

## STAFF REPORT

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**Date:** March 8, 2023

**To:** Mayor and City Council

**Thru:** Doug Thornley, City Manager

**Subject:** Staff Report (For Possible Action): Acceptance of Grant Award under the FY2022 Economic Development Initiative Community Project Funding Grant for City of Reno Park Restroom Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Facility Upgrades in the amount of \$1,056,000.

**From:** Karina Mercier, Management Analyst

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### Summary:

Congress approved grants for Economic Development Initiative (EDI) Community Project Funding (CPF) as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022, (Public Law 117-103). Congress awards grants to communities under the EDI for the purpose of supporting housing, homelessness prevention, workforce training, public facilities, parks, resilience planning and other critical infrastructure projects and services. Under this initiative, Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, Senator Jacky Rosen and Congressman Mark Amodei earmarked \$1,056,000 for City of Reno park restroom Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) facility upgrades.

These CPF awards are administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The funds are subject to the rules and spending categories outlined in the federal legislation and by the United States Department of Treasury. On February 6, 2023, the HUD Office of Economic Development, Congressional Grants Division (CGD) officially approved the City of Reno's grant application for this project and has issued a grant agreement subject to Council approval. Staff recommends Council accept these funds and direct their expenditure to complete park ADA Restroom facility upgrades.

### Previous Council Action:

There is no recent Council action relevant to this item.

### Alignment with Strategic Plan:

The proposed projects align with the following Strategic Goals:

- Economic and Community Development
- Infrastructure, Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability

- Arts, Parks, and Historical Resources

**Background:**

In 2022, Congress made available “grants for the Economic Development Initiative for the purposes of Community Project Funding/Congressionally Directed Spending” in the Consolidated Appropriations Act. These funds finance a wide variety of public project activities including facility site planning and preparation; facility construction, renovation, rehabilitation or purchase; streetscaping; development or improvement of parks or other public spaces; and many others.

This grant award for the City of Reno was allocated by Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, Senator Jacky Rosen and Congressman Mark Amodei under the FY2022 EDI CPF initiative. These CPF awards are administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The HUD Office of Economic Development, Congressional Grants Division (CGD) has officially awarded the City of Reno \$1,056,000 to fund ADA Restroom facility upgrades at four park sites.

**Discussion:**

This proposed project would bring four restroom facilities in City parks into compliance with ADA requirements. ADA compliance is a priority for the City, but budget constraints have added an additional barrier to making all necessary improvements. In addition to accelerating the City’s ADA compliance plans, this project will improve access and mobility to City parks for residents. This project will focus on removing and replacing existing CMU park restroom buildings and upgrading them to meet ADA standards. The project sites include:

- Idlewild Park, Snowflake Shelter (1805 Idlewild Drive)
- Idlewild Park, Kiddieland (1900 Idlewild Drive)
- Huffaker Park (1160 East Huffaker Lane)
- Manzanita Park (630 Manzanita Lane)

These four restrooms are currently seasonal because they are metal structures that are highly susceptible to freezing during the winter months. These were identified as the highest priority sites for this project because improvements to these facilities would allow for permanent ADA restroom access at some of the highest-use parks in the City. If approved, this project is estimated to start construction in spring 2024.

**Financial Implications:** These funds are received outside the normal City budget process and generally are unable to offset other City expenses outside the intended use for this grant. Uses for these funds are restricted and must follow U.S. Treasury rules and guidance.

**Legal Implications:** Legal review completed for compliance with City procedures and Nevada

law.

**Recommendation:** Staff recommends Council accept the FY2022 Economic Development Initiative Community Project Funding Grant Award in the amount of \$1,056,000.

**Proposed Motion:** I move to approve staff recommendation.

**Attachments:**

- FY22 Community Project Funding Grant Agreement (PDF)
- Park Restroom ADA Facility Upgrades Project Narrative and Scope (PDF)
- Park Restroom ADA Facility Upgrades Vicinity Map (PDF)