

Regional Parks
Liz Bellas, Director

Divisions
Administration
Golf
Maintenance
Rangers
Recreation Services



County of Sacramento

Acting County Executive
Ann Edwards

To: Lower American River Conservancy Program Advisory Committee

From: Liz Bellas, Director, County of Sacramento Regional Parks

Date: February 11, 2021

Re: Request for Funding Augmentation for American River Parkway Natural Resources Management Plan in the amount of \$118,380

Summary of Request:

The County of Sacramento Department of Regional Parks (Regional Parks) respectfully requests a funding augmentation in the amount of \$118,380 for the completion of the American River Parkway Natural Resources Management Plan.

Background:

The intent of the Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP), as stated in the original Request for Qualifications, is "...to provide relevant and defensible information...for making informed decisions for managing, maintaining, and enhancing Parkway resources" (p. 43).

The Wildlife Conservation Board approved \$500,000 in funding towards the NRMP in November 2018, with a notice to proceed given January 2019. Funds were granted for the following project tasks:

- Data Collection
- GIS database
- Administrative Draft, Public Draft and Final Draft NRMP
- SEIR
- Public Hearing for SEIR
- Data Management System
- Project Management
- Public Outreach on NRMP (four meetings)

Regional Parks is providing \$333,440 in matching funds from Habitat Restoration Program Funds, to partially fund these program tasks. Additionally, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) is providing \$162,520 to fund the facilitation of nine task force meetings, and will be assisting with the coordination between the Army Corps of Engineers and Regional Parks for hydraulic modeling of the proposed projects included in the NRMP.

In May 2020, the Lower American River Conservancy Program Advisory Committee approved an amendment to the work plan which moved funds in the amount of \$228,196 from the Environmental Review task to the production of the NRMP task. This change was requested recognizing that a Supplemental EIR (to the 2008 Parkway Plan EIR) will be the appropriate level of review since the recommended actions proposed in the NRMP may already be covered under the 2008 Parkway Plan EIR actions and/or mitigations. The overall funding from Wildlife Conservation Fund remained at \$500,000.

Completed Tasks:

The following tasks have been completed through February 2021:

- Data Collection
- GIS database
- Four (4) Public meetings, providing an overview of the NRMP
- Public Survey: 60 day online community survey, which resulted in over 1600 responses
- Nine (9) NRMP Task Force Meetings
- Three (3) American River Parkway Stakeholder meetings, which were targeted sub-meeting of the NRMP Task Force
- Administrative Draft of the NRMP sent to select agencies, and subsequently shared with NRMP Task Force for review and comment

Budget Augmentation Request:

Regional Parks respectfully requests a budget augmentation to complete the NRMP which would fund the following items:

Enhanced Resources Assessment and Mapping (\$61,960)

Identifying preservation, enhancement, rehabilitation, and naturalization opportunities. Coordination with technical team members, SAFCA, representatives from community stakeholder groups and task force members.

Additional Public Outreach and Reporting (\$32,840)

Four additional public outreach meetings to be held during the 60-day public comment period for the Public Draft NRMP, and a community outreach report to be completed summarizing the meetings and public comment received.

Additional Project Management (\$23,580)

Coordination and facilitation of public outreach, and meetings with technical team and public agencies

Updated NRMP Schedule:

The schedule below outlines the remaining tasks and timeline associated, and includes the requested augmentation.

Date	Task
March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public Draft of NRMP released for 60 day comment period• Four (4) Public Outreach meetings• Vegetation data and mapping provided to SAFCA and ACOE for hydraulic modeling
April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notice of Preparation/Initial Study for Supplemental EIR
May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Updated Area Plan Maps based on hydraulic modeling
June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed Final Draft NRMP• Public Draft SEIR/EIS Released*
July 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Management System Developed• Public Hearing SEIR/EIS
Late Summer 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Final Draft Supplemental EIR*• Certified Final EIR* and Final NRMP approved by BoS

**subject to workload constraints of County Division of Planning and Environmental Review. Changes to these dates will affect date of final adoption of plan by the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors.*

Next Steps:

Should the Lower American River Conservancy Program Advisory Committee recommend the requested budget augmentation, the request will be brought forward to the Wildlife Conservation Board for final approval, and a revised work plan, budget and grant amendment will be prepared.