FROM: Regional Parks and Open Space District:

SUBJECT: REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN-SPACE DISTRICT: Approval of the Infrastructure and Economic Recovery Projects; All Districts. [$6,267,468 Total Cost - United States Department of Treasury’s ARPA Funds 100%]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Directors:

1. Authorize $1,500,000 from the County of Riverside’s ARPA Infrastructure allocation, to be used for improvements to Lake Skinner Recreation Area Sewer Infrastructure;
2. Authorize $1,800,000 from the County of Riverside’s ARPA Economic Recovery allocation, to be used for improvements to Lake Skinner Recreation Area Paving;
3. Authorize $1,800,000 from the County of Riverside’s ARPA Economic Recovery allocation, to be used for improvements to Rancho Jurupa Regional Park Paving;
4. Authorize $500,000 from the County of Riverside’s ARPA Economic Recovery allocation, to be used for Phase 2 of the Riverside County Off-Highway Vehicle Park Feasibility Study;
5. Authorize $417,468 from the County of Riverside’s ARPA Economic Recovery allocation, to be used for the Riverside County Regional Park and Open-Space District (RivCoParks) Tourism Recovery Program;
6. Authorize $250,000 from the County of Riverside’s ARPA Economic Recovery allocation, to be used to conduct the District 4 Regional Park Feasibility Study; and
7. Approve and direct the Auditor-Controller to make budget adjustments as shown on Schedule A.

ACTION: Policy, 4/5 Vote Required

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

On motion of Director Perez, seconded by Director Jeffries and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: October 4, 2022
xc: Parks

Kecia R. Harper
Clerk of the Board
By: Deputy

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C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:
Summary

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (H.R. 1319) into law. The $1.9 trillion package is intended to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, including the public health and economic impacts. On April 27, 2021, the Executive Office presented the Board of Supervisors with a preliminary ARPA funding allocation then on October 19, 2021, presented a revised funding allocation after the U.S. Treasury released the ARPA interim funding guidelines.

On May 5, 2021, the Board received and filed the Strategic Economic Recovery Framework presented by the Economic Recovery Task Force. The framework contained short-term actions to assist business sectors finding it difficult to rebound from the pandemic and state closures, as well as mid to long range areas of focus for future growth and economic resiliency. Keys to the framework were short and long-term action items coordinated for an economic recovery and for the growth of the region whose trajectory includes the principles of equal access to opportunities and addressing barriers for economic equity and inclusion.

On January 6, 2022, the U.S. Treasury issued the final funding guidelines. These guidelines further clarify the detailed eligibility criteria for use of these funds. As a result, under the Economic Recovery category allows for the development of programs to assist businesses and industries struggling to rebound from the pandemic as well as focus on strategic investment projects for future economic growth and resiliency.

On February 8, 2022, the Board approved a revised ARPA funding allocation distribution that included $86 million for Infrastructure projects and $36 million for Economic Recovery to assist businesses struggling to rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic and stimulate future economic growth and resiliency. RivCoParks is recommending allocating $1,500,000 in Infrastructure funding and $4,767,468 million in Economic Recovery funding for the following projects:

- Lake Skinner Regional Park Sewer Project (ARPA-Infrastructure) $1.5 million. Infrastructure. Lake Skinner Regional Park experienced an inordinate number of guests during the pandemic as people were enjoying social-distanced recreation, making parks
as a whole an industry impacted by the pandemic. This project would improve the sewer connections at our existing facilities, thereby increasing access to the park and improving the experience of our guests. This project will be funded from the ARPA (1st Installment) Infrastructure allocation for District 3.

- Lake Skinner Regional Park Repaving Project (ARPA-Economic Recovery): $1.8 million. Lake Skinner Regional Park experienced an increase in the number of guests visiting for day-use activities during the pandemic as people were enjoying social-distanced recreation. At the same time, non-profit and District-sponsored tourism events were cancelled with many non-profits unsure of how to re-implement their events. These combined make parks as a whole an industry impacted by the pandemic. The majority of guests at Lake Skinner came from disproportionately impacted communities. This project would increase access to the park and allow increased tourism from throughout the region as guests are drawn to the park’s amenities and events.

- Rancho Jurupa Regional Park Repaving Project (ARPA-Economic Recovery): $1.8 million- Rancho Jurupa Regional Park experienced an inordinate number of guests during the pandemic visiting for day-use activities as people were enjoying social-distanced recreation. At the same time, non-profit and District-sponsored tourism events were cancelled with many non-profits unsure of how to re-implement their events. These combined make parks as a whole an industry impacted by the pandemic. The majority of our guests at Rancho Jurupa came from disproportionately impacted communities. This project would increase access to the park and allow increased tourism from throughout the region as guests are drawn to the park’s amenities and events.

- OHV Feasibility Study (ARPA-Economic Recovery): $500,000- More people turned to outdoor recreation during the pandemic, putting a strain on our existing portfolio of parks. Our park system as a whole was part of the tourism industry impacted by the pandemic. This project would fund a study to determine the best location for the creation of an off-highway vehicle park (OHV). The goal of the study is to find a site that is easily accessible for those communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic, providing them additional outdoor recreational opportunities.

- RivCoParks Tourism Recovery Program (ARPA-Economic Recovery): $417,468- RivCoParks hosts a number of events each year through non-profit partnerships and provides nature and history-based education to local school districts throughout Riverside County. The Tourism Recovery Program would waive the fees and fund District-sponsored activities associated with these services for one year, providing much-needed relief to non-profits and school districts (which were impacted as a result of the pandemic and face economic difficulties arising therefrom) who host events in Riverside County facilities. Such events include the Temecula Valley Balloon and Wine Festival, 5K Runs, cultural events, and education programs.

- District 4 Regional Park Feasibility Study (ARPA-Economic Recovery): $250,000. More and more people turned to outdoor recreation during the pandemic, putting a strain on the existing portfolio of parks. The Riverside County park system as a whole was part of the tourism industry impacted by the pandemic. This project would fund a study to assist in determining the best location for the creation of a brand new park in the eastern part
SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

of Riverside County, where a number of disproportionately impacted communities live. The goal of the study is to find a site that is easily accessible for such communities, providing additional outdoor recreational opportunities.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

Projects identified herein will improve the quality of life for residents of Riverside County through the continued provision of clean, safe outdoor recreational opportunities. They will also support RivCoParks as the District works to rebound from the pandemic and focus on strategic investment projects for future economic growth and resiliency.

ATTACHMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A. BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

Heydee Koury, Sr Accountant - Auditor 9/27/2022  Rania Odenbaugh, Director of Constituent Services 9/29/2022

**FY22-23**

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