



**Community & Economic Development Division
Planning and Development Services**

7447 East Indian School Road, Suite 105
Scottsdale, Arizona 85251

To: Neighborhood Advisory Commission
From: Taylor Reynolds, Commission Liaison
CC: Adam Yaron, Planning & Development Area Manager
Stephanie Tippet, Parks & Recreation Manager
Date: October 25, 2023
Re: Item 5: Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program Proposal - Agua Linda Park

This memorandum presents a request to the Neighborhood Advisory Commission from a Scottsdale citizen for the allocation of Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program (NEGP) funding to provide landscape enhancements within Agua Linda Park, a designated neighborhood park, located at 8750 E. McDonald Drive.

BACKGROUND

The Neighborhood Advisory Commission annually operates the Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program with City Council approved budget funding for neighborhood improvements as a means to implement the purpose, powers, and duties of the Commission, pursuant to Ordinance 4331 (Enclosure 1), and without creating conflicts with the City Charter (Section.3. Powers of the City. O.).

For the 2023/24 fiscal year, the Neighborhood Advisory Commission has a City Council approved budget of \$30,000 available to provide for neighborhood improvements. This is the first request to be reviewed and considered by the NAC this fiscal year.

REQUEST

The request for Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program funding (Enclosure 2) for Agua Linda Park was submitted by a Scottsdale citizen on July 24, 2023, requesting:

1. Landscaping Improvements

The applicant states that portions (2,500 +/- square feet) of the Agua Linda Park are unutilized, lack vegetation, and include unnecessary concrete infrastructure such as a hexagonal concrete basin and unutilized sidewalk areas. Further, the applicant contends that the park could benefit from improvements that would attract and engage visitors while increasing community pride in the area. Consequently, the applicant is requesting landscaping improvements (to include irrigation, decomposed granite, shrubs, and shade trees) (Enclosure 3) to enhance the underutilized portion of the park.

NEIGHBORHOOD ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM CRITERIA

The applicant's request for landscaping improvements within Agua Linda Park is eligible for Program funding consideration. As per the Commission's Program Criteria and Requirements, the Commission will consider each application proposal and request, subject to the following:

- **Location & Accessibility** (Requirement) – The project meets this requirement as the proposed landscape improvements are located within Agua Linda Park, a neighborhood park, and further the location has frontage along McDonald Road, a public street that is classified as a Minor Arterial. Consequently, the intended improvements are located so as to be seen and accessible to the overall public.
- **General Need** (Requirement) – Although the applicant's request for funding affects a city-maintained, public park, the improvements are intended to be located within an area of the park that is not currently programmed as landscaped space.
- **Existing Conditions** (Consideration) – The project site was previously a sand play area for patrons of Agua Linda Park. Children were able to build sandcastles in this area, utilizing the remnant hexagonal concrete basin to fill buckets of water. When the playground area was most recently replaced by the city, a small site wall was built to separate the subject project site from that area of the park and the sand was replaced by the existing wood chips. With no park activities attributed to this space, along with the lack of irrigation, this area has remained unused since that time. Providing an irrigation source, plant materials, and other localized enhancements will improve the aesthetics, engagement, and community pride attributed to this underutilized space.
- **Maintenance** (Consideration) – There is no active "Notice of Compliance" from Code Enforcement for the subject site. If approved, on-going maintenance will be the responsibility of the city.

PROJECT SCOPE

If approved, NEGP funds, not to exceed \$7,500.00, will be utilized to provide the following:

- \$2,500 – Saw cut existing concrete sidewalk and provide irrigation connection to subject area; and
- \$5,000 – landscape materials including groundcover (decomposed granite), shrubs, and shade trees.

Other improvements within the subject area that will be realized by this proposal, but come at no cost, include the deployment of park benches (currently excess in city inventory) as well as the removal of the hexagonal concrete basin. Further, and similar to previous funding allocations by the Commission, the applicant is interested in providing the "sweat equity" in the development of this new landscaped area within Agua Linda Park. If approved, staff will coordinate a volunteer effort with the applicant to complete certain aspects of the project, including planting landscape materials and spreading decomposed granite within the subject area. Improvements will be paid by the requested NEGP funds subject to city purchasing

guidelines and requirements. As previously stated, on-going maintenance will be the responsibility of the city.

STAFF RECCOMENDATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Implementing the purpose, powers and duties pursuant to Ord. 4331, based on Neighborhood Advisory Commission-established Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program criteria, without creating conflicts with the City Charter (Section.3. Powers of the City. O.), and by utilizing City Council approved budget funding for neighborhood improvements, staff recommends the following:

- A. Approve the allocation of Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program funding in an amount not to exceed \$7,500.00, so as to assist in landscape enhancements within Agua Linda Park, a designated neighborhood park, located at 8750 E. McDonald Drive.

ENCLOSURES:

- 1. City Council Ord. 4331 defining the Purpose Powers and Duties of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission
- 2. Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program Application for Agua Linda Park
- 3. Agua Linda Park NEGP Request Exhibit

ORDINANCE NO. 4331

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, AMENDING SECTIONS 2-322 AND 2-323 OF THE SCOTTSDALE REVISED CODE PERTAINING TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COMMISSION

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Scottsdale as follows:

Section 1. Sections 2-322 and 2-323 of the Scottsdale Revised Code pertaining to the Neighborhood Advisory Commission is amended as follows:

Section 2-322. Membership.

The Neighborhood Advisory Commission shall consist of seven (7) members, each of whom shall be appointed by the city council. The term of each member shall be for three (3) years; ~~except the terms of those members who were current members of the Scottsdale Neighborhood Enhancement Commission or Housing Board at the time of the enactment of this division shall expire on the date that their term would have expired for their respective prior commission or board. The initial membership of the commission shall consist of the membership of the Housing Board and Neighborhood Enhancement Commission at the time of adoption of this division. The membership shall be reduced to seven members through attrition by resignation or expiration of term.~~

Section 2-323. Purpose; powers and duties.

(a) The purpose of the Neighborhood Advisory Commission is to advise and make recommendations to the city council on policies, plans, strategies and programs for the preservation, improvement and revitalization of Scottsdale's housing and neighborhoods. The commission may advise and make recommendations on other issues and matters as the city council may direct. The commission may make recommendations to other city boards and commissions, **in accordance with the commission's purpose.**

~~(b) In accordance with City Council Resolution Number 8929 approve or disapprove applications made pursuant to the R1-7 Residential Exterior Enhancement Program.~~

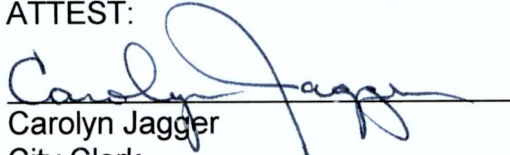
(b) The commission shall establish criteria for determining how Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Funds are allocated. Any required application shall be filed with the city.

(c) The commission shall approve or deny Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program applications pursuant to the application procedure and established criteria.

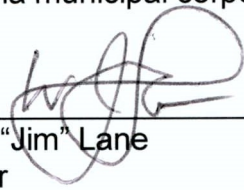
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Scottsdale this 13th day of February 2018.

CITY OF SCOTTSDALE, an
Arizona municipal corporation

ATTEST:

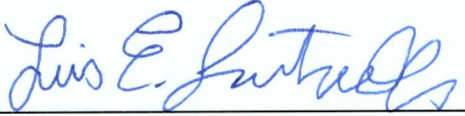


Carolyn Jagger
City Clerk



W. J. "Jim" Lane
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY



Bruce Washburn, City Attorney
By: Luis E. Santaella, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Program Application

Project Details

Please tell us about the project you are requesting grant funds for.

Provide a Project Name

Agua Linda Park - Native Plant Xeriscape Garden

Site Address(s)

8732 E McDonald Dr, Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Grant request is for:

Park Enhancement

Properties included in proposal:

City Park

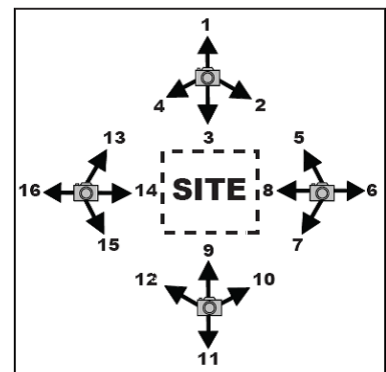
Has Code Enforcement issued a "Notice of Compliance"?

No

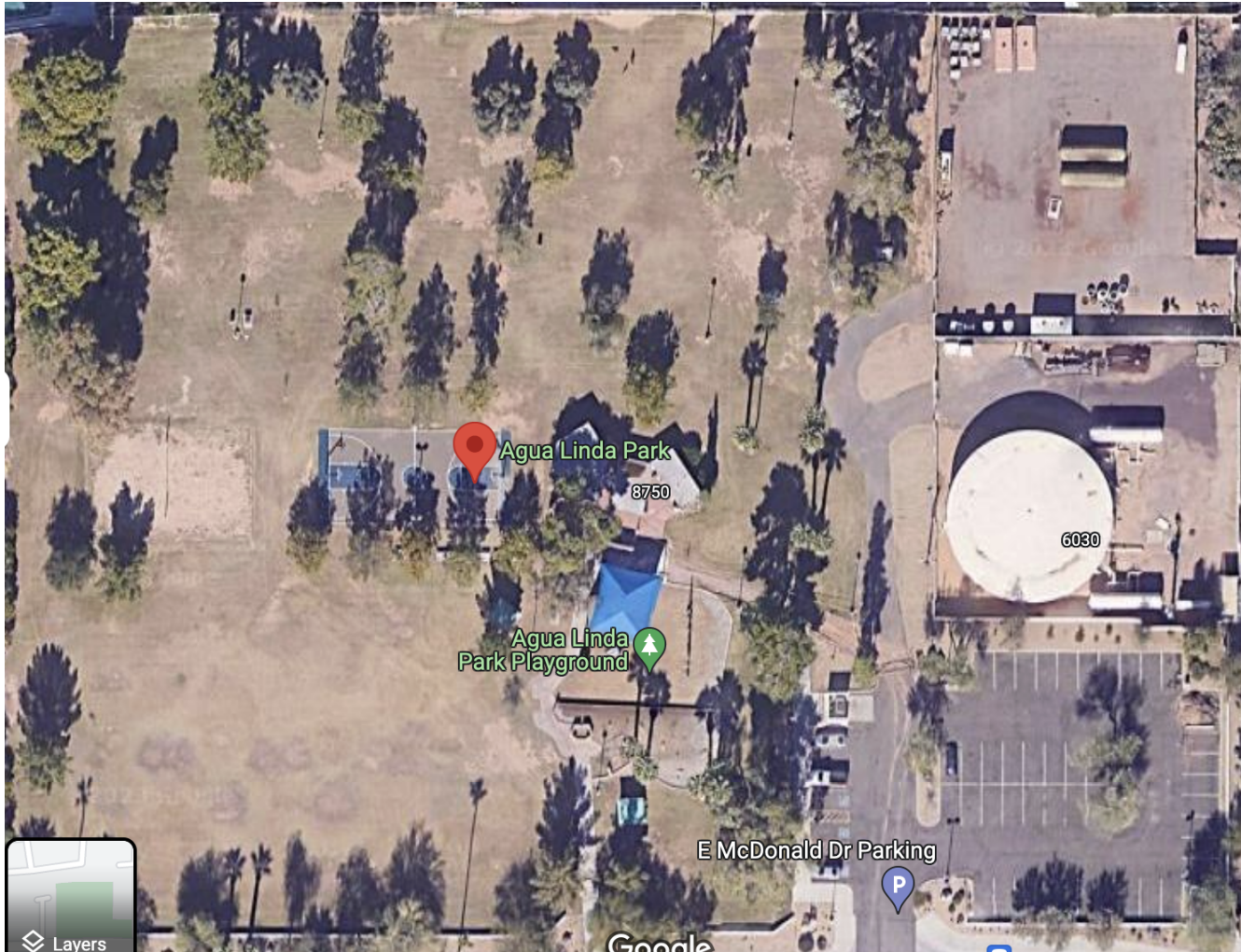
Project Photographs

Site / Context Photographs

- Provide color photographs showing the site and the surrounding properties.
- Photos should be taken looking in towards the project site and adjacent to the site.
- Photos should show adjacent improvements and existing on-site conditions.
- Each photograph should include a number and direction.
- Photos should be provided on 8 ½ x 11 paper, max. two per page..



Photos



Application Narrative

The narrative should describe the purpose of the request, and all pertinent information related to the request as well as respond to the following:

1. Summarize your project and its goals in two sentences.
2. Describe your project and its goals in detail (considering the program criteria and requirements - maximum two short paragraphs)
 - Please briefly describe the project purpose, the known history of the site and why grant funding is necessary to achieve the sought enhancements.
 - What need(s) in your neighborhood will this project fulfill?
 - Approximately how many properties and people will directly benefit from this project?
 - How will you measure the success of this project? How can the project or benefits created by the project be continued?

Narrative

Reduce dust/water use and improve appearance of Agua Linda Park by installing native plant xeriscape garden with trees to provide shade in un-utilized portions of the park surrounding the playground that are currently bare ground/dirt/dust.

Water Conservation and Reduced Dust: The installation of a native plant xeriscape garden will significantly reduce water consumption in Agua Linda Park. Native plants are well-adapted to the local climate, requiring minimal irrigation once established, thereby easing the burden on the city's water resources. Moreover, the garden's vegetation will act as a natural dust suppressant, mitigating the dust problem that has been an ongoing issue in the park, thus improving air quality and overall park usability.

Improved Aesthetics and Park Utilization: The xeriscape garden, adorned with a diverse array of native plants, will introduce a burst of color and beauty to the park, transforming the current barren areas into picturesque landscapes. As visitors enter the park, they will be greeted by an inviting oasis, encouraging more people to spend time outdoors and engage in various recreational activities. By incorporating shade-providing trees strategically, we will create comfortable gathering spaces, attracting families, friends, and community members to socialize, play, and relax.

Environmental Education and Biodiversity: The native plant xeriscape garden will serve as an educational platform for promoting environmental awareness and the importance of native species in maintaining ecological balance. Interpretive signage will educate visitors about the value of using regionally appropriate plants and their significance in preserving local biodiversity. The garden will also attract native wildlife, such as butterflies, birds, and beneficial insects, fostering a deeper connection between the community and the natural world.

Community Engagement and Pride: Through collaborative community involvement in the planning and implementation of this project, we will foster a sense of ownership and pride among residents for Agua Linda Park. As volunteers and park enthusiasts come together to transform the space, a shared spirit of stewardship will emerge, inspiring ongoing care and maintenance of the garden. This project will strengthen community bonds, creating a sense of unity and collective responsibility for preserving and enjoying the park's newfound beauty.

Contact Information

Applicant/Owner:

Lauren Click

Neighborhood Group Name

Address

7901 E Keim Drive, 85250

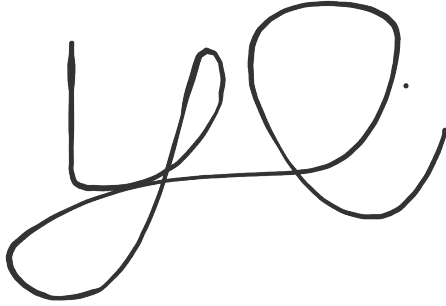
Phone

(480) 204-4632

Email

laurenlick@me.com

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'Y' followed by a large 'O' and a trailing flourish.

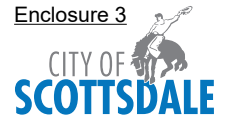
** I am the owner of the property or I am the duly and lawfully appointed agent of the owner of the property and have authority from the owner to sign this application on the owner's behalf. If the property has more than one owner, the I am the agent for all the owners and the word "owner" refers to all of them.*

NEGP Request Exhibit

Agua Linda Park - Neighborhood Enhancement Grant Proposal

Enclosure 3

NEIGHBORHOOD
ENHANCEMENT GRANT



 Project Site, +/- 2,500 sq ft

