



# REPORT TO COUNCIL

## City of Sacramento

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915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604  
www.CityofSacramento.org

CONSENT  
February 19, 2008

Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council

**Title: Grant Application: Camp Sacramento Erosion Control and Habitat Improvement Project Phase I**

**Location/Council District: Camp Sacramento, 18880 Highway 50, Twin Bridges, El Dorado County**

**Recommendation:** Adopt a **Resolution 1)** authorizing and directing staff to submit to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy ("Conservancy") an application for a Proposition 84 Strategic Opportunity Grant in Category 3 ("Prop. 84 grant") in an amount up to \$75,000 for the Camp Sacramento Erosion Control and Habitat Improvement Project Phase I; **2)** authorizing the Director of Parks and Recreation, or designee, as the City's representative to conduct all negotiations with and to execute and submit all documents, including any related amendments or extensions, to the Conservancy as required or deemed necessary or appropriate to apply for and secure the Prop. 84 grant from the Conservancy, and **3)** authorizing the Director of Parks and Recreation, or designee, to establish related revenue and expenditure budgets for the grant funds and appropriate the grant funds contingent upon approval of the application.

**Contact:** David Mitchell, Recreation Division Manager, 808-6076; Laura Bjornsen, Recreation Superintendent, 808-7753

**Presenters:** N/A

**Department:** Parks and Recreation

**Division:** Children and Family Recreation Services

**Organization No:** 4736

### **Description/Analysis**

**Issue:** The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (Conservancy) was established as a new State agency in 2004 to initiate, encourage and support efforts that improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region. In November 2006, California voters approved Proposition 84 that provided funds for the Conservancy to distribute to eligible organizations for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated natural resources. Category 3 Strategic Opportunity Grants from the Conservancy may be used for initial project planning and development and for environmental review where the cost of a proposed project is \$50,000 or more.

If approved, the grant funds would be used for Phase I of an erosion control and habitat improvement project to protect the South Fork American River that runs adjacent to the Camp Sacramento property in the Eldorado National Forest. In Phase I Camp Sacramento would be surveyed, road projects would be engineered, and an environmental review of the later construction project would be conducted.

A City Council Resolution is required as part of the Conservancy grant application.

**Policy Considerations:** This Camp Sacramento project is consistent with the City's approved strategic plan to achieve sustainability and livability.

**Environmental Considerations:** This report concerns administrative activities that will not have any significant effect on the environment and that do not constitute a "project," as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) [CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b)(3); 15378(b)(2)].

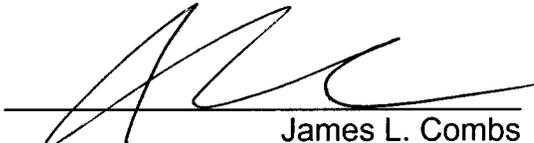
**Commission/Committee Action:** None

**Rationale for Recommendation:** The Camp Sacramento Erosion Control and Habitat Improvement Project is consistent with the Parks and Recreation Programming Guide as well as the City's approved strategic plan, to achieve sustainability and livability. City Council approval and support is required as part of the Conservancy application process.

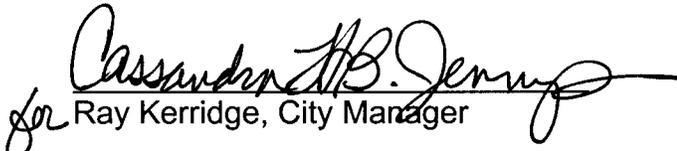
**Financial Considerations:** The planning, engineering and environmental review to be performed in Phase I of the project are estimated to cost \$76,500. With the Council's support, staff will submit a grant application requesting \$75,000 from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. The remaining \$1,500 will come as an in-kind contribution from the U.S. Forest Service, which manages the federal lands on which Camp is located. The Conservancy does not require City or outside matching funds, although the ability to provide matching funds makes an application more competitive.

**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** Not applicable at this time as no goods or services are being procured as a result of support for a Conservancy planning grant application.

Respectfully submitted by:   
David Mitchell  
Recreation Manager

Approved by:   
James L. Combs  
Director of Parks and Recreation

Recommendation Approved:

  
for Ray Kerridge, City Manager

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## Attachment 1

### Background

Camp Sacramento is a high-Sierra camp operated by the Parks and Recreation Department. The camp is located along Highway 50, about three miles east of Strawberry, at an elevation of 6,500 feet. The City of Sacramento leases the land in the Eldorado National Forest from the U.S. Forest Service.

For 87 years Camp Sacramento has provided recreational opportunities to the residents of Sacramento. It operates from mid-June to mid-August as a family camp, offering structured activities for children and adults. During early June and from mid-August to October, the camp is rented by various youth and professional groups for meetings, conferences and retreats.

Camp Sacramento is located along the banks of the South Fork American River (Figure 1). To access Camp, guests turn off Highway 50 and cross a bridge over the river and drive up "Camp Hill." Camp is situated on relatively flat ground above the river. Activities at Camp include hiking, crafts, horseshoes, archery, climbing, fishing, and wading in the river. During family camp, campers are placed into groups according to age and are provided with age-specific activities under the guidance of camp counselors. Facilities include a lodge, dining hall, cabins, restrooms, a water system and a sewer system.

During the nearly nine decades of Camp operation, structures and facilities have been added to serve the needs of the campers. There is a road system from the highway to Camp and within Camp, parking spaces, trails to cabins, and recreation facilities such as volleyball, horseshoes, and a playground. While these features have served the needs of the campers, they have also led to exposed soil surfaces and erosion during snowmelt and rain storms.

Driving areas have expanded and campers have formed trails that have left some areas of the camp denuded of low-growing shrubs that could help break up raindrop impact and reduce erosion. This has led to runoff carrying sediment to the river resulting in a water quality impact to the South Fork American River. The Riverside area of Camp has shown extensive signs of erosion from runoff originating upslope at the water tower road and flowing down the steep hill to the river.

In October 2006 and 2007, Boy Scout Troop 394 of Sacramento constructed water bars and small detention basins to trap and direct the runoff in Camp, and planted vegetation. The revegetation has occurred on Riverside Hill, near cabins 14, 16 and 22. While these measures have helped trap sediment that is generated in the winter and spring, the measures are only temporary and have to be rebuilt each year. Permanent erosion control measures are needed that provide more robust erosion and runoff control and don't have to be rebuilt every year.

This project proposes to control runoff, capture sediment and restore some of the heavier-used areas of camp. These measures can take place without disrupting the mission of Camp Sacramento and can be folded into the environmental education program that is delivered to campers.

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy (Conservancy) was established as a new State agency in 2004 to initiate, encourage and support efforts that improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region. In November 2006, California voters approved Proposition 84, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006. Proposition 84 includes \$54 million for the Conservancy to distribute to eligible organizations for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated natural resources.

Category 3 Strategic Opportunity Grants may be used for initial project planning and development and for environmental review where the cost of a proposed project is \$50,000 or more. Phase I, for planning, engineering and environmental review which is the subject of this report, qualifies for a Category 3 Strategic Opportunity Grant. The planning, engineering and environmental review to be performed in Phase I of the project are estimated to cost \$76,500. With the Council's support, staff will submit a grant application requesting \$75,000 from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. The remaining \$1,500 will come as in-kind contribution from the U.S. Forest Service, which manages the federal lands on which Camp is located.

Conservancy competitive grants may be used for site improvements and restoration projects of between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000. Later phases, which would include the construction to control runoff, capture sediment and restore some of the heavier-used areas of Camp, would be the subject of a later Competitive Grant application. Current estimates are that the construction project would cost over \$500,000.



**RESOLUTION NO.**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

**APPROVING A SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY PROPOSITION 84  
GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE CAMP SACRAMENTO EROSION CONTROL  
AND HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PHASE I**

**BACKGROUND**

- A. The Sierra Nevada Conservancy Proposition 84 Grant Program provides funds for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated natural resources. Category 3 Strategic Opportunity Grants may be used for initial project planning and development and for environmental review where the cost of a proposed project is \$50,000 or more.
- B. The City will apply for grant funds to be used for Phase I of an erosion control and habitat improvement project to protect the South Fork American River that runs adjacent to the Camp Sacramento property in the Eldorado National Forest. In Phase I Camp Sacramento would be surveyed, road projects would be engineered, and an environmental review would be conducted.
- C. The planning, engineering and environmental review to be performed in Phase I of the project are estimated to cost \$76,500. Staff will submit a grant application requesting \$75,000 from the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. The remaining \$1,500 will come as in-kind contribution from the U.S. Forest Service, which manages the federal lands on which Camp is located.
- D. A City Council Resolution is required as part of the Conservancy grant application.

**BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL  
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1. Staff is authorized and directed to submit to the Sierra Nevada Conservancy ("Conservancy") an application for a Proposition 84 Strategic Opportunity Grant in Category 3 ("Prop. 84 grant) in an amount up to \$75,000 for the Camp Sacramento Erosion Control and Habitat Improvement Project Phase I.
- Section 2. The Director of Parks and Recreation, or designee, is authorized as the City's representative to conduct all negotiations with and to execute and submit all documents, including any related amendments or extensions, to the Conservancy as required or deemed necessary or appropriate to

apply for and secure the Prop. 84 grant from the Conservancy.

Section 3. The Director of Parks and Recreation, or designee, is authorized to establish related revenue and expenditure budgets for the grant funds and appropriate the grant funds contingent upon approval of the application.

Section 4. The Resolution required by the Conservancy (attached as Exhibit A) is approved.

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Exhibit A – Resolution in format required by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy

**Exhibit A**

**RESOLUTION NO.**

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL  
APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS  
FOR THE PROPOSITION 84 GRANT PROGRAM  
UNDER THE SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY,  
FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006**

The following RESOLUTION was duly passed by the City Council of the City of Sacramento at a regular meeting held \_\_\_\_\_ [date], by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstentions:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Heather Fargo, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shirley Concolino, City Clerk

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided Funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of a portion of these funds through a local assistance grants program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy require a resolution certifying the approval of the application by the Applicant's governing board

before submission of said application to the SNC; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the SNC to carry out the project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sacramento has identified the Camp Sacramento Erosion Control and Habitat Improvement Project Phase I as valuable toward meeting its mission and goals.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Sacramento, State of California, that this Council:

1. Approves the submittal of an application for the Camp Sacramento Erosion Control and Habitat Improvement Project Phase I; and
2. Certifies that Applicant understands the assurances and certification requirements in the application; and
3. Certifies that Applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the resources consistent with the long-term benefits described in support of the application, or will secure the resources to do so; and
4. Certifies that Applicant will comply with all legal requirements as determined during the application process; and
5. Appoints James L. Combs, Director of Parks and Recreation, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including but not limited to: applications, agreements, payment requests, and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.