REPORT TO COUNCIL
City of Sacramento

9

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2671
www. CityofSacramento.org

CONSENT
April 4, 2006

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

Subject: Agreement: Reclamation District 1000 for the Walt Ueda Parkway Bike Trail Phase I, CIP HB16

Location/Council District:
Main Avenue and West El Camino Avenue Bridge, Council District 1

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution: 1) Approving the agreement between the City of Sacramento and Reclamation District 1000 (RD1000) for Phase I of the Walt Ueda Parkway Bike Trail, CIP HB16

Contact: Janet Baker, Park Development Manager, 808-8234

Presenters: None

Department: Parks and Recreation

Division: Park Planning, Design and Development

Organization No: 4727

Summary:

The Walt Ueda Parkway Bike Trail consists of approximately 12.5 miles of paved recreation trails that are mostly on the crown of levees and offers visual access to the natural habitat of Steelhead, Arcade, Dry and Robla Creeks; there are also 3.5 miles of unpaved trails. Phase I of this trail will be approximately 4 miles of paved trail. RD1000 currently manages and maintains the levees on which the trail will be located. RD1000 and the City of Sacramento will enter into an agreement to address levee and trail maintenance and operation, trail closures, and emergency response during flood events.

Committee/Commission Action:

Not applicable. The Parks and Recreation Commission is periodically updated as to the status of the project.

Background Information:

The Department of Parks and Recreation is responsible for the development of off-street recreation trails. The Walt Ueda Parkway Bike Trail is an important part of a regional trail system that offers both recreation and commuter opportunities.

This parkway consists of approximately 12.5 miles of paved recreation trails that are mostly on the crown of levees and offers visual access to the natural habitat of Steelhead, Arcade, Dry, and Robla Creeks. The project also has approximately 3.5 miles of non-paved trail in the Hansen Ranch area which is a natural setting that includes Dry Creek, Robla Creek, wetlands, and oak woodlands. The Ueda Parkway Bike Trail's purpose is to integrate a recreation trail within creek corridors in the northern area of Sacramento. The trail would thereby provide key connections to the popular American River Parkway and the Dry Creek Parkway, further linking Downtown, Natomas, and established neighborhoods in the region north of the American River. This trail also provides a significant leg to a 60 mile regional trail loop that extends to the American River Parkway and to Placer County through Folsom. Phase I of this trail will be approximately 4 miles of paved trail from Main Avenue to the West El Camino Bridge (Attachment 1, page 5). It will include ADA accessible ramps at Gardenland Park and North Market Road as well as access points at Main Avenue and West El Camino Bridge.

The environmental requirements are near completion and the final draft of the construction documents are being circulated for review. The City is working with the County of Sacramento on an agreement that will allow the City to use their parcels and recreation easements along the trail alignment. Construction of Phase I of the Ueda Parkway trail system is expected to be completed by November, 2006.

While this project offers strong recreation and commuter opportunities, it is a complex project that crosses multiple neighborhoods and jurisdictions. The design of the project must take many factors into consideration, including sensitive habitat, natural amenities, ramps that are ADA accessible, appropriate access to neighborhoods, and a flood control infrastructure that includes levees and flood easements. Additionally, there are many regulatory agencies who are participating in the design of this project that identified the need to develop the construction documents that offer more engineering detail in order to assure the project does not compromise the integrity of the flood management system. The County's RD 1000 is such an agency.

The County owns easements on much of the trail alignment. RD1000 currently manages and maintains the levees on which the trail will be located. RD1000 and the City of Sacramento will enter into an agreement to address levee and trail maintenance and operation, trail closures, and emergency response during flood events. The agreement will address issues specific to Phase I of the Ueda Parkway Bike Trail.

Financial Considerations:

No new funds are requested for this report.

Environmental Considerations:

The action of approving an agreement between two regulatory agencies to protect natural resources is exempt under CEQA Guidelines Section 15307 which states that actions taken by regulatory agencies as authorized by state law or local ordinance to assure the maintenance, restoration, or enhancement of a natural resource where the regulatory process involves procedures for protection of the environment is exempt. No construction activities are involved in this exemption. Any further actions requiring construction under this agreement have been adequately analyzed within the Negative Declaration for the Ueda Parkway project approved on October 13, 1999, by City Council. Mandatory mitigation measures, as specified in the Mitigation Monitoring Plan, have been incorporated into the project plans to avoid identified impacts or to mitigate such impacts to a point where clearly no significant impacts will occur.

This project is partially funded with federal funds; therefore, NEPA requirements must be met. In this case, a biological opinion is needed before a Categorical Exclusion can be issued by FHWA. It is expected the biological opinion will be issued and staff will return to City Council at that time for final CEQA/NEPA approval.

Policy Considerations:

Providing Parks and Recreation facilities is consistent with the City's strategic plan to enhance liveability in Sacramento's neighborhoods by expanding park and recreation facilities throughout the City.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):

Not applicable.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____
ROBERT G. OVERSTREET II
Director of Parks and Recreation

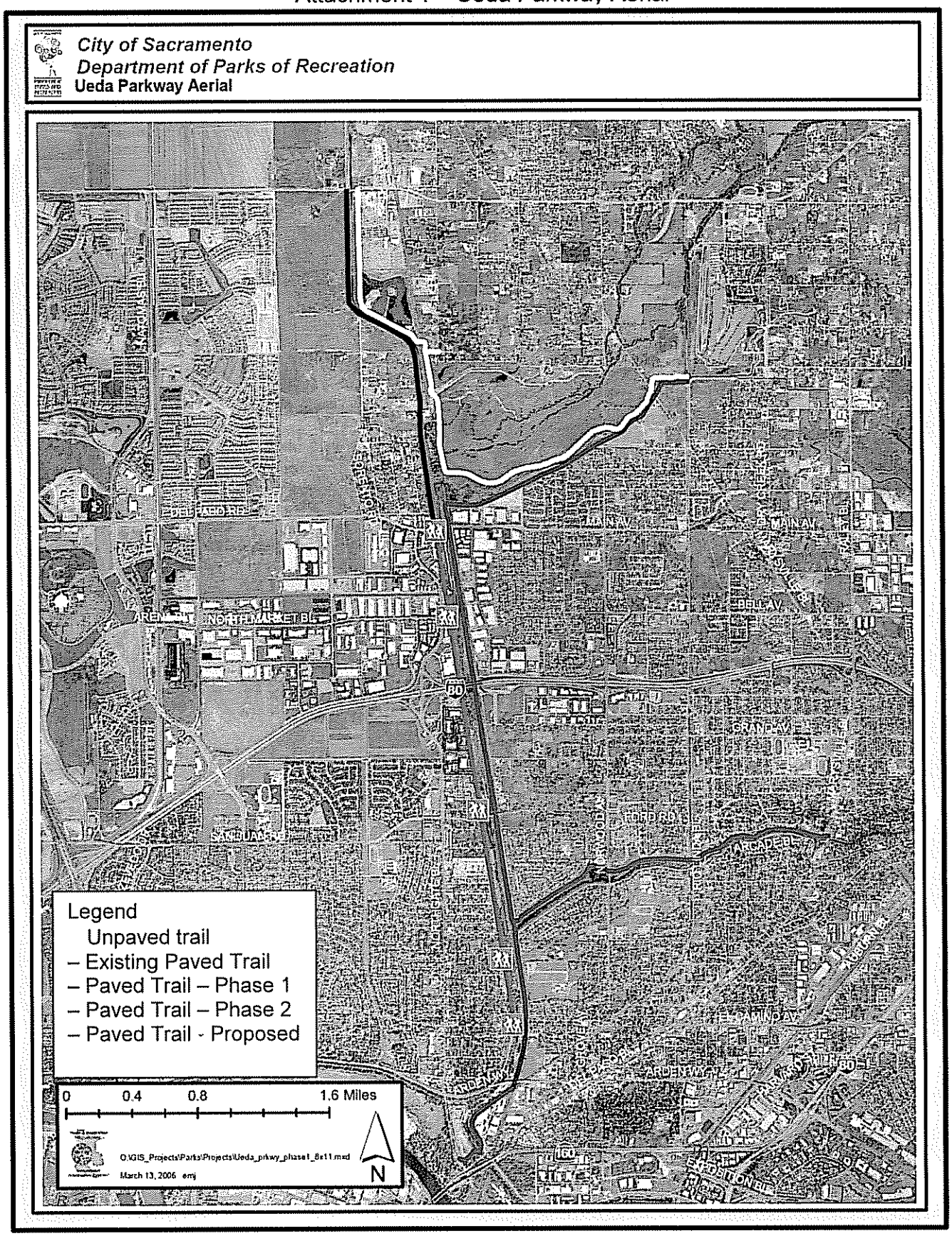
Recommendation Approved:

_____
for RAY KERRIDGE
City Manager

Table of Contents:

Pgs 1-4 Report
Pg 5 Attachment 1 – Ueda Parkway Aerial
Pg 6 Resolution

Attachment 1 – Ueda Parkway Aerial



RESOLUTION NO. 2006-XXXX

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

April 4, 2006

APPROVING THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO AND RECLAMATION DISTRICT 1000 (RD 1000) FOR PHASE I OF THE WALT UEDA PARKWAY BIKE TRAIL, CIP HB16

BACKGROUND:

A. The Walt Ueda Parkway Bike Trail consists of approximately 12.5 miles of paved recreation trails that are mostly on the crown of levees and offers visual access to the natural habitat of Steelhead, Arcade, Dry and Robla Creeks; Phase I of this trail will be approximately 4 miles of paved trail.

B. The design of the project must take many factors into consideration, including sensitive habitat, natural amenities, ramps that are ADA accessible, appropriate access to neighborhoods, and a flood control infrastructure that includes levees and flood easements.

C. The County owns easements on much of the trail alignment. RD 1000 maintains the levees on which the trail will be located. RD1000 and the City of Sacramento need to enter into an agreement to address levee and trail maintenance and operation, trail closures, and emergency response during flood events.

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

Section 1. Approves the Agreement between the City of Sacramento and Reclamation District 1000 (RD 1000) for Phase I of the Walt Ueda Parkway Bike Trail, CIP HB16.