

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Park Advisory Commission

DATE: May 21, 2024

SUBJECT: Resolution to Recommend Placement on November 2024 Election Ballot the Renewal of the Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage for 2025 – 2044 and to recommend City Council reaffirm the administrative millage policy

Approval of this resolution will recommend to City Council the placement on the November 5, 2024 ballot of the Renewal of the Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage for 2025 – 2044. This resolution will also recommend City Council reaffirm the administrative millage policy.

With the expiration of the millage approaching, a work group consisting of Park Advisory Commission and City staff members evaluated the existing millage and related funding guidelines and Administrative Policy set by City Council.

PAC is recommending the Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage for renewal. This millage renewal proposes 1.10 mills and estimates a total revenue in the first year of the new millage, if approved, to be \$8,519,150. Subsequent annual revenue will be adjusted based on the Headlee rollback and property value adjustments. The annual cost to a homeowner based on an average taxable value of \$176,933 is expected to be \$195 for FY2026. The current cost to a homeowner based on an average taxable value of \$176,933 for the expiring millage for FY2025 is \$190.

This millage renewal will be for twenty years with the following annual fund allocation: 70% park maintenance activities, 30% park capital improvement projects, and up to a 10% variable shift between the two annually. Park maintenance activities that are funded from this millage renewal will include forestry and horticulture, natural area preservation, volunteerism, park operations, recreation facilities, and targets of opportunity. Capital improvement projects will include active parks, neighborhood parks, recreation facilities and urban plazas; pathways, trails, boardwalks, greenways and watersheds; historic preservation; and targets of opportunities.

City Council passed a Resolution of Intent on the Administration of the Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage in 2006 and has amended it three times over the life of the millage. PAC recommends that this administrative policy be reaffirmed prior to the millage renewal being placed on the November ballot so as to inform voters of the manner in which administration of the millage will be managed.

RESOLUTION TO RECOMMEND PLACEMENT ON NOVEMBER 2024 ELECTION BALLOT THE RENEWAL OF THE PARK MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS MILLAGE FOR 2025 – 2044 AND TO RECOMMEND CITY COUNCIL REAFFIRM THE ADMINISTRATIVE MILLAGE POLICY

Whereas, The Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage is the principal funding source for the City's park and recreation capital improvement programs and park repair and restoration programs;

Whereas, The Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage was approved by the voters in 2006, 2012, 2018 for six year durations;

Whereas, The Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage will expire in 2024;

Whereas, The parks system has identified a number of upcoming expenses that will need to be addressed over the coming years;

Whereas, It is in the Parks best interest to present a new millage to the voters which supports the objectives of the expiring millage and provides essential resources for the ongoing maintenance and improvement of the parks system; and

RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommends that City Council place the renewal of the Park Maintenance and Capital improvements Millage on the November 2024 election ballot; and

RESOLVED, That the Park Advisory Commission recommend that City Council reaffirms its intent to administer the Park Maintenance and Capital Improvements Millage as amended and approved by Resolution R-11-186 on May 16, 2011.