



CITY OF MARTINEZ

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

January 26, 2015

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Alan Shear, Acting City Manager

SUBJECT: Muir Heritage Land Trust Request for Funds Towards the Acquisition of West Hills Farm

DATE: January 22, 2015

RECOMMENDATION:

Discussion of, consideration of and possible action regarding Muir Land Trust request for \$262,500 from the City towards the acquisition of 44 acres known as West Hills Farm.

BACKGROUND:

At the December 17, 2014 meeting of the City Council, Linus Eukel of the Muir Heritage Land Trust, requested \$262,500 from the City towards the acquisition of 44 acres known as the West Hills Farm. Mr. Eukel stated that purchase of the site will permanently protect it as open space and make it available to the public as part of the John Muir National Historic site.

This property is adjacent to Mount Wanda and is part of the U.S. National Park Service John Muir National Historic site. The request for funding was discussed at the January 13, 2015 meeting of the City Council. After a lengthy dialogue, staff was directed to place the request for funding on a subsequent City Council agenda for further discussion and possible action.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If Council chooses to grant all or part of the \$262,500 request, staff recommends using a portion of the City's \$1,651,961 allocation of Measure WW Local Grant Program funds. The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) administers Measure WW funds and has confirmed it is an appropriate use of the funds. The period to submit an application to EBRPD to spend Measure WW funds in 2015 is February 1 – March 31.

ACTION:

Provide direction or action regarding Muir Land Trust request for \$262,500 from the City towards the acquisition of 44 acres known as West Hills Farm.