

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 06/10/25

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 25-0486

LOG NAME: 80FORT WORTH ZOO BUILDING RENOVATION

SUBJECT

(CD 9) Authorize Execution of a Recreation Grant Agreement to Accept an Urban Indoor Recreation Grant in an Amount Up to \$2,000,000.00 from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for the Fort Worth Zoo Hall of Wonders Building Renovation Project. Accept a Letter of Commitment from the Fort Worth Zoological Association Committing Funds for the Local Match in an Amount Up to \$2,000,000.00; Authorize Execution of an Infrastructure Construction Agreement with the Fort Worth Zoological Association for Construction of the Hall of Wonders Renovation Project in an Amount Up to \$4,000,000.00; Adopt Appropriation Ordinance; and Amend the Fiscal Years 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize execution of a Recreation Grant Agreement to accept an Urban Indoor Recreation Grant in an amount up to \$2,000,000.00 from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department for the Fort Worth Zoo Hall of Wonders Building Renovation project ;
2. Accept a letter of commitment from the Fort Worth Zoological Association to fund the grant's local match in an amount up to \$2,000,000.00;
3. Authorize execution of an Infrastructure Construction Agreement with the Fort Worth Zoological Association in an amount up to \$4,000,000.00 to construct a portion of the Hall of Wonders Building Renovations;
4. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Grants Capital Project State Fund in an amount up to \$2,000,000.00 subject to the receipt of the grant for the Fort Worth Zoo Hall of Wonders Building Renovation project; and
5. Amend the Fiscal Years 2025-2029 Capital Improvement Plan.

DISCUSSION:

The purpose of this Mayor and Council Communication (M&C) is to authorize a Recreation Grant Agreement to accept an Urban Indoor Grant in an amount up to \$2,000,000.00 from the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD) and acknowledge and accept the Fort Worth Zoological Association's financial participation by providing the grant's local match in the amount of \$2,000,000.00. This will fund renovations to the Hall of Wonders building located within the Fort Worth Zoo, as part of a larger renovation being undertaken by the Zoo Association. The Grant Repository Number is GRNT-APPL-0000000137.

On June 11, 2024, the City Council adopted Resolution No.5967-06-2024 authorizing the Park & Recreation Department (PARD) to apply for an Urban Indoor Recreation Grant from TPWD. The application was well received and on January 23, 2025, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission approved the issuance of \$2,000,000.00 in grant funding to the City for the purpose of renovations to the Hall of Wonders building.

Per the TPWD grant application structure, a 1:1 grant match is required. The Zoo Association will fund the \$2,000,000.00 match.

This is a reimbursement grant. The City is solely responsible for any additional costs associated with project administration, design, construction inspection, and materials testing. Since no city salaries will be charged, indirect cost recovery does not apply.

PARD's Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) does not include potential grant awards. Therefore, the requested action in this M&C will amend the Fiscal Year (FY) 2025-2029 CIP.

The Fort Worth Zoo is located in COUNCIL DISTRICT 9 and is classified as a Special-Use Facility.

A Form 1295 is not required because: This contract will be with a governmental entity, state agency or public institution of higher education: Texas Parks & Wildlife Department

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that upon approval of the above recommendations and adoption of the attached appropriation ordinance funds will be available in the current capital budget, as appropriated, in the Grants Capital Project State Fund. The Park & Recreation Department (and Financial Management Services) will be responsible for the collection and deposit of funds due to the City. Prior to any expenditure being incurred, the Park & Recreation Department has the responsibility to validate the availability of funds. This is a reimbursement grant.

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Expedited