

AGENDA ITEM

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Date: February 24, 2023

Council Action Date: February 27, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council**FROM:** Akbar Alikhan, Interim City Manager**SUBJECT:** Authorization to Apply for Fiscal Year 2024 Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) Request Grant Funds**SUMMARY**

Staff is requesting authorization to submit three grant applications for Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) requests for Fiscal Year 2024. Senator Padilla's Office opened its appropriations process on February 16, 2023, with an application deadline of March 3, 2023. Senator Feinstein's Office opened its appropriations process on February 16, 2023, with an application deadline of March 13, 2023. City Council authorization is required to apply for these grant funds.

RECOMMENDATION

- a. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute all agreements necessary to apply for a grant for up to \$2,760,900 for Main Street Moves Bollard Safety Project.
- b. Authorize the Ventura Water General Manager, or designee, to apply for a grant for up to \$5,000,000 for the State Water Interconnection Project.
- c. Authorize the Police Chief, or designee, to apply for a grant for up to \$3,000,000 for the comprehensive upgrade of Ventura Police Department and Ventura Fire Department Radio Project.
- d. Direct staff to return to City Council after the grant application has been submitted for City Council to consider a resolution providing staff authorization for grant processing and administration.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS

As instructed by the Senate Appropriations Committee, congressionally directed spending (referred to as "Community Project Funding" in the House of Representatives) provides direct support for projects in California communities. Senator Padilla's Office opened its appropriations process on February 16, 2023, with an application deadline of

March 3, 2023. Senator Feinstein's Office opened its appropriations process on February 16, 2023, with an application deadline of March 13, 2023.

Staff is requesting authorization to submit three separate Community Project Funding requests for citywide priority projects. This includes requests to support the Main Street Moves Bollard Safety Project, State Water Interconnection Project, and Ventura Police/Fire Department Radio Upgrade Project.

Main Street Moves Bollard Safety Project:

As part of its annual goal-setting process in Fiscal Year 2022-23, the City Council identified the Main Street Moves Program as a goal with the desire to expand and make permanent outdoor dining in Downtown Ventura.

Main Street Moves (MSM) was created in partnership with Downtown Ventura Partners (DVP) and the City in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to allow businesses fronting Main (from Fir to Figueroa) and California (from Main to Santa Clara) streets to use the public right-of-way for outdoor dining and retail sales in a safe environment.

Safety measures for the interim Main Street Moves program include Meridian barricades at each street closure. Staff analyzed appropriate safety measures for closing Main Street from Fir Street to the Mission and California Street from Main to Santa Clara streets for the long-term program. A permanent installation of removable bollards has been designated the best option. Staff's request is to apply for a grant for up to \$2,760,900 for the Main Street Moves Bollard Safety Project.

State Water Interconnection Project:

This project consists of a seven-mile pipeline that will enable the delivery of State Water that the City has held rights to since 1971 but does not have the infrastructure to receive its entitlement. The Project will enable the delivery of a non-local water supply that will improve water quality, provide an emergency interconnection with neighboring agencies, and provide a resilient water supply for the region. This project is a collaborative effort among multiple public agencies with the shared goal of enhancing regional water security.

Staff's request is to apply for a grant up to \$5,000,000 for the construction of the State Water Interconnection Project.

Ventura Police Department and Ventura Fire Department Radio Project:

As part of its annual goal-setting process in Fiscal Year 2022-23, the City Council identified the City's radio systems as a multi-year project to update equipment to current technologies, which would allow for improved interagency operability.

The scope of the City's Radio Project includes replacing both vehicle-mounted held radios with multiband-capable devices and upgrading existing transmission and repeater

facilities with multiband-capable equipment. This radio system upgrade is required to enhance reliability of police and fire field communications and interoperability with neighboring jurisdictions and allied agencies. Staff's request is to apply for a grant up to \$3,000,000 to fund the development and deployment of a comprehensive upgrade and partial replacement of existing radio equipment serving both Ventura Police/Fire Departments.

If approved, staff will return after the grant application is submitted requesting City Council approve a resolution providing staff authorization for grant processing and administration with the staff report to include the 80% funding by the grant and to identify the 20% of City fund costs for each project. The resolution cannot be included with this item because the final grant application costs are in development.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Staff is in the process of finalizing the proposed budget and scope of work under this round of funding. A final resolution will be presented to City Council after the grant application is submitted. The resolution cannot be included with this item because the final grant application costs are in development. There is no other fiscal impact for submitting the grant application.

Prepared by: Heather Sumagaysay, Public Information Officer