

RESOLUTION NO. 96-24

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE APPLICATION FOR A SMALL-SCALE WATER AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT FROM THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A NEW IRRIGATION SYSTEM AT A RENOVATED WHITMAN PARK

Recitals:

Whitman Park has been a cornerstone of the Grand Junction Parks and Recreation system since the 19th century. In recent years, it has become a focal point for community discussions, particularly given its historic nature, proximity to downtown and potential to become hub of community activity with being tied to an already high quality downtown area. To further revitalize the space, the City has implemented various community engagement strategies to gather feedback on residents' vision for the park's future. Based on this input, the City has developed a proposed redevelopment plan to ensure the park aligns with Grand Junction's evolving needs and priorities.

The Whitman Park Irrigation project "Project" will entail reducing 2.08 acres of irrigated turf to 0.75 acres, increasing Xeric areas from 0 acres to .42 acres, and installing a high-efficiency irrigation system. This project is one of the first steps to support the City's redevelopment plan for Whitman Park. The project aligns with and is within the funding limits of the Bureau of Reclamation's (BOR) Small-Scale Water and Energy Efficiency Grant program.

Kentucky bluegrass at the park currently consumes approximately 3,264,000 gallons of water per year, which equates to 10.01 acre-feet of water. The reduced footprint of irrigated turf is expected to reduce water consumption in the irrigated turf areas to 932,571 gallons or 2.56 acre feet annually. This is a reduction of approximately 75%. In addition to water savings, which will be preserved for municipal potable water use, this project will further revitalization efforts of the City and encourage additional community use of this historic park. The Project is expected to begin construction in late 2025 after hopeful award and be completed around late 2027.

The City is requesting \$118,642.50 through the BOR Small-Scale Water and Energy Efficiency Grant Program. This program requires a 50% cost-share and the City will contribute \$118,642.50 for a total project cost of \$237,285.

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After due consideration, the City Council of the City of Grand Junction supports the Project and desires the City to submit a BOR Small-Scale Water and Energy Efficiency Grant application to obtain the necessary funding for the Project, and if the grant is awarded, to enter into such further agreements as are necessary and proper to complete the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION THAT:

- 1: The City Council of the City of Grand Junction strongly supports the application to BOR to obtain funds needed to complete the Project. The City Manager is authorized and directed to work to finalize and timely submit such BOR grant application.

- 2: If the grant is awarded, the City Council of the City of Grand Junction strongly supports the completion of the Project and authorizes the City Manager to sign an appropriate grant agreement on behalf of the City as grantee of the BOR grant.

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and adoption.

Passed and adopted this 18th day of December 2024.



Abram Herman
City Council President

ATTEST:



Selestina Sandoval
City Clerk

