RESOLUTION - ACTION REQUESTED 2018-208

MEETING: May 8, 2018

TO: The Board of Supervisors

FROM: Sarah Williams, Planning Director

RE: PG&E Resilient Communities Grant

RECOMMENDATION AND JUSTIFICATION:
Approve the Submittal of a PG&E Resilient Communities Grant Application for Park Master Planning in Midpines; and Authorize the Board of Supervisors Chair to Sign the Grant Agreement if Awarded (Subject to Approval as to Form by County Counsel).

The proposed project will fund an interactive park master planning process, using stakeholder engagement and quantitative landscape analysis to design and program public open space in Midpines. While the core objective of this process is to lay the foundation for open space that meets Midpines’ preferences for park programs and aesthetics, the project focuses on promoting local park stewardship and use, even in the face of extreme heat and other climate-related public health impacts.

Proposed funding for this project will be a grant from PG&E. The grant offers $100,000 grants that support innovative, replicable projects that address specific climate-related community impacts. Applications are due on May 11, 2018; as of the date of preparation of this request, staff is still working on the submittal.

Local partners for this project include Mariposa County (Planning Department as lead, Public Works Department, County Health Department, and Community Services Department), Sierra Foothills Conservancy, Friends of Bear Creek, the recently established Creative Place Making Strategy Advisory Committee, and others as appropriate. If successful, work would commence shortly after grants are awarded in Summer 2018.

The proposed project will result in park master planning and design practices that coordinate recreational programming with hazard mitigation and climate change adaptation strategies. The master plan will include items such as community aesthetic preferences, programmatic options, schematic layouts for recreation elements, conceptual cost estimates, phasing options, and a study of funding mechanisms to support implementation.

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY OF BOARD ACTIONS:
On August 13, 2013 the Board of Supervisors received a presentation from Ed Temple of the Friends of Bear Creek, who noted that changes to Midpines Park have reduced
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its recreational functions for residents.

On September 24, 2013 the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 2013-415/Local Transportation Commission Resolution 2013-13, approving budget action transferring funds from the Pedestrian Bikeway Fund to the Land, Building, Improvements Fund for the purchase of land in Midpines to increase the size of the park.

ALTERNATIVES AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION:
Alternatives to this grant involve pursuing other external funding opportunities to advance the design thinking necessary to envision and implement the expansion to Midpines Park. Failure to approve this application will delay implementation of these recommendations, and limit the park’s to the community and the environment.

RESULT: ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVED: Merlin Jones, District II Supervisor
SECONDER: Kevin Cann, District IV Supervisor
AYES: Smallcombe, Jones, Long, Cann, Menetrey