

Mayor and Council Communication

DATE: 01/10/23

M&C FILE NUMBER: M&C 23-0016

LOG NAME: 19LAKE COMO BANDALONG

SUBJECT

(CD 3 / Future CD 6) Authorize a Change in Use and Expenditure of 2018-2019 Community Development Block Grant Funds Totaling \$57,584.72 and Authorize the Execution of a Contract with Storm Water Systems, Inc. in the Amount of \$226,282.00 for Engineering Services and the Installation of a Bandalong Litter Trap to Facilitate Collection and Removal of Floatable Aquatic Trash in Lake Como

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council:

1. Authorize a change in use and expenditure of 2018-2019 Community Development Block Grant Funds totaling \$57,584.72; and
2. Authorize the execution of a contract with Storm Water Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$226,282.00 for engineering services and the installation of a Bandalong Litter Trap to facilitate collection and removal of floatable aquatic trash in Lake Como.

DISCUSSION:

In November 2020, the City of Fort Worth selected the Como area as its fifth Neighborhood Improvement Program target area. As part of this program, funds were set aside by City Council to provide \$3.19 million in funding for public safety, capital improvements, and neighborhood revitalization to the Como neighborhood. Stakeholder meetings were held between Como leadership, Neighborhood Services and Community Engagement Departments beginning in February 2021, with the first community meeting held in March 2021. Como residents also participated in workshops focused on area improvements and financial stability, which included learning the basics of property taxes, zoning, land use and practical steps for neighbors interested in participating in the public hearing process. All meetings and workshops helped to determine and shape the funding allocations for the specific improvement areas.

Area improvements included the following: New Surveillance Cameras, Litter Abatement, Illegal Dumping Investigations, Horne Street Litter Containers, Substandard Building Team, Safe Neighborhood Team, Demolition of Structures, Lake Como Water Study, Structural Litter Control Program, Street Light Installations, Sidewalk Installations, Street Rehabilitation, Forestry Management, Street Tree Planting, and Lake Como Park Improvements. Each improvement area had specific action items identified as well as a proposed budget.

Litter Abatement had a proposed budget of \$187,500.00 in 2021 to fund UpSpire Teams with plans to complete the following action items:

- Collect 78 tons of litter
- Clear 2200 lane miles
- Collect and dispose 65 tons of illegal dumping

Upon further assessment of community needs, it was recommended to City staff to purchase and install a Bandalong Litter Trap. This is a floating device installed at strategic locations along waterways to collect and retain floating litter and other debris. The system operates silently without any mechanical assistance, capturing and retaining debris for removal and disposal.

The City posted a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the collection and removal of floatable aquatic trash in Lake Como. This installation will be a pilot project to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of the installed device and the potential for usage elsewhere in the City. An RFP was advertised in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* on May 4, 2022 and May 8, 2022. No bid responses were received by the May 20, 2022 due date. A second RFP was advertised in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* on June 12, 2022 and June 19, 2022. A single response was submitted by the July 7, 2022 due date from Stormwater Systems, Inc. (Stormwater Systems) of Cleveland, Georgia. Stormwater Systems proposes installation of a "Bandalong Model 320 Aquatic Litter Trap" for the Lake Como reference site. The submittal form was reviewed and rated, by committee, based on the published weighted selection criteria as set forth in the RFP and was selected as the qualified provider, based on demonstrated competence and qualifications provided in the Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) to perform the services in accordance with Chapter 2254 of the Texas Government Code.

The estimated cost of this device and the necessary engineering and design services is \$226,282.00. The current available balance in the Neighborhood Improvement Program budget is \$168,697.28. In partnership with the Code Compliance Department, responsible for overseeing purchase and installation, the Neighborhood Services Department proposes to reallocate \$57,584.72 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) PY2018 unprogrammed funds for the purchase of the Bandalong Litter Trap.

The CDBG grant and Action Plan funding year shown in the funding tables may vary and be substituted based on the principle of First In, First Out (FIFO) and consistent with all HUD regulations and guidance, in order to expend oldest grant funds first.

Funds From:

Action Plan Year(s)	Program	Amount(s) not to Exceed

2018-2019	City of Fort Worth - Unprogrammed Funds (CDBG)	\$57,584.72
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Funds To:

Action Plan Year(s)	Program	Amount(s) not to Exceed
2018-2019	Lake Como Neighborhood Improvement Strategy Area	\$57,584.72

Funding is budgeted in the Neighborhood Services unprogrammed funds within the Grants Operating Federal Fund for the CDBG (PY18-19) project and in the Code Compliance Department's General Capital projects fund for the purpose of funding the Lake Como Bandalong project, as appropriated.

A 30-day public comment period was held from October 14, 2022 to November 14, 2022. Notice of this public comment period was published in the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* on October 13, 2022.

This project is in Council District 3 and will in the future be located in Council District 6.

FISCAL INFORMATION / CERTIFICATION:

The Director of Finance certifies that funds are available in the current capital budget, as previously appropriated, in the Grants Operating Federal Fund for the CDBG (PY18-19) project and in the General Capital Projects Fund for the Lake Como Bandalong project to support the approval of the above recommendations and execution of the contract. Prior to any expenditure being incurred, the Neighborhood Services and Code Compliance Departments have the responsibility to validate the availability of funds.

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