

ITEM #: 20
DATE: 06/12/18

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT GRANT FOR FY 2017/18

BACKGROUND:

The City Council has appropriated Local Option Sales Tax funds to finance the Neighborhood Improvement Program (NIP). This year, \$50,000 was approved for neighborhood programs, with \$25,000 earmarked for the NIP and the remaining \$25,000 allocated for a broader array of neighborhood projects.

As you will recall, there are two main goals of the NIP: (1) to strengthen a neighborhood's appearance with the addition of permanent physical improvements, and (2) to promote a greater sense of community through resident participation in a neighborhood project.

Each project application is rated on the following 100-point system. A project must achieve at least 50 points to be considered:

Resident Involvement (30 points maximum):*

...the number of residents donating their time and/or labor to accomplish the project

...the number of residents donating funds to the project

*10 points 1-25 people; 20 points 26-50 people; 30 points over 50 people

Project Impact (30 points maximum):**

...the number of residents who will be positively affected by the improvement

**10 points 1-25 people; 20 points 26-100 people; 30 points over 100 people

Safety (10 points maximum):

...enhancement of safety in the neighborhood

Public Space (10 points maximum):

...promotion of social interaction by utilizing public space

Improved Housing (10 points maximum)

Environment (10 points maximum):

...support for the environment

An application has been received from the Friends of Roosevelt Park for a Neighborhood Improvement Project Grant. This is the only application received for FY 2017/18. The Review Panel, comprised of City staff members and two citizens, scored the application and unanimously recommended that the project be approved for funding. In addition, the City's Parks and Recreation Department has been involved in the planning and approve of this addition to Roosevelt Park.

The Neighborhood Improvement Project Review Panel is requesting approval by the City Council of the following project:

The Friends of Roosevelt Park proposes to install two permanent outdoor ping pong tables in Roosevelt Park. The tables will be constructed of concrete and sit on a concrete base. Two benches to be located near the tables have also been requested. Roosevelt Park attracts visitors from all over town for the playground and Summer Concert Series. The Friends group believes that the installation of the only year-round ping pong tables in the City will attract even more visitors/users from all over the City.

The total cost of the project is \$11,900. Requested City funding is \$4,000. The neighborhood residents are providing \$7,900 in cash contributions and in-kind donations and labor.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The City Council can approve the expenditure of \$4,000 to fund the NIP grant project for the Friends of Roosevelt Park to purchase and install two permanent outdoor ping pong tables and two benches in Roosevelt Park.
2. The City Council can reject any or all of the projects for funding at this time.

MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Supporting projects that strengthen neighborhoods 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 Friends of Roosevelt Park.