

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Parks and Recreation *SMA*

BOARD AGENDA # *B-11

Urgent Routine

AGENDA DATE April 28, 2009

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES NO
Ant
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Apply for the State of California Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Program in the Amount of \$498,969 for the Operations and Maintenance of the Off-Highway Vehicle Areas at Frank Raines and La Grange Regional Parks for Fiscal Year 2009-2010

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve the Department of Parks and Recreation to apply for the State of California Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Program in the amount of \$489,969.
2. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation to sign and submit the grant application to the State of California Natural Resources Agency.
3. Approve the attached State of California Off-Highway Vehicle Program Grant Resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

If awarded, the Department of Parks and Recreation is eligible to receive up to \$498,969 from the State of California Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Grant Program. The State of California OHV Grant Program requires matching funds of 25% or \$124,743. Prior to accepting the grant, the Department will return to Board for approval to accept the grant and identify matching fund sources.

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2009-272

On motion of Supervisor Monteith, Seconded by Supervisor Grover
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Grover, Monteith, and Chairman DeMartini

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) _____ Denied

3) _____ Approved as amended

4) _____ Other:

MOTION:

Christine Ferraro

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

Approval to Apply for the State of California Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Program in the Amount of \$498,969 for the Operations and Maintenance of the Off-Highway Vehicle Areas at Frank Raines and La Grange Regional Parks for Fiscal Year 2009-2010

DISCUSSION

The State of California Natural Resources Agency Department of Parks and Recreation, administers the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Grant Program that provides funding to cities, counties, districts, and non-profit organizations delivering OHV recreational opportunities and related activities. An OHV is defined in the California Vehicle Code as a motorcycle, snowmobile, all-terrain vehicle, jeep, sand buggy or dune buggy, and any street licensed motor vehicles being used off-highway.

The Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Act of 2003 authorizes the allocation of grant funds for the purpose of establishing, maintaining, managing and rehabilitating OHV areas, trails and facilities in California. For the OHV Grant Period 2008-2009, Stanislaus County Department of Parks and Recreation will be submitting a grant request for both managed OHV areas located within Frank Raines and La Grange Regional Parks.

Unlike most other counties within the State of California, Stanislaus County owns and operates not one, but two OHV Areas totaling over 2,000 acres of available and dedicated land for all types of off-road recreational opportunities for County residents and visitors alike. OHV visitors come from Stanislaus County and routinely from the Bay Area, Sacramento, Fresno, and the Sierra Foothills. Both OHV parks in La Grange and Frank Raines are open to all registered and California Vehicle Code compliant vehicles such as, but not limited to, 4-wheel drives (4WD), all-terrain vehicles (ATV's), sand-rails, motorcycles and buggies.

Frank Raines Regional Park is located approximately 17 miles west of Patterson, California in Del Puerto Canyon's rugged slopes of the Coastal Range. The park is divided functionally into two units separated by several miles of road. The north section encompasses over 1,600 acres of developed and undeveloped areas with off-road vehicle trails, overnight camping and a day use area for passive recreation. The OHV trails are rated for beginners with stock OHV's to advanced to well-equipped OHV's in very steep terrain. Additionally, rock crawling and mud bogging are also available. The types of vehicles used in this park are trucks, motorcycles, 4-wheel drive vehicles and dune buggies. Visitors who use the park will meet challenges like hill climbing, water hazards, and challenging trails.

The OHV area is supported by the Deer Creek Campgrounds and includes the entrance station, day-use parking area, over-night campgrounds with 34 full hook-up campsites, a recreation hall, restrooms and showers, and a group picnic shelter.

Frank Raines Regional Park resources are in fair condition after the fire that occurred on July 22, 2003. The campgrounds, buildings and maintenance facilities were not damaged. The trails in the lower and upper 800 acres of the OHV Park suffered significant fire damage. The entire park was closed down temporarily to assess the damage. On October 17, 2003, approximately 200 acres of the OHV Park were re-opened to the public. Since October 2006, the park's lower 800 acres have been open for OHV use to the public.

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The Ground Operations (GO) Grant will provide funding for operations and maintenance at Frank Raines Regional Park and its OHV Area. The grant funds labor to perform tasks such as cleaning bathrooms, mowing, volunteer support, trash collection, rules enforcement, water system maintenance and testing, repaving existing parking lots and campground improvements. This grant enables Stanislaus County to enhance its existing OHV opportunities while protecting its natural resources.

La Grange Regional Park is located at 2315 South Old La Grange Road, La Grange, California. This OHV Area offers undeveloped camping and over 150 acres of land open for recreational riding. The trails are rated for beginners with stock OHV's to intermediate riders. There is a motocross style course and a track dedicated for the younger beginners with an OHV under 90cc.

The Ground Operations (GO) Grant will provide funding for the operations and maintenance at La Grange Regional Park and its OHV Area. The grant funds labor, supplies, construction materials, trash/litter collection, mowing, sign replacement, maintenance and testing of water system, safety issues, electrical repairs, volunteer support, fencing repairs, upgrading amenities, and utilities.

Visitors who go to the La Grange OHV Area await challenges like soft sandy soil, water hazards, and hill climbs. A recent addition of an intermediate track for users between the ages of ten and fifteen years old is now open to the public. An OHV user can expect to enjoy groomed trails, groomed competitive tracks, camping, restrooms, benches, shade trees, and barbeques. The types of vehicles used in this park include but are not limited to dune buggies, dirt bikes, ATV's, and miscellaneous 4-wheel drives.

Some groups who enjoy our OHV Areas include: the Over the Hill Gang, Modesto 4-Wheel Drive, California Motor Cross Association, East Bay High Tailers, American Motocross Promotions, Mutant Motor Sports, A.M.P. Racing, Merced Dirt Riders, and many members of the California Off Road Vehicle Association (CORVA).

This GO grant opportunity allows the Department to provide service level priorities of safety, customer service, and accountability to the off road vehicle community including staff presence, janitorial and custodial duties, maintenance of OHV trails, and mandated requirements for drinking water compliance. The Grantor has requested that Stanislaus County submit the grants for both OHV parks as one application.

The State of California Off-Highway Vehicle Program Grant Resolution must be submitted with the grant application. Upon award of the grant, the Department will return to the Board for approval to accept the grant and identify matching fund sources.

Approval to Apply for the State of California Off-Highway Vehicle Grant Program in the Amount of \$498,969 for the Operations and Maintenance of the Off-Highway Vehicle Areas at Frank Raines and La Grange Regional Parks for Fiscal Year 2009-2010

POLICY ISSUES:

The Board of Supervisors should consider whether approval of this request to apply for grant funds supports the Board of Supervisor's priority of effective partnerships, a well-planned infrastructure, and efficient delivery of public services. The Department of Parks and Recreation strives to establish partnerships with organizations that strengthen our community image, assists in financing operation and maintenance service levels, and allows staff to deliver the best customer service.

STAFFING IMPACTS:

There are no staffing impacts associated with this item.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Date: April 28, 2009

No. 2009-272

On motion of Supervisor Monteith Seconded by Supervisor Grover
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Grover, Monteith, and Chairman DeMartini

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

Item # *B-11

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED:

**APPROVING THE APPLICANT TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE GRANT FUNDS**

WHEREAS, The people of the State of California have enacted the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Act of 2003, which provides funds to the State of California and its political subdivisions for, Operation and Maintenance, Restoration, Law Enforcement, and Education and Safety for off-highway vehicle recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division with the California Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility to administer the program; and

WHEREAS, procedures established by the California Department of Parks and Recreation require the Applicant's Governing Body to certify by resolution the approval of the Application to apply for Off-Highway Motor Vehicle grant funds; and

WHEREAS, this project appears on, or is in conformance with this jurisdiction's adopted general or master plan and is compatible with the land use plans of those jurisdictions immediately surrounding the project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Stanislaus, State of California, hereby:

1. Approves the filing of an Application(s) for an Off-Highway Vehicle Grant or Cooperative Agreement; and
2. Certifies that this agency understands its legal obligations to the State upon approval of the grant; and
3. Certifies that this agency understands the California Public Resources Code requirement that acquisition and development projects be maintained to specific conservation standards; and
(continued on page 2)

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk
Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors,
State of California



Continued

APPROVING THE APPLICANT TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION, OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE GRANT FUNDS

4. Certifies that this agency understands the California Public Resources Code requirement that acquisition and development projects be maintained to specific conservation standards; and
5. Certifies that the project will be well-maintained during its useful life; and
6. Certifies that this agency will implement the project with diligence once funds are available and the Applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees with the Project Agreement; and
7. Certifies that this agency will provide the required matching funds; and
8. Certifies that the public and adjacent property owners have been notified of this project (as applicable); and
9. Appoints the (designated position) Department of Parks and Recreation Director as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for completion of the project.