Council Meeting Date: October 23, 2006 Agenda Item: 7(c)

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

CITY OF SHORELINE, WASHINGTON

AGENDA TITLE: Approval of Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association Mini-Grant

for \$4,500

DEPARTMENT: Communications & Intergovernmental Relations

PRESENTED BY: Joyce Nichols, C/IR Director

PROBLEM / ISSUE STATEMENT:

The Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association has completed an application for \$4,500 for a Mini-Grant to purchase plants and related materials to enhance the Fremont Trail. The Fremont Trail project is located in the right-of-way of Fremont Place N at N 161st. The neighborhood recently participated with the City's Public Works Department to clear the overgrown two-block area and install a trail. The trail building was the 2006 community service project of the Public Works Department. The purpose of the Mini-Grant is to complete the next step of the project, which is to finish removing invasive species and then plant native species in the area that was cleared of blackberries.

The Fremont Trail project has created an open, inviting, pedestrian-friendly link between the Interurban Trail and the Boeing Creek Trail. Neighbors have "adopted" the right-of-way, and committed to picking up and disposing of litter and garbage and mowing the grassy section of right-of-way. The next step of the project is to re-plant the area with native species. Native species will enhance this open space, and make the Fremont Trail a more inviting walking trail. This project enhances neighborhood livability. The project also builds community within the Highland Terrace Neighborhood by bringing neighbors together to work on a shared goal. The proposed project has been reviewed and meets the requirements set forth for use of Mini-Grant funds.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Council authorized \$30,000 in the 2006 budget to fund Neighborhood Mini-Grants. This is the fourth 2006 Mini-Grant submitted for approval. The project budget is included in Attachment A.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Council approve \$4,500 in Mini-Grant funds for the Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association.

Approved By: City Manager City Attorney ____

INTRODUCTION

Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association has completed the application process for \$4,500 to plant native species in the public right-of-way adjacent to new Fremont Trail. The neighborhood association has committed more than 520 hours in volunteer time as a match towards the project. Funds will be used to purchase materials for the project such as native plants and soil and to rent equipment needed such as a pressure washer for removing graffiti from the wood fences bordering the trail.

BACKGROUND

Resolution No. 54 established the Neighborhood Mini-Grant program, with the process and administration of the funds to be handled by Neighborhoods staff. The allocation of the total funds available is determined from year to year by appropriation of the City Council. All such grants to individual neighborhood associations are governed by rules approved by the City Council October 7, 1996 and amended November 23, 1998. Grants must be approved by City Council prior to their implementation.

The Mini-Grant program provides grants of up to \$5,000 to each of the active, qualifying neighborhood associations in the City of Shoreline. Neighborhood associations are required to match Mini-Grant funds. A match may be generated from co-sponsoring groups, businesses, organizations, schools, media, in-kind donations and/or "sweat equity".

Mini-Grant project categories include the following:

- Projects that create or enhance a tangible improvement in the neighborhood;
- Projects that disseminate information and increase awareness of the goals and mission of the neighborhood association to the neighborhood community;
- Projects that directly benefit a public agency or organization and its immediate neighborhood, and that require the active involvement of both the public agency and members of the neighborhood in planning and carrying out the program.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends Council approve \$4,500 in Mini-Grant funds for the Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A – Highland Terrace Community Association Budget for Fremont Trail Enhancements

Attachment B – Letter of support from Jesus Sanchez, Operations Manager, City of Shoreline Public Works

Attachment C - Aerial Photo of Fremont Place North Trail project area

Attachment A

Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association 2006 Mini-Grant Budget Fremont Trail Enhancement Project

Project / Item	Cost*
Landscape design & native plant selection Provided through Washington Native Plant Society	\$ 500
Native plants, topsoil, soil preparation	\$3,265
Equipment rental/supplies	\$ 400
• •	\$ 200
Plant replacement, fertilizer Right-of-way permit	\$ 200 <u>\$ 135</u>

^{*} costs include Washington state sales tax

Project Match

The Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association proposes to provide match for its Mini-Grant through "sweat equity". The Association will provide the following on the project: coordinating and directing volunteers; graffiti removal; invasive species removal; soil preparation; identifying sources for native plants and purchasing; installation of plants; watering and maintenance of plants; litter pick up and disposal; mowing grassy area.



City of Shoreline

17544 Midvale Avenue North Shoreline, WA 98133-4921 (206) 546-1700 ◆ Fax (206) 546-2200

September 25, 2006

Gloria Bryce Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association Forest Villa HOA 708 North 161st Place Shoreline, WA 98133

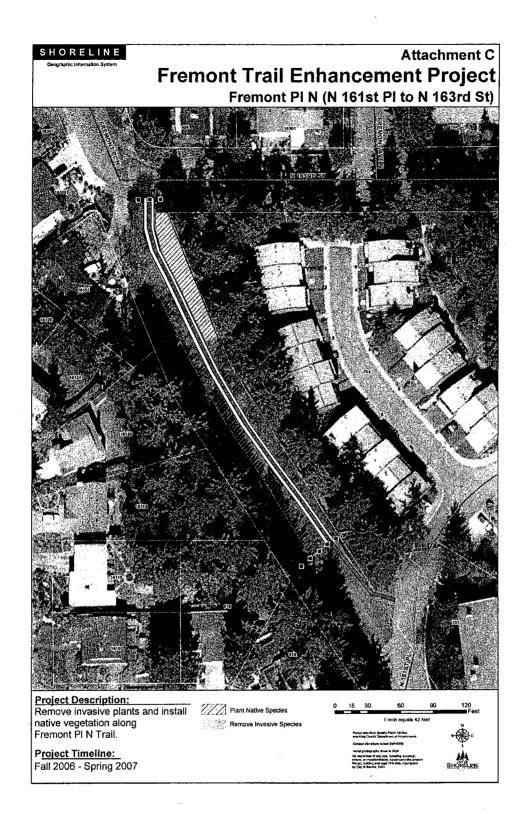
Dear Gloria,

We appreciate the efforts of your community in working with us on our Public Works community project the week of September 11th. The Fremont Trail is a wonderful improvement to the neighborhood making it a more open and safe area. We fully support your efforts to continue to enhance this area through the removal of the invasive species and adding native plants that invite citizens to use this area and the trail.

Gloria, I understand that you may have a question regarding permits as part of the project improvements you are planning in the mini-grant. The primary elements that would have triggered any permits would have been the application of impervious surface such as the asphalt or concrete. However with the application of our new porous concrete, it was determined that a permit was no longer required. Your plans for continued improvements and commitment to provide maintenance merits strong support and certainly is an improvement for the health and welfare of the local community and its users. Good luck on your proposal. We do not hesitate to endorse your project.

Sincerely

Jesus Sanchez, Operations Manager



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