to:

- Expand opportunities to access and enjoy Marin County parks and open space preserves
- Bring Marin County Parks' programs into targeted communities
- Overcome barriers, such as transportation and language, that prevent access to parks, preserves and programs

Two types of awards are available annually:

- Sprouts Grants: (Two to four awards, \$10,000 total to be distributed) to support smaller initiatives
- Wings Grants: (One to three awards, \$90,000 total to be distributed) to support larger initiatives

All Program information, including the selection process, is clearly outlined in the Measure A Community Grant Program Overview document (attached).

Leading up to the launch of the Program, staff reached out to our diverse community partners, posted information on the Marin County Parks website, distributed press releases, and made presentations to advertise this grant opportunity. Program information was made available on the Marin County Parks Measure A webpage. Marin County Parks received 20 grant applications proposing a wide range of partnership activities.

On March 20, 2014, the Parks and Open Space Commission selected a three member ad hoc committee to participate in the grant selection process. Members of this committee received all grant applications for review ahead of time, and met twice with staff to identify successful proposals to recommend to the full Parks and Open Space Commission and your board. During the selection process, staff's role was to support the ad hoc committee with its knowledge of each organization and the programs they proposed to create or expand with additional funding.

On May 15, 2014 the commission voted unanimously to approve the ad hoc committee's recommendations, listed below, and forward them to your board for consideration:

Sprouts:

- \$3,500 to Trips for Kids to lead mountain bike trips, trail work opportunities, and family picnics for underserved youth participating in their Earn-a-Bike/Job-Training Program and their families.
- \$3,000 to the San Geronimo Valley Community Center to provide one outing per week for a year to Marin County open spaces for those they serve through their existing programs.
- \$3,500 to Opening the World to introduce at-risk youth to photography and life skills through several guided hikes, ending with a public art exhibit.

Wings:

- \$10,000 to Marin City Community Services District to bring youth campers participating in the Manzanita Recreation Center Summer Program into county parks and preserves.
- \$15,000 to the Marin Asian Advocacy Project/Community Action Marin to train trip leaders and lead trips connecting Marin's Asian communities to county parks and preserves.
- \$65,000 to LIFT/Levántate to train park ambassadors, secure and implement shared use agreements a) for transportation to parks and related programs, b) to provide active living and environmental education-focused community engagement and outreach events in underserved communities, c) to increase health education at our parks, and d) to implement other efforts to connect underserved communities to Marin's parks and preserves.

Grant agreements for all grantees, including scopes of work and budgets, are attached for your review.

All awards are in effect for one year following the execution of the grant agreement. Grantees are required to complete a mid-year and final report. The Marin County Parks External Affairs Coordinator will be responsible for overseeing the work of all grantees.

Each year staff may modify the Program based on feedback and lessons learned from previous years.

FISCAL IMPACT:

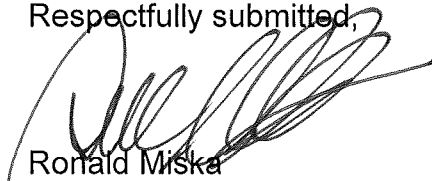
Sufficient capacity exists in the FY 2014-15 Measure A Budget.

REVIEWED BY:

<input type="checkbox"/> Dept. of Finance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Counsel	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A

External Affairs Coordinator Kevin Wright is the principal author of this report.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald Miska
Deputy Director