



## AGENDA

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners

VIA: Tammy Bussey, Interim City Manager

FROM: Community & Economic Development Department

SUBJECT: Request to Apply - NEAT Grant Applications – Project Fun, Project Fun II and Pahokee Community Garden and Zen Space

DATE: March 17, 2026

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#### **GENERAL SUMMARY/BACKGROUND:**

The Neighborhood Engagement and Transformation (NEAT) Grant Program is a competitive state grant designed to support community-driven projects that improve public spaces, promote recreation, and strengthen neighborhood engagement. The City of Pahokee has identified three priority projects that align with NEAT's objectives:

1. **Project Fun – Swing Set:** Installation of a complete swing set at MLK Park to enhance play opportunities for children.
2. **Project Fun – Commercial Shade(s)/Playground Cover(s):** Installation of commercial-grade shade structures at City playgrounds to provide sun protection and increase comfort for residents during outdoor activities.
3. **Pahokee Community Garden and Zen Space Project:** Development of a community garden and wellness-focused Zen space to promote environmental education, health, and community engagement.

These projects collectively support the City's goals of:

- Enhancing recreational opportunities for children and families.
- Encouraging year-round outdoor activity and wellness.
- Strengthening community engagement through accessible public spaces.
- Investing in durable, long-term infrastructure improvements.

The NEAT Grant application process requires City Commission authorization and designation of an official to execute all necessary grant documents. Additionally, the City must commit to providing any required matching funds, which will be drawn from available budgeted resources or other eligible sources.

#### **BUDGET IMPACT:**

There is no immediate fiscal impact associated with this proclamation.

**LEGAL NOTE:**

Defer to the City Attorney.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Commission approve the request to apply for the 2027 NEAT Grant Applications (Project Fun, Project Fun II and Pahokee Community Garden and Zen Space).

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Resolution 2026-10

Exhibit A: Project Summaries and Letters of Intent