LIVERMORE
CALIFORNIA

CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT **ITEM NO. 6.1**

DATE: November 23, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

FROM: Brent Smith, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Resolution Approving the application for the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Round 5 funding of $7,000,000 for Veterans Park Project DR202121

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends the City Council adopt a resolution:

- Approving the filing of an application for Veterans Park Project DR202121 Round 5 funding of $7,000,000 for Veterans Park Project DR202121;
- Certifying that the City has sufficient funds to complete, operate, and maintain the project;
- Certifying that the City agrees to the General Provisions contained in the contract shown in the Grant Administration Guide;
- Delegating authority to the City Manager to conduct all negotiations and to sign and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Grant Scope; and
- Agreeing to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and guidelines.

SUMMARY

The Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program (SPP) is a competitive state grant program that supports creating new parks and new recreation opportunities in underserved communities across California. The City of Livermore (City) is an eligible entity for the SPP Round 5 funds. The Veterans Park Project DR202121 (Project) is a competitive candidate for grant funding due to the scarcity of parks serving the community in the Livermore Downtown area.

The Project is located east of South L Street, south of Railroad Avenue, and north of Veterans Way within the Livermore Downtown Specific Plan area. The Project location is shown in Attachment 1. The Project will include an open space lawn, a veterans flag plaza, a children's playground, a shade structure, a seating area, and railroad-themed monuments. Additional amenities will include lighting, shade trees, benches, and security devices.

The SPP Round 5 application is due December 17, 2026. Prior to submission of the grant application, the State Department of Parks and Recreation requires the applicant to authorize the filing of an application and certify by resolution the approval of the application. Staff recommends authorizing the filing of an application by the Community Development Department staff and certifying the approval of this application for $7,000,000 in Round 5 funds for the Project. No local match is required.

DISCUSSION

On September 30, 2008, the SPP was created by Assembly Bill 31 and funding was first made available through Proposition 84 (2006 Bond Act). The program's legacy continued through Proposition 68 (2018 Bond Act) and, most recently, Proposition 4 (2024 Bond Act), which funds a wide array of environmental, water, and energy infrastructure projects. The SPP Round 5 funding is expected to include approximately $188.5 million in state funds. Eligible projects include development of new parks and new recreation opportunities in critically underserved communities across California.

Veterans Park was conceived in 2018 and incorporated into the Livermore Downtown Specific Plan in 2020. The Project's proposed design was informed by community feedback and stakeholder engagement. The goal is to create a new park with recreational amenities and provide a wide range of benefits to the Livermore Downtown community.

The Project is located east of South L Street, south of Railroad Avenue, and north of Veterans Way within the Livermore Downtown Specific Plan area. The Project location is shown in Attachment 1. The Project will consist of an open space lawn, veterans plaza, a children's playground, a shade structure, seating area, railroad-themed monuments, and other support amenities, including proper lighting, shade trees, benches, and security devices.

This Project will improve the Livermore Downtown area by:

- Allowing recreational activities for the community of all ages
- Commemorating historical milestones of the Transcontinental Railroad
- Honoring military veterans and their service
- Providing extra space for future Downtown events
- Enhancing the health and safety of the community
- Promoting beautification of the Livermore Downtown

The City is eligible for SPP Round 5 funds. Staff recommends the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the filing of an application for the Project. Certifying the approval of the application is subject to the following provisions:

1. The applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the Project included in this application, sufficient funds to complete the Project;
2. If the Project is awarded, the applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the Project;
3. The applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the General Provisions contained in the contract shown in the Grant Administration Guide;
4. Delegates the authority to the City Manager to conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Grant Scope; and
5. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and guidelines.

Staff has reviewed and can comply with the provisions in the Grant Administration Guide and applicable regulations. The Project is currently in the planning phase and staff is pursuing grant opportunities for funding. The SPP Round 5 application is due December 17, 2026. If selected, awarding of SPP grant funding will take place in summer 2027; no matching funds are required. Final design is anticipated to begin in spring 2027 with construction tentatively scheduled to begin in late 2028. The Project is expected to be completed in late 2029, prior to the grant's project completion requirements of December 2030. The Project scope and schedule meet the requirements for the SPP Round 5 funds.

FISCAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE IMPACTS

The Project is identified in the FY 2025-30 Capital Improvement Plan with a total of $7,030,000 in FY 2026-27, FY 2027-28, and FY 2028-29. This total amount covers all design and construction costs. Funding is from Park Fees (Fund 512). This $7,000,000 SPP grant funding will augment the existing budget and help reduce the amount needed from Park Fees. Budget adjustments will be requested if grant funds are awarded for the Project. The remainder of Project costs will be funded by Park Fees (Fund 512).

If the Project is awarded, the applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the Project. These costs will be funded by Landscape Maintenance District No. 859 (LL-859), General Fund (Fund 100), and other use taxes. The Project will be subject to a 30-year operation and maintenance period between July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2055.

COMMUNITY PILLAR

4: Inclusive and Inviting Spaces and Places

ATTACHMENTS

1. Project Location
2. Resolution

Prepared by: Leo Sum
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Approved by:

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City Manager

Fiscal Review by:

Dustin Claussen
Administrative Services Director