



MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

July 10, 2018

Subject: Establishing Truth in Bonding Policy and Bond Oversight Commission for 2018 Parks and Recreation General Obligation Bonds; Approving Revised Bond Program Project List (City Wide) Page: 1 of 3

Issue – At the June 19, 2018 Mayor and Council meeting, the Mayor and Council approved Ordinance No. 11567, calling a special election on November 6, 2018 for voter consideration of general obligation (GO) bonds for capital improvements for parks and recreation. This item is scheduled for Mayor and Council consideration and approval of the attached Ordinance establishing the City’s Truth-in-Bonding Policy in connection with the proposed 2018 Bonds; approving a revised Bond Program Project List; and establishing a 2018 Bond Oversight Commission.

City Manager’s Office Recommendation – The Mayor and Council are respectfully requested to adopt the attached Ordinance.

Background – During the Study Session of June 5, 2018 the City Manager presented Mayor and Council with information regarding the possibility of using General Obligation (GO) Bonds as a means to finance capital projects. Following discussion of that topic, the Mayor and Council directed staff to prepare ballot language for a Parks and Connectivity GO bond question to be submitted to the voters on the November 6, 2018 ballot. On June 19, the Mayor and Council approved Ordinance No. 11567, calling the special election seeking voter authorization to issue \$225 million in GO bonds for Parks and Recreation improvements. Ordinance No. 11567 included two attachments: Exhibit A, which set forth the ballot language for the Bond Special Election; and Exhibit B, describing the proposed Bond Program Project List.

Present Considerations – The attached Ordinance establishes a Truth in Bonding Policy in connection with the proposed 2018 GO bonds. The Policy is intended to provide assurance to voters and residents of the City that the bond proceeds will be used for the purposes approved by voters and that the informational pamphlet that will be provided to voters will accurately reflect how the bonds will be spent. The Ordinance provides that if any unforeseen circumstances or extraordinary considerations make a change from the previously approved allocation necessary, any such change must be approved by a majority vote of the Mayor and Council after a public hearing is held on the matter, and only after the Bond Oversight Commission has studied the change and has made a recommendation to the Mayor and Council. The Ordinance specifically provides that any adjustment to an Expenditure Category (i.e., Parks, Greenways, Connectivity, and Golf) of greater than 10% will require a majority vote of the Mayor and Council after Commission review and recommendation.

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The Bond Project List that was attached to Ordinance No. 11567 as Exhibit B (approved at the June 19th meeting) did not break down the proposed projects into the four Expenditure Categories described above, and did not include projected allocations for each of those Categories. Accordingly, the attached Ordinance includes a revised Bond Program Project List that organizes the listed projects into the four Expenditure Categories, and identifies the projected allocations for each of those Categories, as follows:

Parks (including Aquatic Facilities, Master Plan Improvements, Neighborhood and Community Parks, Recreation Centers, and Sports Fields and Lighting)- \$128,200,000

Greenways - \$24,600,000

Connectivity (including Pedestrian Safety and Walkability, Shared Use Paths, Protected Bike Lanes, and Bicycle Boulevards)- \$67,100,000

Golf - \$5,100,000

The revised List also includes two additional changes, one of which is the inclusion of an additional Pedestrian Safety and Walkability project for 12th Avenue (Drexel to Ajo). It is not anticipated that the addition of this project would diminish the estimated or projected allocations to listed projects located in other Wards. The second change is to the project description for Francisco Elias Esquer Park, which is listed in Neighborhoods and Community Parks, adding a walking path on the north side of the wash with a bridge in addition to the one-half basketball court which will continue to be in the project description. The change to the project description will not change the projected allocation in the Neighborhood and Community Park Category. Finally, the Ordinance also establishes a 2018 Bond Oversight Commission, for the purpose of overseeing the expenditure of the bond funds and reporting to the public on progress and results of bond projects. The Commission would have 11 members, with the Mayor and each council member appointing 1 Commission member, and the City Manager appointing the other 4 members. The 4 City Manager appointees would represent specific interests, namely: (1) Youth/Organized Sports; (2) Mobility and Safety; (3) Natural Environment/Climate Resiliency; and (4) Senior Activities. The Director of Parks and Recreation, and the Director of Transportation, would serve as non-voting, ex officio members of the Commission, as would 1 representative each from the Tucson Parks Foundation and the Tucson Parks and Recreation Commission.

The City Manager has scheduled a Study Session item for the meeting of August 8, 2018 to allow for further discussion by the Mayor and Council of the 2018 Parks bond program.

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Plan Tucson Consideration – This item relates to the Element of Governance & Participation. Specifically, this item is supported by the following policy:

- G2 – Offer opportunities for productive public engagement in City policy, program, and project initiatives from the beginning of and throughout the planning and decision-making process.

This item also relates to Plan Tucson Chapter Four, Plan Implementation & Administration. Specifically, this item addresses the need to have the right foundational elements in place to support/foster the City's ability to implement Plan Tucson.

Financial Considerations – None at this time.

Legal Considerations – The attached Ordinance has been prepared by the City Attorney's Office.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Ortega, P.E.
City Manager

MJO:MR
City Manager's Office

Attachment: Ordinance