

# Agenda Report



**MEETING DATE:** Tuesday, February 25, 2025

**TO:** City Council

**FROM:** PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DIRECTOR LINDBERG  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS MANAGER VU-DUC

**SUBJECT:** APPROVE FORMAL NOTIFICATION TO GRANT FUNDER OF  
CHANGE OF SCOPE TO RAMSAY PARK PHASE 4: NATURE  
CENTER GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

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## **RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

Approve formal notification to the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) of change of scope to remove the green roof element of green infrastructure upgrades to the Nature Center redevelopment owing to budget constraints for the construction of a new building and direct the City Manager to sign the attached letter (Attachment 5)- Formal Letter of Scope Change Notification to CNRA.

## **BACKGROUND:**

In 2022, the City applied for an Urban Greening Grant from the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to design and construct green infrastructure features for the new Nature Center (Resolution No. 217-22). The grant would fund three green infrastructure elements proposed for the new Nature Center building:

1. Green roof
2. Enhanced Bio-swale for advanced stormwater treatment and
3. Tree-lined switchback accessible path.

The competitive grant application was awarded, and in 2023 the City entered into a grant agreement for \$827,853.38 from the CNRA to design and build these green infrastructure features for the Nature Center's new building between June 2023 and March 2026 (Attachment 2)-Grant Agreement with California Natural Resources Agency.

The lowest qualified bid result for the Nature Center project came in September at almost \$8.6 million, roughly \$2 million more than the estimated budget (Attachment 4)-Memo Summarizing Construction Bids for Exploration/Nature Center Project CB-23-01. The Public Works and Utilities and Finance Departments sought a solution to this budget shortfall but were unable to find a feasible financial pathway to pursue construction as originally designed. Staff is working with the project's design consultant on designs to construct the new Nature Center in the existing Ramsay Park Family Center.

**DISCUSSION:**

Since the City cannot afford to construct the new Nature Center as previously planned, the features proposed through this grant are no longer needed as they are tied to the proposed building. The grant agreement requires the City to provide formal notice of any change to scope in writing to the CNRA. CNRA has requested the City confirm any change to scope by March 3, 2025. To meet the terms of the grant agreement and advise removal of the green roof from the scope of Ramsay Park Phase 4: Green Infrastructure project due to budget constraints, staff request Council to approve the formal notification of funders and direct the City Manager to sign the attached letter (Attachment 5)-Formal Letter of Scope Change Notification to CNRA).

**STRATEGIC PLAN:**

Removal of a green roof from the scope of the Nature Center redevelopment allows the renovation of the Ramsay Family Center to proceed at minimal financial cost to the City budget.

4-Fiscal Health

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Phase 4 design costs for the green infrastructure total roughly \$111 thousand, of which the CNRA has reimbursed the City almost \$56 thousand to date. The removal of the green roof from the scope of work will terminate the grant, forfeiting the remaining \$716,000, which is no longer needed for the new Nature Center design and location.

**ALTERNATIVE ACTION:**

Council could alternatively take no action, which will result in CNRA terminating the grant once the March 3, 2025 deadline has lapsed.

**ATTACHMENTS AND/OR REFERENCES (If any):**

1. Ramsay Park Overall Site Plan Showing Project Phases
2. Grant Agreement with California Natural Resources Agency
3. Green Infrastructure Design Plans by Wallace Group
4. Memo Summarizing Construction Bids for Exploration/Nature Center Project CB-23-01
5. Formal Letter of Scope Change Notification to CNRA