



STAFF REPORT
6/29/2022

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Celina Jimenez, Grants Manager

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution No. 2022-65 Authorizing the City Manager to Apply for, Accept and Execute All Related Documents for Grant Funds in an Amount of Thirty-Five Million (\$35,000,000) dollars from the State's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) program, administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) and the Department of Conservation, for projects within the Coachella Prospera proposed project area Authorizing the Execution of a Public Safety CFD Deferral Agreement, Partnership Agreement and All Other Required Documents

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council consider adopting Resolution No. 2022-65 authorizing the City Manager or his designee to apply for, accept and execute all related documents for grant funds in an amount of thirty-five million (\$35,000,000) dollars from the State's Transformative Climate Communities (TCC) program, administered by the Strategic Growth Council (SGC) and the Department of Conservation, for projects within the Coachella Prospera proposed project area.

BACKGROUND:

On March 8, 2022, the TCC Program issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Round 4 of the TCC Implementation Grant (see Attachment 2). The Implementation Grant, which is awarded to three separate entities over the course of a grant cycle, provides \$35 million to each awardee to fund neighborhood-level proposals with multiple, integrated projects that empower communities, reduce GHG emissions and achieve other community benefits. The TCC Implementation funding prioritizes California's most "disadvantaged communities", which are neighborhoods ranked in the top 10 percent (10%) of CalEnviroScreen.

The City of Coachella, in close partnership with community-based organizations and stakeholders, is proposing to submit the "Coachella Prospera" proposal and application to advance the vision and recommendations outlined in the community plan. The Coachella Prospera initiative proposed multiple projects to be implemented in a five-square mile area in the selected areas of the City (see Project Area Map in Attachment 3), and each project and plan was led by a partnering organization in support of a shared vision of climate resiliency memorialized in the Partnership Agreement (Attachment 5).

Project Partners

The project partners include: Chelsea Investment Corporation, GRID Alternatives Inland Empire, Southern California Mountains Foundation (Urban Youth Conservation Corps), The Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce, Sunline Transit Agency, The LEAP Institute, Alianza Coachella Valley, Desert Recreation District, and the University of California Regents (UC Riverside).

Projects and Transformative Plans

Equitable Housing..... Chelsea Investment Corporation

- Building mixed-use project with 116 units of affordable housing
- Building a Urban Youth Conservation Corps Center
- Will include a transit connection

Transit and Rail Access..... Sunline Transit Agency

- Enhancing Transit Hub
- Zero Emission Bus Purchase
- Reduced Transit Fare Vouchers

Car Sharing and Mobility Enhancement..... LEAP Institute/Green Raiteros

- Delivering green mobility options: e-bikes, bicycles, and some EV cars

Solar Installation and Energy Efficiency..... GRID Alternatives + City of Coachella

- Rooftop solar for new multi-family site
- Rooftop solar for existing single-family housing in project area
- Residential appliance electrification

Health and Well-Being..... Desert Recreation District + City of Coachella

- Wellness Hub Program at Bagdouma Park Community Center
- Playground Equipment at Tot Lot on Avenue 53/Calle Empalme
- Park Exercise Equipment and Capital Improvements to Community Center at Bagdouma Park
- Pre-Fab Bathrooms at Sierra Vista Park

Climate Resilience/Adaptation Plan..... City of Coachella

- Top climate change risks: extreme heat, poor air quality, flooding from heavier precipitation, longer droughts

Displacement Avoidance Plan..... City of Coachella

- Production of affordable housing
- Preservation of affordable housing
- Neighborhood stabilization and wealth building
- Protections for small businesses

- Food Distribution/Small Farmer Pilot Program (Hidden Harvest)

Workforce Development Plan..... Urban Youth Conservation Corps, Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce, GRID Alternatives

- Green jobs/career training
- Youth training, ages 18-26
- Apprenticeship opportunities will be offered at CVUSD High Schools + College of the Desert

Water Efficiency..... City of Coachella

- Water Audits (by Urban Youth Conservation Corps)
- Residential water efficiency replacement rebate (faucets, showerheads, toilets)
- Residential replacement of clothes washer
- Replacement of lawn with water-wise landscape

Urban Greening and Green Infrastructure..... City of Coachella

- Tree planting in project area (approx. 150-175 trees)
- Tree planting in new affordable housing area
- Signs interpretive aids/display boards, urban forestry education signage
- Tree Inventory/Urban Forest Mapping
- Enhancement and/or Expansion of Neighborhood Park and Community Space (with tree planting)
- Tot Lot at Calle Camacho/Avenue 53 (planting trees)
- Sierra Vista Park (planting orchard trees)

Active Transportation..... City of Coachella

- Missing link sidewalk and bike lanes on Avenue 50
- Wayfinding signage
- Bicycle repair kiosks

Indicator Tracking + Data Collection Plan: UC Riverside will serve as the Evaluation Partner

Community Engagement Plan (Implementation Phase): Alianza Coachella Valley

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The Coachella Prospera Initiative aims for transformational change in the Project Area, which includes building the organizational capacity of critical community leaders and organizations to ensure this work sustains well after the TCC grant period ends. In many projects, the Coachella Prospera Initiative will fund staff and administrative support to project partners, and fund critical programming that improves the quality of life in the Project Area.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2022-65 Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the Transformative Climate Communities Program Administered through the California Department of Conservation and Authorizing the Execution of a Public Safety CFD Deferral Agreement, Partnership Agreement and All Other Required Documents
2. Not Adopt Resolution No. 2022-65 Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the Transformative Climate Communities Program Administered through the California Department of Conservation and Authorizing the Execution of a Public Safety CFD Deferral Agreement, Partnership Agreement and All Other Required Documents

FISCAL IMPACT:

The SGC Grant funds will be deposited in the California Department of Conservation Fund (2139), CAO Administration (02111), Project (TBD), State Grant Miscellaneous (46229). This same fund will be used to issue advance payments. No more than \$200,000 in advance payments will be issued, individually or collectively, at any time. The Strategic Growth Council will be invoiced every two months, which would allow for a regular replenishing of any advanced payments.

The detailed distribution of the \$35M grant award is summarized in Attachment 4. In general, action on this item will have a positive fiscal impact to Coachella residents through the projects that it sponsors.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution No. 2022-65
2. TCC Round 4 NOFA
3. TCC Project Area Map
4. Partnership Agreement (2022-65 Exhibit A)
5. Conditional CFD Loan Commitment (2022-65 Exhibit B)