



**TOWN OF LOS GATOS
COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT**

MEETING DATE: 09/15/2020

ITEM NO: 5

DATE: September 10, 2020
TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Laurel Prevetti, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Consider the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce Proposal to Install Light Displays in Various Locations at an Estimated Cost to the Town of Approximately \$150,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider the Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce proposal to install light displays in various locations at an estimated cost to the Town of approximately \$150,000.

BACKGROUND

The Town Council has taken many proactive steps to support the Los Gatos community and its economic recovery due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Among these actions, the Town Council repurposed the Downtown Streetscape Revitalization Capital Improvement Project to create outdoor spaces for business activities on Town properties. Specifically on May 26, 2020, the Town Council unanimously voted to utilize the Downtown Streetscape Revitalization project to install temporary parklets by removing on-street parking on North Santa Cruz and Main Streets, adding dedicated curbside pickup locations, and making other modifications to the downtown. On June 8, 2020, Council allocated \$150,000 from the Downtown Streetscape Revitalization project (\$1.9 M) for these improvements.

At its October 6 meeting, the Town Council is scheduled to consider additional economic recovery efforts as winter approaches and the Public Health Orders continue to change. This item is expected to include policy considerations as well as additional investments in the downtown. Staff is in the process of preparing the report and cost estimates are not available at this time. Expenses would likely not require a large share of the remaining funds in the Downtown Streetscape Revitalization/Economic Recovery project.

Reviewed by: Assistant Town Manager, Finance Director, and Town Attorney

DISCUSSION

The Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce is requesting a funding allocation from the Downtown Streetscape Revitalization/Economic Recovery project for the installation of lighting displays at various locations around the downtown (see Attachment 1). A cost estimate is included in the proposal.

Parks and Public Works staff met with the Chamber to review the display concept and provided some insight as to what is feasible and where challenges may be found. The elements of the project are still evolving which means that the estimated \$150,000 amount is a high level estimate that may be understated at this point. The ability of PPW to do the install depends on how involved the work is and competing maintenance responsibilities and other priorities, particularly if the Council directs additional work associated with the larger COVID Economic Recovery effort for the business community. It is important to note that much of the work associated with the lighting display would occur on private property, which would require significant coordination and care in addressing liability, building/electrical code requirements, and other issues.

CONCLUSION:

The Town Council should consider the Chamber's proposal and determine whether or not it would like to fund the project in whole or in part. Among the options for consideration:

- Fund the entire project, including installation, storage, utility costs, and other unforeseen costs.
- Fund a portion of the project with installation completed by the Chamber's contractor in coordination with the Town. The Chamber would be responsible for storage, utility costs, and other unforeseen costs.
- Do not fund the project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If the Council directs that the Town should contribute to this proposal in whole or in part, the funds would come from the Economic Recovery Project budget.

COORDINATION:

The preparation of this report was coordinated with the Parks and Public Works and Community Development Departments, and the Town Manager and Town Attorney Offices.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

This is not a project defined under CEQA, and no further action is required.

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SUBJECT: Consider Chamber Light Proposal at an Estimated Cost to the Town of \$150,000

DATE: September 10, 2020

Attachment:

1. Chamber Proposal