



TO: GCS D Board of Directors

FROM: Peter J. Kampa, General Manager

DATE: January 11, 2022

SUBJECT: Agenda Item 6C: Consideration of Approval of the Community Improvement Project Scope to be Submitted to the Clean California Grant Program in Partnership with the Yosemite Hwy 120 Chamber of Commerce

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

I move to approve the Community Improvement Project Scope to be submitted to the Clean California Grant in Partnership with the Yosemite Hwy 120 Chamber of Commerce.

BACKGROUND:

On December 14, 2021, the Board of Directors adopted resolution 43-2021 approving District staff to submit an application for the Clean California Local Grant program for litter abatement, land beautification and to improve parks and pathways. The Yosemite Hwy 120 Chamber of Commerce would like to partner with the District through the application process and to have an ongoing relationship in their efforts to beautify downtown Groveland. District staff and representatives from the Chamber had a meeting on January 5, 2022, to discuss the Chamber's project scope and the benefits that it would have for the District and downtown Groveland, as well as how their project would greatly enhance the district's project scope of work as well as increase its application score.

The Chamber of Commerce beautification project includes:

- Trash and recycling receptacles, planters and benches distributed along Main Street

The Chamber recommended improvements will significantly reduce the amount of trash disposed of in the limited park trash cans; which are nearly always full and messy.

The GCS D park infrastructure project includes:

- Replacement of the park restroom with a new, larger and more maintenance friendly facility
- Additional trash and recycling receptacles
- Shade cover and enhanced YARTS bus terminal area
- Additional park benches with covers in unshaded areas
- Drought tolerant landscaping design and installation; irrigation renovation and demonstration garden
- Walking paths in the park

- Trailhead informational area and signage
- Removal of trash, debris and abandoned RV on the new 37 acre property purchased
- Restoration of dirt access roads and unpaved trails linking the park to the new property; allowing the property to be opened for walking, hiking, biking and sightseeing

District staff feels that this is an ideal partnership for this grant opportunity and if awarded the district and the Chamber of Commerce will work out the details of an agreement to maintain the beautification project that they have proposed and bring this back to the board for approval. The physical assets of trash cans, benches and planters will be low to the GCSD Parks, and the Chamber of Commerce will provide plant maintenance, watering and servicing of trash receptacles downtown.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Yosemite Hwy 120 Chamber of Commerce Beautification Program
Scope



Yosemite / Hwy 120 Chamber of Commerce Beautification Program

In its continued commitment to be a viable, valuable and visible force to the Hwy 120 Corridor business community, the Yosemite Chamber is responding to a consistently voiced concern of the Groveland Main Street business community. That concern is the never-ending need for Groveland Main Street businesses to pick up or take in trash, garbage and recyclable materials created by visitors travelling to our Community or through to Yosemite. In this effort, the Yosemite Chamber is actively seeking funding to meet the beautification needs of the Community it serves.

Hwy 120 (i.e. Main Street, Groveland) is a State Highway. As a result, commercial vehicles are not allowed to stop and remove trash or recycling from street-facing receptacles placed for public use.

In 2019, citing Yosemite National Park (YNP) statistics, over 508,000 vehicles travelled to YNP via Hwy. 120 (i.e. Main Street Groveland). Additional YNP statistics for the same year also show that of the five entrances to YNP, Hwy 120 is the route most people travelling from Northern California take to enter the Park, with 75% of the traffic to Yosemite occurring from May to December.

Beautifying the northern Gateway's entrance (Hwy 120) to YNP with unique garbage and recycling cans mural-designed by local artists, additional seating for shoppers/visitors, and flower/plant adorned containers, while decluttering Main Street's historic landscape will work to satisfy several : (1) Increase downtown commercial property values (2) Improve the prospects of attracting new business along Main Street and the Hwy 120 corridor (3) Enhance the aesthetic appeal to visitors and guests to one of the country's most popular historical mining communities.

Our Main Street businesses should not have to fulfill the trash, garbage and recycling disposal needs of the public. Instead, the Yosemite Chamber would prefer for Main Street businesses to enjoy a Groveland that becomes an ever more enticing, welcoming and beautiful destination for interested investors as well as visitors and tourists travelling through scenic Tuolumne County and into YNP.