

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION
APRIL 21, 2015 AGENDA**

Subject:	Action Required:	Approved By:
<p>A resolution authorizing a grant application with the Arkansas Highway and Transportation Department for work around MacArthur Park and surrounding neighborhood to provide safe routes to schools.</p> <p>Submitted By:</p> <p>Parks & Recreation Department</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ordinance √ Resolution Approval Information Report</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Bruce T. Moore City Manager</p>
SYNOPSIS	<p>Authorizes the City Manager to apply for a grant and to execute agreements with the Arkansas Highway & Transportation Department for funding sidewalk improvements around MacArthur Park and surrounding neighborhood to provide safe routes to schools.</p>	
FISCAL IMPACT	<p>Federal Funds in the amount of \$76,300 will be requested. The grant will require matching funds in the amount of 20% (\$19,075) of the project. In addition, an administration fee of 1% (\$954) is required. Matching funds will be paid as follows: \$ 20,029 – 2015 Grant Match (AU) 108459-S10A455 (includes the 1% administration fee).</p>	
RECOMMENDATION	<p>Approval of the resolution.</p>	
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION	<p>The MacPark Group, a collaborative effort by a cross section of residents, community leaders and volunteers, seeks to promote and restore MacArthur Park as the focal point of the neighboring residential communities.</p>	

BACKGROUND

The Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department requires that local governments pass a resolution supporting grant application for the Transportation Alternatives Program. This project will reconnect the two (2) adjacent neighborhood public schools of Rockefeller and Booker Magnet Elementary Schools and other institutions to the park by a system of walking and biking pathways designed to improve interaction between the neighborhoods and allow MacArthur Park to once again be the center of historic neighborhoods such as Hanger Hill and Pettaway. In addition, a connection to the South Main commercial area will be created making movement between the neighborhoods and schools to the retail and cultural institutions within MacArthur Park.