



AGENDA REPORT

CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE

City Council Meeting

Meeting Date: 9/6/2022

Agenda Item: 4I

Department: Community Development

Prepared By: Adam Atamian, Deputy Community Development Director

Subject:

RECOMMENDATION OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER SITE AT 380 AVENIDA PICO (THE CITY'S WATER RECLAMATION PLANT PROPERTY) AS A POTENTIAL LOCATION FOR AN EMERGENCY FOOD STORAGE UNIT

Fiscal Impact:

None.

Summary:

On June 28, 2022, the Public Safety Committee (PSC) approved forwarding a recommendation to the City Council to consider providing space at the City's Water Reclamation Plant located at 380 Avenida Pico for a food storage unit.

Background:

As part of the PSC's 2021-2022 Annual Work Plan, the PSC received a special presentation by Abound Food Care (AFC) related to disaster preparedness and planning, specifically methods to make food available for distribution during an emergency. The food-storage units are typically manufactured from shipping containers, measuring 20 ft. by 8 ft. by 8.5 ft.

Discussion:

AFC has worked with other local government agencies and organizations in Orange County to place emergency, food-storage units around the County. The meals inside would be available for distribution to the community in case of a natural disaster or other serious emergency. If no emergency occurs, the meals are distributed to local nonprofits at regular intervals, then new meals are prepared for storage in the unit.

AFC staff indicated to the PSC that they are looking for a location in San Clemente for placement of a food-storage unit. Attachment 1 provides a location map of the proposed area. AFC has grant funding to cover expenses related to the preparation of the food and provision of the food-storage unit, no costs of this program are required to be paid by the City. This consideration relates only to the approval of a location on City property for the potential placement of a food-storage unit at a date in the future which is currently unknown.

Should Council accept the PSC's recommendation to allow the use of the City's Water Reclamation Plant property for the purpose of an emergency, food-storage unit, future applicants, such as AFC, would be required to submit a request to the City for the use of said property. This request may require a lease agreement with the City to ensure the long-term maintenance of the unit and the City's property. In addition, due to its location in the Coastal Zone, prior to the placement of a food-

storage unit within the proposed area, applicants would be required to apply for, and receive, approval of the project from the California Coastal Commission.

Plan and Policy Consistency:

The Centennial General Plan's Safety Element includes the Goal to, "[continue] to be a safe, disaster-resilient community that is prepared through effective community outreach, proactive monitoring, and efficient emergency services, response, recovery and mitigation." This goal is achieved through implementation of Policy S-7.04, Interdepartmental and Interagency Collaboration, which states, "We collaborate among City departments and with organizations outside of the City for a comprehensive approach to emergency services and disaster preparedness, response and recovery, including continuity of operations (e.g. information technology and financial services)."

Environmental Review (CEQA):

The Community Development Department completed an environmental assessment for the proposed project in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Staff recommends the City Council hereby finds and determines that the proposed project is categorically exempt from CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15303 (Class 3: New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures), 15304 (Class 4: Minor Alterations to Land), and Section 15311 (Class 11: Accessory Structures).

The Class 3 exemption specifically exempts from further CEQA review, the construction and location of limited numbers of new, small facilities or structures, such as accessory and appurtenant structures. The Class 4 exemption specifically exempts minor alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation that do not involve the removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. The Class 11 exemption specifically exempts the construction or replacement of minor structures accessory or appurtenant to existing commercial, industrial, or institutional facilities, such as mobile food units. Here, the project involves the placement of a non-permanent, food-storage unit, potentially involving minimal grading to create a level pad, accessory to the existing use of the proposed property location.

Furthermore, none of the exceptions to the use of the Class 3, 4 and 11 categorical exemptions identified in State CEQA Guidelines section 15300.2 apply. The project will not result in a cumulative impact from successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time. There are no unusual circumstances surrounding the project that result in a reasonable possibility of a significant effect on the environment. There are no sensitive resources, such as endangered species, on the project site or in the vicinity. The project will not damage scenic resources, including trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources.

Recommended Actions:

Public Safety Committee Recommendation

Approve the recommendation to allow a portion of the City's Water Reclamation Plant property to be used for the placement of an emergency food-storage unit.

Attachment:

Location Map

Notification:

None.

