

STAFF REPORT

Date: October 25, 2023

To: Mayor and City Council

Thru: Doug Thornley, City Manager

Subject: Staff Report (For Possible Action): Acceptance of Truckee River Fund Grant for the construction of Lake Park Watershed Project (Floating Wetlands and Pollinator Revegetation Project) in the amount of \$30,832.

From: Daniel Moss, Project Coordinator

Department: Utility Services

Summary:

The Lake Park Watershed Project is a collaborative effort between the City of Reno's Utility Services and Parks and Recreation Departments, One Truckee River, and other non-profits to improve lake shore habitat at Lake Park. Acceptance of a grant in the amount of \$30,832 from the Truckee River Fund toward the Lake Park Watershed Project will provide a floating wetland and pollinator revegetation at the City of Reno's Lake Park. Staff recommends Council accept the grant (Truckee River Fund).

Alignment with Strategic Plan:

Infrastructure, Climate Change, and Environmental Sustainability

Previous Council Action:

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

Background:

The Truckee Meadows Water Authority (TMWA) established the Truckee River Fund in 2004. The purpose of the fund was to finance projects that protect and enhance water quality or water resources of the Truckee River watershed. In addition, the fund provides TMWA with a vehicle for responding to the numerous requests from outside groups and organizations that are involved in promoting and improving the health of the Truckee River system and benefiting the primary water source for the community.

Discussion:

Lake Park, located at 40 Coleman Drive in Reno, has had long-term water quality issues. The

Lake Park Watershed Project will install three floating wetland islands within the existing pond at Lake Park, improve plant diversity by revegetating the pond shoreline with native pollinator plants, and will include educational Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) signage for schools and the public to learn how wetlands benefit plant and animal ecosystems and water quality. This project will aid in improving water quality, study the efficacy and demonstrate a growing ecological method to protect and enhance wetlands, increase and diversify native pollinator plant species, create and support a safe waterfowl habitat within a park environment and allow engagement and education for park visitors about the benefits of wetland and pollinator habitats. The project is a collaborative effort between the City of Reno, One Truckee River, Truckee Meadows Park Foundation, and Friends of Lake Park, and is being funded by a Truckee River Fund grant and an in-kind match provided by the City of Reno.

Financial Implications:

The grant requires a 25 percent match, (\$7,708) which will be met with Utility Services staff time.

Legal Implications:

Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada law.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends Council Staff recommends Council accept the Truckee River Fund Grant for the Lake Park Watershed Project in the amount of \$30,832 and authorize the Mayor to sign.

Proposed Motion:

I move to approve staff recommendation.

Attachments:

Truckee River Fund Lake Park Agreement.pdf