



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number: 17-5132

Agenda Item Number: 9.

Agenda Date: 10/19/2017

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Transportation & Capital Improvements

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Mike Frisbie, P.E.

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Council District 2

SUBJECT:

Amendment to a Funding Agreement with the San Antonio Botanical Society, Inc.

SUMMARY:

An ordinance authorizing the execution of an amendment to an existing funding agreement between the City of San Antonio and the San Antonio Botanical Society, Inc. to provide an additional \$500,000.00 towards the 2012 Bond Project for Botanical Gardens, located in Council District 2, funded from Bexar County, for a total contribution of \$1,700,000.00.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On February 19, 2015, the San Antonio City Council thru ordinance 2015-02-19-0106 authorized the execution of a Funding Agreement totaling \$1,200,000.00 to the San Antonio Botanical Society.

The 2012 Bond Project provided for a new entrance gateway, parking lot, welcome and discovery center, entry display garden, gift shop, culinary garden outdoor kitchen, new classrooms/orientation gallery and a Family Adventure Garden.

Although the project is already underway, Bexar County expressed interest in contributing funds toward the ongoing project. The proposed amendment allows the City to accept \$500,000.00 from the Bexar County as approved in the County's FY 2017 Budget and to amend the City's existing funding agreement with the Botanical Society to provide the County's additional funds.

The project construction began in 2015 and is estimated to be completed in October 2017. Grand opening for the majority of the improvements will be held on October 21, 2017. The Family Adventure Garden will not open until March 2018 in order to allow the plants to be established.

ISSUE:

This ordinance authorizes the execution of an amendment to an existing funding agreement between the City of San Antonio and the San Antonio Botanical Society, Inc. to provide an additional \$500,000.00 towards the 2012 Bond Project for Botanical Gardens, located in Council District 2, funded from Bexar County, for a total contribution of \$1,700,000.00.

The amendment funds will be used by the San Antonio Botanical Society, Inc. for the ongoing 2012 Bond Project. The project construction began in 2015 and is estimated to be completed in October 2017. Grand opening for the majority of the improvements will be held on October 21, 2017. The Family Adventure Garden will not open until March 2018 in order to allow the plants to be established.

ALTERNATIVES:

City Council could choose not to approve this agreement; however, doing so would delay improvements to the expansion of the Botanical Gardens.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This ordinance authorizes an amendment to the existing funding agreement between the City of San Antonio and the Botanical Society to provide an additional \$500,000.00 available from the Bexar County FY 2017 Budget for a total contribution of \$1,700,000.00 for the Botanical Gardens 2012 Bond Project.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends authorizing an amendment to a funding agreement with the San Antonio Botanical Society, Inc. to provide an additional \$500,000.00 for the Botanical Gardens 2012 Bond Project and paid for from the Bexar County FY 2017 Budget.