



STAFF REPORT
4/23/2025

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Jaime Arroyo, Grants Manager

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution No. 2025-10 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Application on behalf of the City of Coachella to the Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program in the Amount Not-to-Exceed Six Million (\$6,000,000) Dollars

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council considers adopting Resolution No. 2025-10 authorizing the City Manager to submit an application on behalf of the City of Coachella to the Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant program in the amount not-to-exceed six million (\$6,000,000) dollars.

BACKGROUND:

On February 14, 1963, President Kennedy's Administration proposed legislation to establish a "Land and Water Conservation Fund" to assist states in planning, acquisition, and development of recreation lands. With bipartisan support, President Johnson signed it into law on September 3, 1964, as Public Law 88- 578, 16 U.S.C.460l-4. The Land and Water Conservation Fund grants provide funding for the acquisition or development of land to create new outdoor recreation opportunities for the health and wellness of Californians. Since 1965, over one thousand parks throughout California have been created or improved with LWCF assistance.

When an LWCF project is completed, the land within the approved LWCF Boundary Map is placed under federal protection, preserving the public's outdoor recreational use of the site in perpetuity for the benefit of our nation's future generations

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The LWCF grant provides funding for two types of projects – acquisition or development. The City of Coachella is proposing to submit an application not to exceed \$6 million for a development project. Under the development application, projects must develop recreation features for outdoor recreation, intended for outdoor recreational opportunities for the health and wellness of

Californians. The development application also allows funding for major support amenities, such as parking lots, lighting and landscaping.

The application will supplement the City's Community Resilience Center (CRC) project that will see the retrofit of the Hidden Harvest building as an emergency shelter during extreme weather events and other emergencies, while also providing year-round community services and programs, such as food distribution and workforce development training, that build overall community resilience. These additional funds will help cover the costs for the CRC outdoor recreation features that include community, demonstration, and botanical gardens, dog park, picnic areas, outdoor performing space/amphitheater, water and drinking fountains. More importantly, the funding will also cover costs related to the CRC off-site improvements, such as parking, lighting, and roadway and pedestrian paving – facilities that are crucial in providing the community direct access to the CRC, especially during emergencies.

Since the City's award of the CRC grant, construction costs have risen significantly due to inflation. The LWCF fund will help supplement that funding in order to guarantee that the CRC is fully equipped with the features that will truly transform it into an accessible emergency shelter that will provide community resilience.

The application deadline is August 5th, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is a 50% minimum match requirement of the total project cost. The City will be leveraging funding from its Community Resilience Center Grant to match the 50% requirement.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Adopt Resolution No. 2025-10 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Application on behalf of the City of Coachella to the Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program in the Amount Not-to-Exceed Six Million (\$6,000,000) Dollars
2. Not Adopt Resolution No. 2025-10 Authorizing the City Manager to Submit an Application on behalf of the City of Coachella to the Department of Parks and Recreation Office of Grants and Local Services for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program in the Amount Not-to-Exceed Six Million (\$6,000,000) Dollars

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution No. 2025-10