

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: June 26, 2025

PREPARED BY: Shawn Muir, Community Services Manager

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE
LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND (LWCF) FOR THE NORTH
PALM DESERT COMMUNITY PARK PROJECT

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Adopt a resolution entitled "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PALM DESERT, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND FOR THE NORTH PALM DESERT COMMUNITY PARK PROJECT."
2. Authorize the City Manager to execute documents related to the grant application, reporting, and payments.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

The North Palm Desert Community Park, now named Dave Erwin Park, is planned on 27 acres at Dinah Shore Drive. The conceptual plan has been approved, and staff are working with the consultant, Interwest Consulting Group, to develop construction documents to build the project.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) is a grant program offered by California Department of Parks and Recreation to provide funding for the acquisition or development of land to create new outdoor recreation opportunities for the health and wellness of local residents. Since 1965, over 1,000 parks throughout California have been created or improved with LWCF assistance. This year's application window is open through August 5, 2025, with \$35 million available.

Staff intends to submit an LWCF application to fund a portion of the construction of Dave Erwin Park. The funding requested is the maximum amount of \$6 million, and a match requirement of 50% must be provided. The City's investment is expected to exceed the minimum match requirement, as the current estimated cost to construct the park is approximately \$19 million. Applying does not guarantee funding. A full or partial award, if received, would offset construction costs.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney's Office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

If awarded, the grant would help offset a portion of the construction costs for Dave Erwin Park. As the grant is reimbursement-based, funding for the full construction cost must still be included in the budget. Therefore, \$16 million has been included in the proposed FY 2025-26 Capital Improvement Project List primarily in Year 2, with Measure G as the identified funding source. This action has no additional financial impact to the General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution