



CITY OF BANNING STAFF REPORT

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: Ralph Wright, Parks and Recreation Director

PREPARED BY: Ralph Wright, Parks and Recreation Director

MEETING DATE: January 21, 2026

SUBJECT: Discussion on California Strategic Growth Council - Community Resiliency Centers Program Grant - for the Art Welch Community Center (Formerly the Armory Building) and Selection of One of the Parks and Recreation Commissioners to the Project Advisory Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the report and select one of its members to participate as a member of the Project Advisory Committee.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Banning received a planning grant from the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation as part of their Community Resilience Centers Program in the amount of \$1,070, 620. The future plan for the facility would be to create a year-round community center and a dual use to have the facility serve as a climate resiliency center and an emergency operations center when needed. To this end, the predominately planning grant affords the City the opportunity to complete a facility needs assessment, structural conditions assessment of the facility, make electrical upgrades and improvements. The completed project would deliver a future design plan and all necessary construction documents for the construction of the future facility.

Part of the project's development will be to perform significant public outreach to aid in the development plan for the future facility. This will include community meetings, outreach at community events and programs, surveys and workshops and stakeholder assistance through a program advisory committee.

The grant term will end in early spring of 2027 so anticipated project completion is January of 2027. After completion of the project, the City would be in position to solicit funding for the facility development either through the development program of the Community Resilience Program or other applicable opportunities.

Project Advisory Committee:

The project advisory committee during the project development timeline for the next year will participate throughout the project as stakeholders designing the future needs and project plan for the facility. Stakeholders participating in the project advisory committee tentatively include a representative from the following agencies and or groups: Banning Unified School District, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Banning Chamber of Commerce, County of Riverside's Emergency Management Department, one or two local churches, the Blue Zones Project and the Banning Parks and Recreation Commission.

The Parks and Recreation Commission will be asked to select one of its members to participate. The meeting schedule is not formalized but will have some on site meetings at the facility as well as virtual

meetings.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the item. The grant award itself does not require a match, however, depending on the scale and scope of the future project, some electrical improvements may require additional city funding.

ALTERNATIVES:

None provided.