Date: November 2, 2016

To: Recreation and Park Commission
   Capital Committee

Through: Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager
         Dawn Kamalanathan, Director of Capital and Planning Divisions

From: Jacob Gilchrist, Project Manager

Subject: Community Opportunity Fund Program – Round 5

Agenda Item Wording:

Discussion and possible action to authorize staff to proceed with design development and any required environmental review for improvements to: 1) Golden Gate Heights Park, 2) Juri Commons, 3) Fillmore Turk Mini Park, 4) Waller Street Skate Area/Golden Gate Park, 5) Camp Mather Courts, 6) Youngblood Coleman Park, and 7) Corona Heights/State Street Community Garden in accordance with recommendations from the selection committee for the 2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond Community Opportunity Fund Project.

Strategic Plan Reference

Strategy 1 - Inspire Place: Keep today’s parks safe, clean, and fun; promote our parks’ historic and cultural heritage; and build the great parks of tomorrow.
Objective 1.2 - Strengthen the quality of existing parks and facilities.

Strategy: 2 - Inspire Play: Promote active living, well-being, and community for San Francisco’s diverse and growing population.
Objective 2.3 — Work with partners and neighborhood groups to activate parks through organized events, activities and unstructured play.

Strategy 3 - Inspire Investment: Through community engagement, advocacy, and partnerships, cultivate more financial resources to keep San Francisco’s parks and programs accessible for all.
Objective 3.3 - Cultivate increased philanthropic support.

Background / Description:

As one of the citywide programs of the 2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond, the Community Opportunity Fund (COF) program provides for a $6 million capital program that allows residents, neighborhood groups, and park advocates to initiate capital improvements in
their parks by matching public funding with other private gifts, grants and volunteer time and energy. This program builds on the successful implementation of the COF program first funded by the 2008 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond. Three rounds were awarded using 2008 Bond program (Rounds 1, 2 and 3) and Rounds 4 and 5 were managed with the 2012 program.

**Round 5 Outreach**

Staff worked with the San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA) to develop and implement an outreach strategy for Round 5. Staff co-hosted Applicant Workshops with SFPA as listed below:

- Wednesday, October 29, 2014 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm City Hall – Hearing Room 408
- Thursday, November 6, 2014 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Minnie and Lovie Ward Recreation Center
- Saturday, December 6, 2014 10:00 am – 12:00 pm County Fair Building
- Wednesday, December 17, 2014 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Joe Lee Recreation Center

The workshops were spread across the City on different days of the week to accommodate as many potential applicants as possible. Workshop attendance was mandatory for applicants, and if needed, staff was available to meet with community members who were not able to attend.

By working with our partners and their networks, we were able to reach a significant number of park users and stewards. In total over 30 individuals attended this round of COF Applicant Workshops.

Each recommended project has been thoroughly reviewed and discussed in its community. This round of applicants was required to publicly notice their outreach meetings, and all applications received a third-party cost review. The recommended projects are successful examples of Project Planning and Community Building, two central components of the Project Selection Criteria.

**Round 5 Project Selection Committee for Round 5**

The seven members of the Project Selection Committee were Commissioner Tom Harrison of the Recreation and Park Commission; Linda D’Avirro, representing the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Committee; Sasha Lizarrago, Recreation Program/Service Provider representative with Visitation Valley Strong Families; William Weil, Park Steward representative and member of the Steering Committee and Treasurer for the Friends of Upper Douglass Dog Park; Sam Woodhams-Robert, Landscape Architect Representative; DeAnthony Jones representing High-Needs Neighborhoods; and Youth Committee Member June Hong who has worked with youth in the city as an Americorps Staff Person.

**Round 5 Summary of Applications**

Staff received 16 applications totaling almost $5 million in requests for this $1.2 million round from all over the city. Across the board, the applications were very strong. Staff attributes the quality of the applications to the sophistication and diligence of the applicants, as well as to the excellent support from our park partners and the fiscal sponsors of several applicants. This round the program guidelines required all applicants to submit draft applications in advance of their final, so that staff was able to provide feedback before the final was submitted. This also
greatly increased the quality of the applications. The applications themselves are the product of thousands of volunteer hours committed to our parks.

**Round 5 Project Selection Process**
The Selection Committee Packet was distributed to the Selection Committee along with copies of the 16 applications. Committee members read and evaluated each project based on the adopted Project Selection Criteria. The Committee then convened to discuss each application in detail and evaluate them for funding. The Selection Committee met several times to evaluate each application. Staff facilitated the Committee meetings but did not vote on recommendations for project awards.

**Round 5 Projects Recommended for Award**
With such high caliber applications, the Selection Committee was challenged with distinguishing the projects that most successfully met the program criteria. The projects listed below represent the best projects of the fourth round of applicants. After design development and completion of any necessary environmental review as needed, these projects will return to the Commission for consideration of funding approval.

**Golden Gate Heights Park Renovation**
This $289,534 request will provide various improvements including landscaping, seating, and naturalistic landscape for play.

**Juri Commons**
This $324,488 request will provide for improvements to the pathways, irrigation, fencing and other amenities in the park.

**Fillmore Turk Mini Park**
This $330,000 will provide funding for landscaping, drainage, seating and other improvements to revitalize this park.

**Camp Mather Courts**
This $103,903 will provide funds for the repurposing and of an existing badminton court to be a multi-purpose and basketball court.

**Waller Street Skate Area/Golden Gate Park**
This $65,331 request will provide funding for additional elements to provide an improved skatepark experience in the Waller Street Skate Park area that will also work for the other uses in the area.

**Youngblood Coleman Park**
This $70,000 will provide funding for new benches, grills, picnic tables, activity board, bollards, and a drinking fountain.

**Corona Heights/State Street Community Garden**
This $15,000 will provide funding for improvements to the existing community garden.
In summary, the projects recommended for award total $1,198,256. This funding will be leveraged with an additional $386,360 in funding and another $796,684 in volunteer stewardship.

**Communication with Applicants not Recommended for Funding in Round 5**
Staff has notified all applicants of the recommendations made to the Commission. Since the inception of the Community Opportunity Fund, staff has committed to help all applicants develop strong applications. To that end, has meet with un-funded applicant groups who desired and provided constructive feedback from the Project Selection Committee and other staff. Where feasible, un-funded applicants will be encouraged to consider other funding options, and will work with grants and other staff to identify possible funding sources and options for these project ideas.

**Source of Funds and Amount:**
This is the second round of the Community Opportunity Fund program funded by the 2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks General Obligation Bond. Based on the programs expenses to date, and the need to continue to conservatively plan to complete all selected projects still underway and upcoming, this is anticipated to be the last round of the Community Opportunity Fund funded through the 2012 Bond program.

**Supported By:**

**Friends of Youngblood Coleman Park Initiative**
- Malia Cohen, Board of Supervisors, District 10
- LaShon A. Walker, Bayview Merchant’s Association
- Lyslynn Lacoste, BMagic
- Dishon Irving, Resident
- Maria Quomi Iwinbi, Resident
- Anthony Vaughn, Da Corner
- Abdalla Aboushi, Resident
- Alex Prince, ABU
- Mohamed Abu, Resident
- Musa Dobs, Resident
- Dwayne Robinson, Resident
- Alayia Hudon, Resident
- Alice M. Banks, Resident
- Maurice A., Youth Resident
- Janol W., Youth Resident
- Janir P., Youth Resident
- Alayia A., Youth Resident
- Steve Schweigerdt, SF Parks Alliance

**Camp Mather Multi-Use Sports Court Proposal**
- John Avalos, Board of Supervisors, District 11
- Scott Wiener, Board of Supervisors, District 8
- Ronnishia Johnson, 3rd Street youth center and clinic
- Denis Mosgoian, PROSAC (D5)
May Wong, Excelsior District Improvement Association
Ann Clark, Friends of Camp Mather
Joe Litehiser, Resident
Amy Meyer, Former SF Rec-Park Commissioner
Caroline Grant, resident
Daniel Sears, Resident
Kirk Fetzer, Resident
Lucy Pastrana, Resident
Teri Low, Resident
Erik Nelson, Resident
Robin Hubinsky, Resident
Steve Balestrieri
Hayley Thompson, Resident
Mike Nemetz, Resident
Midege Linvai, Resident
Numerous other community supporters listed on a petition

Fillmore-Turk Mini-Park Proposal
London Breed, Board of Supervisors President, District 5
Captain Greg McEachern, Commanding Officer, SFPD
Charles Melancon, Fillmore Neighborhood Association
Jason Henderson, Hayes Valley Neighborhood Association
Gus Hernandez, Alamo Square Neighborhood Association
Darcy Brown, San Francisco Beautiful
Denis Mosgofian, PROSAC (D5)
Dan Martin, Resident
Bria Larson, Resident
Sara Amaral, Resident
Danielle Reed, Resident
Jacqueline Marquez, Resident
Abigail Granbery, Resident

Juri Commons Proposal
Scott Wiener, Board of Supervisors, District 8
David Campos, Board of Supervisors, District 9
Jennifer Atristain, Katherine Michaels School
Numerous other community supporters listed on more than one petition

Corona Heights Park Community Garden
Scott Wiener, Board of Supervisors, District 8
Melinda Stockmann, Community Gardens Program Manager, SFRPD
E.M.”Angel B” Carney, Resident
Bob Burnside, Resident
David R. Burke, Buena Vista Neighborhood Association
Karla Nagy, Friends of the Urban Forest
Charlotte Hatch, Resident
Opposed By:
No opposition to the recommendation of award for the above listed projects is known at this time. Staff is in the process of collecting feedback on the Project Selection Criteria and Process from the Project Selection Committee, staff, RPD partners, and COF applicants.

Recommendation:
Authorize staff to proceed with design development and any required environmental review for improvements to: 1) Golden Gate Heights Park, 2) Juri Commons, 3) Fillmore Turk Mini Park, 4) Waller Street Skate Area/Golden Gate Park, 5) Camp Mather Courts, 6) Youngblood Coleman Park, and 7) Corona Heights/State Street Community Garden in accordance with recommendations from the selection committee for the 2012 Clean and Safe Neighborhood Parks Bond Community Opportunity Fund Project.
Attachment(s):

A. Table of Community Opportunity Fund Selection Committee Recommendations Round 5
B. Applicant Site Plans of Projects Recommended for Award for Round 5.
C. Table of All Community Opportunity Fund Round 5 Applicants