



# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

---

**Title:** Approval to Sign the OPRD Lower Sankey Park Phase III Grant Agreement

**Preferred Agenda:** October 24, 2023

**Submitted By:** Angela Clegg, Associate Planner

**Reviewed By:** Kelcey Young, City Manager

**Type of Action:** Resolution \_\_\_ Motion  X  Roll Call \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

**Relevant Code/Policy:** N/A

**Towards Council Goal:** Goal 3.2 Look for methods to improve community safety, Police, Community Design, etc.

**Attachments:** OPRD Lower Sankey Park Phase III Grant Agreement

---

## **Purpose of this RCA:**

The purpose of this RCA is to approve signing the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) Lower Sankey Park Phase III Grant Agreement LG23-004.

## **Background/Context:**

The City of Sweet Home staff submitted a grant application in April 2023 to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Government Grant Program for the Lower Sankey Park Phase III grant. The grant was chosen by the OPRD Board and awarded on September 21, 2023. The grant agreement was sent to the City of Sweet Home for Signature on October 12, 2023.

## **The Challenge/Problem:**

Should the City Council sign the grant agreement for \$295,993.30? The City would need to match 40%, \$118,397.32, which can include a mix of cash and in-kind services.

## **Stakeholders:**

The grant funding would assist the City with the ability to complete projects at Sankey Park and therefore fulfill the goal of providing a vibrant community space for all Sweet Home residents and visitors.

- **City of Sweet Home:** Having better more vibrant parks increases positive use, lowers crime, and increases the property values of homes near the park.
- **Surrounding Residences:** Studies show that there is an increase in property values with homes near and abutting parks. Increased positive use in the parks can result in lower crime rates in surrounding neighborhoods and a more positive, family-friendly environment.
- **Outer Residences:** Improved parks create family friendly gathering areas that include safe park amenities mixed with open natural areas for families to explore.
- **Businesses:** Increased amenities within the community show vibrancy and will bring in more visitors.

- Visitors: Visitors see a vibrant and inviting community that makes them want to visit time and time again, and potentially choose Sweet Home as a place to live.

**Issues and Financial Impacts:**

- Project Amount: \$295,993.30
- Grant Amount: \$177,595.98
- 40% Match Requirement: \$118,397.32, potentially coming from the following sources:
  - Current Fiscal Year City Parks Projects/Improvements Budget (General Fund): \$120,000
  - Next Fiscal Year Parks System Development Charges (SDC): \$98,000
  - Donations/In-Kind Contributions: The Park & Tree Committee is working on a donor campaign to help fund this project.

The grant amount is comparable to other projects similar in scope and awarded through the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

**Elements of a Stable Solution:**

To accept the funding to complete the lower Sankey Park upgrades identified by the community and City staff.

**Options:**

1. Do Nothing. Direct staff not to sign the agreement with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department this year. The next opportunity for this source of funding will be in 2025.
2. Direct staff to sign the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Local Government Grant Agreement as presented.
3. Direct staff to submit the Oregon Parks and Recreation Local Government Grant Agreement with recommendations City Council changes (specify).
4. Other. Specify other actions for Staff to take.

If the City Council approves the agreement, staff will begin site prep and engineering in November 2023. The project must be completed by December 31,2025.

**Recommendation:**

No. 2 - Direct staff to sign the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Local Government Grant Agreement as presented.