

REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

DATE: MARCH 23, 2016

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER *GR*

BY: NATHAN HAMBURGER, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER *NA*
DOUG HOOPER, PLANNING DIRECTOR *DH*

SUBJECT: CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING (FROM MARCH 9, 2016) TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 16-1810, APPROVING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE 42nd PROGRAM YEAR (JULY 1, 2016 – JUNE 30, 2017)

The request before the City Council is to conduct a public hearing to consider approval of attached Resolution No. 16-1810, approving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs and projects for the 42nd Program Year (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017). The public hearing was opened on March 9, 2016, and continued without comment to the March 23, 2016, City Council meeting in order to allow staff additional time to review eligible CDBG programs and projects.

CDBG funds are allocated annually to Cities by the Federal Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) and administered through the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission (CDC). Funding for participating Cities of the Los Angeles Urban County CDBG Program is based upon the total number of participating Cities. It is also based on the Cities' need to provide housing, economic and social service, and community development opportunities that principally benefit seniors and persons of low and moderate income levels, aid in the prevention of neighborhood blight, and meet other urgent community development needs due to natural disasters or other emergencies. The City of Agoura Hills has participated in the CDBG Program since 1984. In order to continue its participation in the upcoming 2016-2017 program year, which begins on July 1, 2016, and ends on June 30, 2017, the City must prepare and submit its proposed CDBG project descriptions to the CDC for review and approval.

While the City Council has flexibility in selecting programs and/or projects that best suit the City's needs, these programs and/or projects must also comply with the specific federal qualification criteria of benefiting persons of low-moderate income, including seniors. Projects may also include repair of accessible paths of travel in specific public areas, for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Previous CDBG funding allocations approved by the City Council included the installation of exterior

louvered window shades, and a patio and outdoor shade structure for the senior center portion of the City's Recreation and Event Center; the Single-Family Housing Rehabilitation Program, which provided loans and grants to qualified low and moderate income households for qualified home improvements; and the City Community Services Department's Senior Citizen Recreation Program. Most recently, the City Council allocated CDBG funds for this current fiscal year to be used for accessible paths of travel improvements within Old Agoura Park. This project is still under review by the CDC.

The City's estimated CDBG allocated funds for the 2016-2017 Program Year total \$64,392, of which a maximum 15% (\$9,658) may be used for eligible service programs. Staff is requesting the City Council approve designating \$9,658 for senior social service programs offered by a senior social service center, such as Senior Concerns, and through the City Community Services Department. Such social service programs can include: 1) Senior Concern Advocates to assist seniors with a variety of topics, including Medicare, Social Security, housing, and insurance; 2) Support Groups for care-giving spouses; 3) Care Management Programs that provide counseling assistance for senior caregivers; and 4) Legal and Financial Services for seniors.

Staff also requests the remaining fund balance of \$54,734 be used for construction improvements at Chumash Park, specifically for the replacement of accessible paths of travel serving the playground equipment area and the baseball field. Both existing concrete paths vary in width from 6-10 feet and are accessed from the existing sidewalk on the south side of Medea Valley Drive. The portions of each path in need of replacement extend approximately 100 feet in length. At this time, staff estimates the available CDBG funds to be sufficient for the cost of this proposed construction project. Should additional funds be available, staff would apply them to one or both of the approved programs/projects.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff respectfully recommends the City Council conduct a public hearing and approve Resolution No. 16-1810, approving Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs and projects for the 42nd Program Year (July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017)

Attachments: Resolution No. 16-1810
Map of Proposed CDBG Project Areas for Chumash Park

RESOLUTION NO. 16-1810

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR THE FORTY-SECOND (42nd) PROGRAM YEAR (JULY 1, 2016 – JUNE 30, 2017) LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM

WHEREAS, on August 22, 1974, the President of the United States signed into law the Housing and Community Development Act (Act) of 1974; and,

WHEREAS, the primary goals of Title I of the Act are the development of viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities, principally for persons of low and moderate income; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Agoura Hills has estimates receiving \$64,392 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds to further the attainment of these goals during Fiscal Year 2016-2017; and,

WHEREAS, the City Council has published information regarding eligible activities under the Act and has conducted a duly noticed public hearing on March 9, 2016, and on March 23, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 30001 Ladyface Court, Agoura Hills, California; and,

WHEREAS, the notice of the public hearing was posted and advertised pursuant to applicable federal, state and local laws; and,

WHEREAS, both oral and written testimony was presented to the City Council at the public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Agoura Hills as follows:

Section 1. That the City of Agoura Hills desires to fund eligible CDBG projects with the 42nd Program Year funds.

Section 2. That City staff is hereby directed to submit to the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission, through this document, the City's intent to approve and fund CDBG projects.

Section 3. That City staff is hereby directed to prepare and submit documentation required for the approval and implementation of the 42nd Program Year CDBG projects.

Section 4. That for planning purposes, the City's estimated annual allocation for the upcoming 2016-2017 Program Year will be approximately \$64,392 and those funds will be utilized for: 1) eligible senior social service programs, not to exceed 15% of the Program Year allocation, including senior advocates information and resources, support groups for senior caregivers and care-giving spouses, and legal and financial services to seniors; and 2) replacing existing ADA accessible paths of travel in Chumash Park (located on southwest corner of Argos Street and Medea Valley Drive, and in other City parks as needed).

Section 5. That City staff is authorized to perform modifications to the approved projects, as required, to conform to CDBG requirements, and to provide for the expedient expenditure of funds.

Section 6. That the Mayor and/or City Manager are authorized to execute the contractual and related documents to be prepared by the County of Los Angeles that are required for the implementation of projects set forth herein.

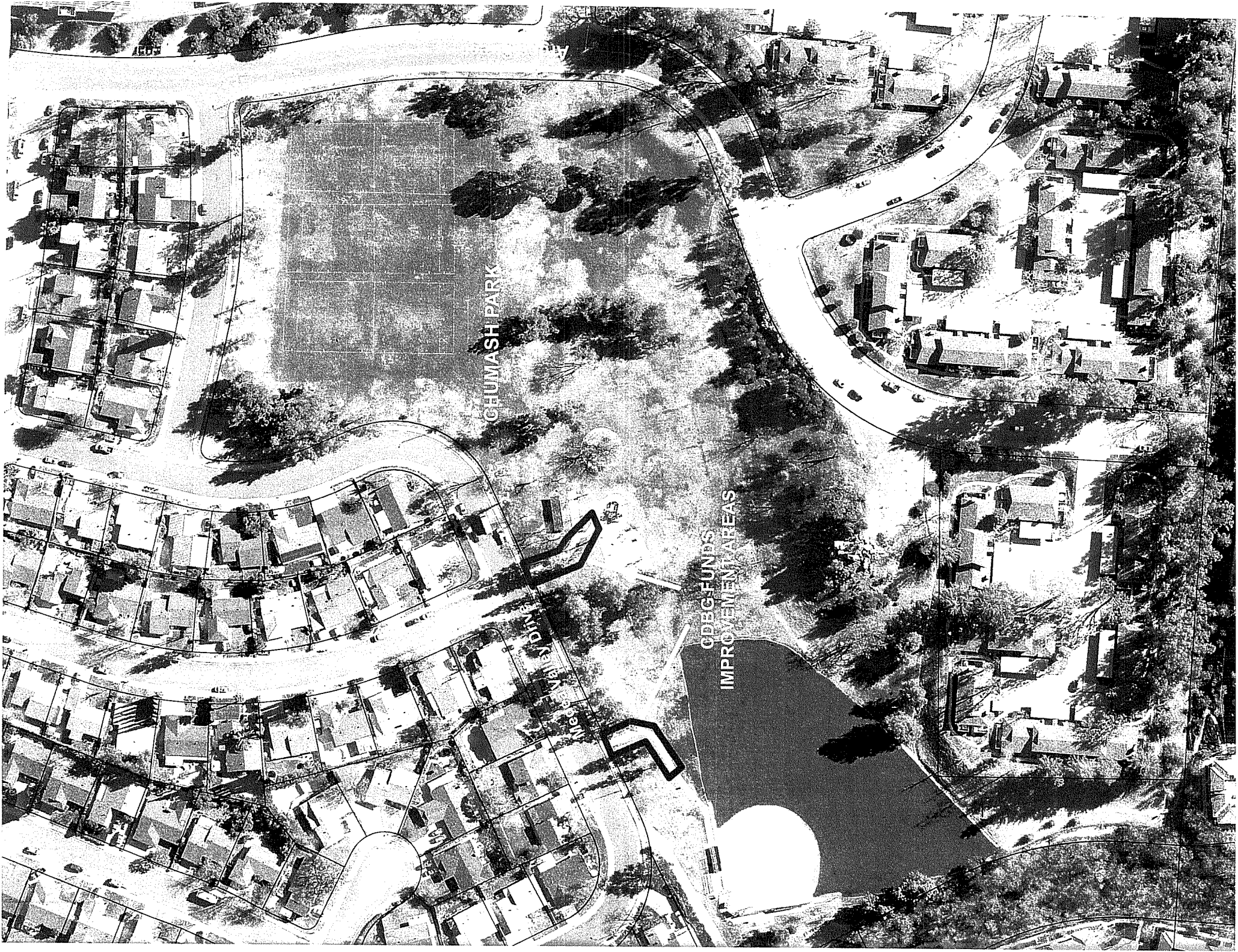
PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2016, by the following vote to wit:

AYES: (0)
NOES: (0)
ABSTAIN: (0)
ABSENT: (0)

Harry Schwarz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kimberly M. Rodrigues, City Clerk, MMC



CHUMASH PARK

GDBG FUNDS
IMPROVEMENT AREAS

Meadow Valley Dining