



Office of the City Manager

CONSENT CALENDAR
December 01, 2020

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager
Submitted by: Scott Ferris, Director, Parks Recreation & Waterfront
Subject: Donation: Regan Nursery Rose Bushes

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution accepting a donation of 44 potted roses from Regan Nursery, valued at \$1099.78, for replacement of roses stolen from the Berkeley Rose Garden.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

Regan Nursery would like to donate 44 potted roses at a value of \$1,099.78 to the City of Berkeley to help replace rose bushes that were stolen and vandalized in the spring and summer months of 2020. Many of the donated plants will be used in areas of the Rose Garden where existing plants are failing due to disease.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

The Berkeley Rose Garden features over 200 varieties of roses. Some of these varieties are rare and possess high monetary value, making them a target for thieves. Over a six-month period, 25 rose bushes were stolen from the Berkeley Rose Garden resulting in several bare and colorless planting sites. Fall is the ideal time to replace the stolen roses and replace those that lack vigor due to age or disease. Regan Nursery has generously offered to donate 44 potted roses to help with this restoration.

BACKGROUND

The City's Open Governance Ordinance (OGO) requires City Council disclosure and approval of any gift to the City in excess of \$1,000 (BMC Section 2.06.150, Ord. 7,166-N.S.)

The Berkeley Rose Garden was one of the first Civil Works Progress Project built under the Works Progress Administration (WPA). It was conceived in 1933 and completed and dedicated for public use in September 1937. East Bay rose societies and community members donated hundreds of hours of volunteer time. The terraced amphitheater and 220-foot-long redwood pergola were suggested by architect Bernard Maybeck; the final design and execution were the work of landscape architect Vernon M. Dean and rose specialist C. V. Covell.

The Berkeley Rose Garden is considered by many to be the finest rose garden in northern California.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are no negative environmental impacts associated with this action. Replacing roses will increase native insect populations and encourage pollinators.

CONTACT PERSON

Scott Ferris, Director, Parks, Recreation & Waterfront, 981-6700.

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. -N.S.

DONATION: REGAN NURSERY ROSE BUSHES

WHEREAS, the City's Open Governance Ordinance (OGO) requires City Council disclosure and approval of any gift to the City in excess of \$1,000 (BMC Section 2.06.150, Ord. 7,166-N.S.); and

WHEREAS, Regan Nursery wishes to donate 44 potted roses to replace the roses that were stolen, vandalized or declining due to age or disease, at a value of \$1,099.78; and

WHEREAS, The Berkeley Rose Garden features over 200 varieties of rare and valuable rose bushes; and

WHEREAS, the Berkeley Rose Garden was one of the first Civil Works Progress Project built under the Works Progress Administration (WPA). It was conceived in 1933 and completed and dedicated for public use in September 1937. East Bay rose societies and community members donated hundreds of hours of volunteer time. The terraced amphitheater and 220-foot-long redwood pergola were suggested by architect Bernard Maybeck; the final design and execution were the work of landscape architect Vernon M. Dean and rose specialist C. V. Covell.; and

WHEREAS, The Berkeley Rose Garden is considered by many to be the finest rose garden in northern California.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that a donation of 44 potted roses, valued at \$1099.78, from Regan Nursery is hereby accepted.

