



CITY OF CONCORD

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Finance

Brian G. LeBrun
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Finance

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Brian LeBrun, Deputy City Manager-Finance

DATE: October 25, 2023

SUBJECT: Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant for Beaver Meadow Golf Course
New Clubhouse Facility Project (CIP #107)

Recommendation

Accept this report and approve the attached consent resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for Land Water Conservation Fund grant, up to \$500,000 to support construction of the Beaver Meadow Golf Course New Facility Project (CIP #107).

Background

Authorized by Congress and signed into Law by President Lyndon B. Johnson, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 established a federally funded program to provide 50/50 matching grants to state and local governments for the purpose of acquiring and/or developing public recreational areas and facilities. The program is administered by the US Department of Interior National Parks Service, and managed by the States via block grants.

In New Hampshire, the LWCF program is managed by the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources' Division of Parks and Recreation.

LWCF may fund up to 50% of a project, ranging from \$35,000 to \$500,000. Awards are typically made 12 months after the application deadline.

Unless otherwise approved by the US Secretary of the Interior, properties which are acquired or improved with LWCF grants must forever be used for public recreational purposes.

Since 1967, the City has received twenty-five (25) LWCF grants totaling more than \$2.2 million of for a variety of City recreational facilities.

Discussion

Applications for LWCF Grant round 34 are due on December 2, 2023. Matching funds for the grant will be City Council authorized bond funds.

As part of the acceptance of the grant award, the City will be required to comply with the Buy America/Build America requirements and provide a survey of the full golf course property.

This project would replace the existing clubhouse structure with a new facility to include the pro shop, a restaurant/kitchen, community meeting rooms, space for the ski group, four simulator rooms, storage, restrooms, common space in the entryway, and a covered/uncovered patio area. It will also include complete reconstruction of the parking lot and drop off/ pick up areas and increased parking from 94 spaces to approximately 210 spaces.

Once scored by the NH Department of Natural and Cultural Resources in February 2024, and if selected to be included in the Federal application, the City intends to seek a waiver of retroactivity for the grant that would allow the City to begin construction before the grant award date. The anticipated full award date is expected to be about October 2024. If the waiver is not granted and construction is not able to start until fall 2024 or later, the City will have an escalation factor of approximately 10% to the project construction costs.

If the LWCF grant is awarded, City Administration would seek City Council authorization to accept and appropriate grant funds and will factor in the Build America/Buy America project costs increase and the costs for a full property survey.