



Susan Wengraf
Vice Mayor and Councilmember District 6

CONSENT CALENDAR
October 29, 2024

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Vice Mayor Wengraf (Author)
Subject: "Your Rose Garden": Relinquishment of Council Office Budget Funds to General Fund and Grant of Such Funds

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$500 per Councilmember including \$500 from Vice Mayor Susan Wengraf to the Living New Deal, earmarked for the completion of the short film, "Your Rose Garden," with funds relinquished to the City's General Fund for this purpose from the discretionary Council Office Budgets of Vice Mayor Wengraf and any other Councilmembers who would like to contribute.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No General Fund impact: up to \$500 is available from contributing Councilmember's Council Office Budget discretionary accounts.

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Your Rose Garden is a short musical film that celebrates the City of Berkeley Rose Garden, built by the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s. The film commemorates its history and continual use as a beautiful and vibrant public community space almost a hundred years after its construction. Berkeley's Rose Garden is part of a complex tapestry of Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects across the nation, whose construction helped pull the U.S. out of the Great Depression. This film will be an important part of a larger project on other WPA projects.

The film's soundtrack is a song written by Berkeley native, Alexis Harte, based on his personal enjoyment and observation of activities at the Rose Garden. "I'm a Berkeley native and, like my kids, I grew up playing in its creeks and parks. I've been to birthdays, keggers, graduations, weddings, and memorials at the Rose Garden. This song is my tribute to the place, and more broadly to the New Deal-era Works Progress Administration (WPA) that built this and so many other gems." [Hear the song](#)

The Living New Deal, a California nonprofit, is the fiscal sponsor of the film. Your Rose Garden has received a UC Berkeley Chancellor's grant of \$8,000 and many private donations. Contributions from Berkeley City Council discretionary accounts will help to achieve the final budget goal for completion of \$29,000.

The community is invited to share photos, videos and anecdotes with the filmmakers for possible inclusion in the film.

For further information: <https://www.yourrosegarden.com/>

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE IMPACTS

There are no identifiable environmental effects or opportunities associated with adopting this recommendation.

CONTACT PERSON

Vice Mayor Susan Wengraf

Council District 6

510-981-7160

Attachments:

1: Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##,###-N.S.

AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF SURPLUS FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE
EXPENSE ACCOUNTS OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS FOR A GRANT
TO SUPPORT "YOUR ROSE GARDEN"

WHEREAS, **Your Rose Garden** is a short musical film that celebrates the City of Berkeley Rose Garden, built by the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s; and

WHEREAS, the film commemorates the Rose Garden's history and continual use as a beautiful and vibrant public community space almost a hundred years after its construction; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Wengraf has surplus funds in her office expenditure account and will contribute \$500, and invites the Mayor and other Councilmembers to join her in contributing; and

WHEREAS, a California nonprofit tax-exempt corporation, The Living New Deal, serves as the fiscal sponsor of "Your Rose Garden" and will receive funds in an amount up to \$500 per contributing Councilmember's discretionary accounts; and

WHEREAS, the provision of such services would support the completion of the short film celebrating the glorious Berkeley Rose Garden.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that funds relinquished by the Mayor and Councilmembers from their Council Office Budget, up to \$500 per office, shall be granted to The Living New Deal, earmarked for the completion of "Your Rose Garden."

