US HWY 17-92 CRA – Consider a request from the City of Sanford, to extend the US 17-92 Community Redevelopment Grant deadline for Paw Park improvements, from 12/22/2015 to 12/31/2017. District 5 - Carey (Sonia Nordelo)

Department
County Manager's Office

Division
Economic Development Division

Authorized By
Tricia Setzer

Contact/Phone number
Sonia Nordelo - 407-665-7133

Motion/Options
1. Recommend approval of the request from the City of Sanford, to extend the US 17-92 Community Redevelopment Grant deadline for Paw Park improvements, from 12/22/2015 to 12/31/2017.; or

2. Deny request from the City of Sanford, to extend the US 17-92 Community Redevelopment Grant deadline for Paw Park improvements, from 12/22/2015 to 12/31/2017.; or

3. Continue to a time and date certain.

... Background
Paw Park in Historic Sanford is an example of a revitalization project within the City. The former park was repurposed and adapted to become a dog-friendly off-leash park. Adaptive use of the park has encouraged pet friendly businesses to locate near the park. Paw Park was one of the first of its kind in Central Florida and has been recognized for its success.

On August 26, 2013 the Sanford City Commission designated the area on French Avenue between 3rd and 5th Streets, Laurel Avenue between 4th and 5th Streets, and 4th Street between French Avenue and Laurel Avenue (map attached) as the City’s “Paw Park Village.” The designation is intended to further the ongoing revitalization efforts in the area.

The City of Sanford developed a plan consisting of three phases which will result in a cohesive connection between two historic neighborhoods. The plan proposes improvements to the existing park, streetscape improvements, and creation of a trail system that will connect historic Goldsboro with downtown amenities.

On 12/9/14, the CRA approved a grant to the City of Sanford in the amount of $70,000 to conduct designated park rehabilitation efforts. The City of Sanford subsequently completed the park redevelopment plans and obtained a probable cost estimate. The estimated costs exceed the original projections. Therefore, the City of Sanford has requested an extension of time in order to collect additional revenues to dedicate to the project. The City is requesting an extension changing the deadline from 12/22/2015 to 12/31/2017 for completion of the work.
The proposed application furthers implementation of the following Goal, Objectives, and Policies of the US-17-92 Corridor Redevelopment Master Plan:

- **Goal:** Promote and provide a cohesive, economically sustainable, and functional built environment throughout the entire US 17-92 corridor.
  - **Objective 2:** Eliminate existing blight and prevent the continued degradation of physical and social environment within the CRA jurisdictional boundary and surrounding community.
    - **Policy 2.1:** Encourage privately-initiated rehabilitation of substandard and unsightly structures, signs, landscape and parking areas through available funding programs. Provide matching grants contingent upon design compliance with Corridor Redevelopment Master Plan redevelopment framework standards and perpetual maintenance agreement.
  - **Objective 6:** Coordinate and facilitate the development of the necessary public facilities and infrastructure to accommodate redevelopment and new development within the CRA jurisdictional boundary and potential future connections to the immediate surrounding areas.

...TAC Recommendation
During its meeting on September 17, 2015, the Technical Advisory Committee recommended to extend the US 17-92 Community Redevelopment Grant deadline for Paw Park improvements, from 12/22/2015 to 12/31/2017.

...Staff Recommendation
Staff recommends approval to extend the US 17-92 Community Redevelopment Grant deadline for Paw Park improvements, from 12/22/2015 to 12/31/2017.

.. Board Date
10/1/2015
Fonseca, Sonia

From: Dalton, Christine <CHRISTINE.DALTON@Sanfordfl.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2015 5:13 PM
To: Fonseca, Sonia
Cc: Lynch, Pamela; Chris.Smith@sanfordfl.gov; Beall, Robert; Rusell Gibson
Subject: RE: Paw Park

Sonia,

I was just about to email you! Thank you for meeting with Chris and I today to discuss the project. The construction drawings and specifications have been finalized. However, the Estimate of Probable Cost came in over budget. For this reason, we have decided to postpone the groundbreaking to the latter part of 2016 to allow for an additional fiscal year of parks funds to be used. I concur with your suggestion, and would like to request an extension of the CRA grant award through December 2017. Please let me know if there is anything additional required from the City to process the extension. We are excited about the project, but think this approach is more cost effective and less disruptive than a multi-year phased approach.

Thanks so much,

Christine Dalton, AICP
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