



Town Council Agenda Report

Date: January 12, 2021 Item No. 11

To: Honorable Mayor and Town Council

Subject: AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR THE LOCAL EARLY ACTION PLANNING (LEAP) GRANT AVAILABLE THROUGH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TO ASSIST IN THE COMPLETION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TOWN'S MULTI-SPECIES HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN AND NATURAL COMMUNITIES CONSERVATION PLAN

From: Douglas Robertson, Town Manager

Submitted by: Lori Lamson, Assistant Town Manager

Budgeted Item: Yes No N/A

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution No. 2021-01

SUMMARY

In early 2020, the State Department of Housing and Community Development issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for a grant authorized under the Local Early Action Planning Grants (LEAP) provisions pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 50515 through 50515.05. LEAP provides funding to jurisdictions for the preparation and adoption of planning documents. This grant is a non-competitive grant and is allocated by the jurisdictions population. The Town of Apple Valley is eligible for \$300,000.00, provided that we can show that how we will spend the monies qualifies for the intent of the grant. The intent is to provide planning documents that will accelerate housing production and assist in implementing the of this next cycle of the regional housing needs assessment that the Town is currently identifying in the Housing Element Update.

Because of the Town's proximity to the open desert and the amount of undisturbed land within the Town's boundaries, compliance with the Endangered Species Act is a necessary component of all new development. Since 2007, the Town has been working towards the completion of a Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and Natural

Communities Conservation Plan to address the future development within the Town and outlying Sphere of Influence as it relates to compliance with the Endangered Species Act. Future development, including new housing, will be cheaper and easier to develop, with certainty built into the process on how development will mitigate any impacts to the natural desert environment, governed by the federal and state Endangered Species Act.

If awarded, this grant funding will go towards finishing the environmental review and public review, legal review and the first phase of implementation of the plan. The first phase of implementation will be completed within the first five years after the certification or “take” is granted by both the state and federal agencies for the plan.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution No. 2021-01

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-01

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF APPLE VALLEY,
CALIFORNIA AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO
SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR, AND RECEIPT OF,
LOCAL GOVERNMENT PLANNING SUPPORT GRANT
PROGRAM FUNDS**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Health and Safety Code 50515 et. Seq, the Department of Housing and Community Development (Department) is authorized to issue a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) as part of the Local Government Planning Support Grants Program (hereinafter referred to by the Department as the Local Early Action Planning Grants program or LEAP); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Apple Valley, California desires to submit a LEAP grant application package (“Application”), on the forms provided by the Department, for approval of grant funding for projects that assist in the preparation and adoption of planning documents and process improvements that accelerate housing production and facilitate compliance to implement the sixth cycle of the regional housing need assessment; and

WHEREAS, the Department has issued a NOFA and Application on January 27, 2020 in the amount of \$119,040,000 for assistance to all California Jurisdictions; Now, therefore, the Town of Apple Valley, California, resolves as follows:

Section 1. The Town Manager is hereby authorized and directed to apply for and submit to the Department the Application package;

Section 2. In connection with the LEAP grant, if the Application is approved by the Department, the Town Manager of the Town of Apple Valley is authorized to submit the Application, enter into, execute, and deliver on behalf of the Applicant, a State of California Agreement (Standard Agreement) for the amount of \$300,000, and any and all other documents required or deemed necessary or appropriate to evidence and secure the LEAP grant, the Applicant’s obligations related thereto, and all amendments thereto; and

Section 3. The Applicant shall be subject to the terms and conditions as specified in the NOFA, and the Standard Agreement provided by the Department after approval. The Application and any and all accompanying documents are incorporated in full as part of the Standard Agreement. Any and all activities funded, information provided, and

timelines represented in the Application will be enforceable through the fully executed Standard Agreement. Pursuant to the NOFA and in conjunction with the terms of the Standard Agreement, the Applicant hereby agrees to use the funds for eligible uses and allowable expenditures in the manner presented and specifically identified in the approved Application.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Apple Valley this 12th day of January, 2021 by the following vote count:

APPROVED:

Mayor, Curt Emick

ATTEST:

Town Clerk, LaVonda M. Pearson