

**STAFF REPORT  
City of Lancaster**

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Date: May 11, 2010  
To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members  
From: Brenda Gamlowski, Management Analyst II  
Subject: **Resolution Approving RENEW Grant & Appropriations**

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**Recommendation:**

Adopt **Resolution No. 10-25**, authorizing staff to enter into a contract with Los Angeles County Department of Public Health for the RENEW grant initiative and approve the appropriation of grant funds in the amount of \$240,000.00 from Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to revenue account #399-3303-100 and expense account #399-4200-770 to fund a Master Plan for Trails and Bikeways.

**Fiscal Impact:**

The City has been awarded a total of \$240,000.00 which will be reimbursed up to \$115,000.00 for the first year commencing upon the signed agreement and \$125,000.00 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. As part of the grant requirement we will be designating a total of \$40,000.00 to Antelope Valley Partners for Health as our community based partner for this initiative.

**Background:**

Through the extensive community outreach with our General Plan and Parks, Recreation, Open Space and Cultural Comprehensive Plan, citizens noted the current lack of trails and expressed an interest in creating a citywide trails system to enhance trail connectivity, support more walkable/bikeable neighborhoods, and meet recreation and transportation needs. Both Master Plans recommend developing a City-wide Master Plan for Trails. Responding to this desire, the City has been in search of funding and has now successfully been awarded \$240,000.00 through the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health RENEW grant.

The development of the Master Plan for Trails and Bikeways will be a major planning effort over the next two years involving the City of Lancaster, Antelope Valley Partners for Health, the Architectural Design Commission, interested citizens and community groups. The City of Lancaster will coordinate with Los Angeles County to ensure grant compliance and success of the healthy living initiative. The City will also oversee all aspects of the Master Plan process. Antelope Valley Partners for Health will organize the stakeholder meetings and lead the effort to encourage healthy living in Lancaster. They will coordinate walking and bicycling groups, hold events on the trails, provide education for healthy exercise utilizing the trails, and actively reach out to residents to participate in the events and Master Plan development. The Architectural Design Commission will participate in community events/stakeholder meetings throughout the process getting firsthand knowledge of existing trails. They will also ensure the Master Plan for Trails and Bikeways is consistent with the Architectural Design Guidelines they recently

developed and recommend the City Council to adopt. The public and community/organized bicycling, walking, equestrian, and other active groups will be invited to participate in events and stakeholder meetings throughout the process. The end result will be another successful major planning effort culminating in a Master Plan for Trails and Bikeways that acts as the guide to connect existing nodes and trailways as well as all future development incorporating trail/bikeway projects to create a comprehensive trail system throughout Lancaster.

The next step is to issue the Request for Proposal for an experienced consultant. Staff will review all proposals and ask Council to consider approval of the recommended consultant.

MB:blg

**Attachment:**

Resolution No. 10-25