

Subject: FW: Final SBCCOG Measure A email and letter
Attachments: Final SBCCOG Measure A.docx

From: Jacki Bacharach <jacki@southbaycities.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2018 4:01 PM
To: Jacki Bacharach <jacki@southbaycities.org>
Cc: Jones, John <JJONES@TorranceCA.gov>; 'Eleanor Barthe-Jones' (<ebjones@torranceca.gov>)
Subject: FW: Final SBCCOG Measure A email and letter

TO: SBCCOG Board members and alternates and City Managers:

The Steering Committee heard this item on Monday, December 10 and requests that each city send a letter – draft attached – to their Supervisor by Thursday, January 17, 2019. Please see John Jones detailed explanation below.

The following was prepared by John Jones
Director, Community Services Department and the SBCCOG Representative on the Measure A Steering Committee
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As the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors has yet to approve the final Measure A Report, I wanted to provide the South Bay City Council of Government Membership an update on the next steps for the Measure A Final Report. I have been alerted that the Final Measure A Report will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for consideration and action at their Board Meeting at 9:30 AM on Tuesday, January 8, 2019. This final report is currently available on the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Recreational District Web Site at RPOSD@lacounty.gov as well as the Board of Supervisor's website under Correspondence.

As you are aware last March 2018 I brought before the SBCCOG Board a concern that the Measure A Implementation Committee consisted of a large percentage of Non-Profit Organizations or CBO's and a much smaller representation of municipal agencies. This concern highlighted that the Implementation Committee is recommending a carve-out or targeting of funds within the Competitive Grant Funds in the amount of approximately 30% so that only 70% of the remaining funds would be distributed between all agencies who did not qualify as having High or Very High Need Study Areas. This action is not following the initial intent of Measure A that was overwhelmingly approved by the voters in Los Angeles County in 2016, as the intent was that 100% of the funds within the Competitive Grant Areas would be provided to the most deserving individual projects within Los Angeles County. Unfortunately, this Measure A Final Report is following the same concept and has included as a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors an approximate 30% carve-out or targeting of funds that I have highlighted in my summary notes below.

Given that the Board of Supervisors plan to review this Measure A Final Report on Tuesday, January 29, 2019, I am again providing a draft letter for your consideration that can be sent to the appropriate Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor District Representative by **Thursday, January 17, 2019**. (See Attached) It is my understanding that the Board of Supervisors can bring a motion forward to make changes to any of the recommendations within the Measure A Final Report, and I am certain that there will be a many Non-Profit Organizations or CBO's attending the January 29, 2019 Board of Supervisor Meeting to speak on their own behalf.

With regard to the pending litigation, I have been informed that the litigation is moving forward, as there was a hearing at the Appellate Court the week of November 12th, which will be followed by a decision (1-2 months) then the final decision called a remitter (1-3 months). If the decision is not in favor of RPOSD/County I was informed that they will pursue a request for review from the State Supreme Court (estimated to take an additional 4-12 months).

Lastly, for ease of review of the Measure A Final Report, I am providing you the draft summary of Administrative and Grant Requesting policies for Measure A that are being recommended for adoption by the Board of Supervisors below:

Administrative Policies

Consumer Price Index Updates

- The Measure A special tax rate shall be automatically adjusted every two years to the maximum rate allowed by the Consumer Price Index Update formula.
- The Board may, in any given year, choose to adjust the tax rate to a rate less than the maximum.

Bonding

- Measure A authorizes RPOSD, at its discretion, to issue bonds secured by the special tax revenues to finance grants.
- RPOSD shall work with the responsible County Departments to determine the appropriate conditions and timing for bond issuance.

Countywide Neighborhood Parks Needs Assessment Maintenance

- The neighborhood park inventory data shall be updated by all park agencies annually. Verifying and updating data is required to remain in Good Standing.
- The Neighborhood Park Need by Study Area Map shall be published periodically with updated neighborhood park inventory and U.S. Census population data.
- The Countywide Neighborhood Park and Recreation Needs Assessment (NPNA) shall be updated every 8 to 10 years and shall contain at a minimum the metrics used in the 2016 Countywide Parks Needs Assessment and updates of the study areas' neighborhood park need levels.
- The Regional Recreation, Beaches, Rural Areas, and Open Space Assessment shall be conducted to inventory existing public recreational lands and amenities from the regional perspective and determine the needs of the many diverse geographical areas of the County. The results of the assessment will inform the project planning and selection for competitive grants. The assessment will be conducted soon and updated every 8 to 10 years.

Board of Supervisors Designated Park Projects

- The Board shall allocate two (2) percent of Measure A annual revenue for County priority projects, with each Supervisorial District receiving one-fifth of the annual amount.
- The funds may be committed to grants for eligible projects annually or may accumulate.
- Supervisorial Districts may choose to combine their available funds to jointly award grants for eligible projects.

Sharing Funds

A public agency receiving annual allocations under the Community-based Park Investment Program and Neighborhood Parks, Healthy Communities, & Urban Greening Program may consider sharing funds across Study Areas of its own or of adjacent jurisdictions provided that:

- The funds will be expended on a specific project or projects that are eligible for Measure A funds.
- The agency initiating the request demonstrates to RPOSD's satisfaction that all Study Area(s) involved will benefit from the sharing of funds and resulting project(s).
- RPOSD determines that the proposed sharing of funds will result in timely completion of the park project(s); and
- The governing body of each public agency has authorized the sharing of funds for a specific project or projects.

Nonprofit Maintenance and Servicing Allocations

- Eligible nonprofit organizations that own and/or operate parklands may apply for M&S funds annually, following the established procedures and requirements for M&S funds, including any subsequent updates.
- A city, the county, or a joint powers agency may assign a portion or all of its unexpended M&S funds to a nonprofit or other public operating agency to maintain a project funded by RPOSD. The duration of this assignment must also be defined.

Good Standing

- Good Standing will be required of all grantees to have payment requests processed and receive any grant funds from RPOSD.
- Good Standing is achieved and maintained when a grantee maintains compliance with all requirements stated in the guidelines, policies, and procedures of RPOSD for both Proposition A and Measure A.

Grant Requesting Policies

Project Types

Each competitive grant program will make funding available for project types that could occur in and/or serve High and Very High Need Study Areas.

Evaluation Criteria

Each competitive grant program will include a "Level of Need" evaluation criterion. This criterion will consider whether a project or program

- serves or benefits residents of High or Very High Need Study Areas;
- offers the greatest regional benefits or serve the greatest regional need, such as in rural areas of the County; or
- provides services to and/or recruits most of its participants from High or Very High Need Study Areas.

Long-Range Planning

Measure A-funded projects will be consistent with each Study Area's long-range park planning documents, such as a parks master plan, community plan, or other adopted planning document (such as the Countywide Neighborhood Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment).

Community Engagement

RPOSD will require appropriate, thorough, and timely community outreach and engagement for all projects funded by Measure A to ensure inclusion, input, and support from the public.

Monitoring and Correction

RPOSD will consistently monitor, track, and if necessary, adjust the administration of both competitive funding and annual allocations to ensure that the goals of Measure A are being met.

Technical Assistance

RPOSD will provide technical assistance to potential applicants and grantees throughout the stages of the grant process to ensure that barriers to applying for, receiving, and administering funding are reduced, and that the goals of Measure A are being met.

Targeting Funds

The portion of funds to be targeted from the Competitive Grant Funds is initially set at 30 percent that will be designated for projects in High or Very High Need Study Areas. This percentage will be evaluated periodically and may increase or decrease in future years based on the evaluation of metrics tracked by RPOSD, such as for funds and competitive grant proposals. This would affect the following programs:

- Natural Lands, Local Beaches, Water Conservation and Protection Competitive Grants;
- Regional Recreation, Multi-use Trails and Accessibility Competitive Grants; and
- Acquisition-Only Grants

John Jones

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