

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT GRANT FOR 2009/10

BACKGROUND:

On August 11, 2009, the City Council approved two Neighborhood Improvement Project Grants in the total amount of \$10,000. The third application received a sufficient number of points to make it eligible for funding; however, the Review Panel asked for further clarification of its total budget and specific species and locations of the trees. The requested information has been received, and City Council approval of the following grant is now being requested.

SOMERSET HORSESHOE LAWN LANDSCAPING PROJECT:

The purpose of this project is to beautify the Horseshoe Lawn area in Somerset Subdivision. This area is located south of Northridge Parkway, between Stange Road and George Washington Carver Avenue, and is the site of a Neighborhood Art sculpture, "Slight of Hand." The purpose of this project is to further enhance the area by planting trees, bushes, and flowers. In addition, three benches and one bench shelter will be installed, which will provide an area for neighbors to visit and get to know each other.

The total cost of the project is \$7,090, and requested City funding is \$3,545. The applicants are providing \$1,075 in cash, plus in-kind contributions in the amount of \$2,470.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The City Council can approve the expenditure of \$3,545 to fund the Neighborhood Improvement Program for the Somerset Horseshoe Lawn Landscaping Project.
2. The City Council can reject this project for funding at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This project will enhance and strengthen the Somerset Neighborhood and, thus, is in keeping with one of the City Council's goals.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative #1, thereby approving a Neighborhood Improvement Program grant for the Somerset Horseshoe Lawn Landscaping Project.