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DATE: June 5, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council through City Manager

FROM: Rhianna Frank, Climate Action Manager  
Cindy Chong, Superintendent of Parks and Facilities Maintenance  
Jared Hall, Transit Manager

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the Grant Application, Acceptance, and Execution for:  
CalRecycle Beverage Container Recycling Program for a Period of Five Years

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the City Council approve the attached Resolution authorizing the grant application, acceptance, and execution for: CalRecycle Beverage Container Recycling Program. It is further recommended that the City Council approve this authorization for a period of five (5) years.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) administers a program to provide opportunities for beverage container recycling and litter cleanup activities. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 14581(a)(3)(A) of the California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act, CalRecycle is distributing \$10,500,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 to eligible cities and counties specifically for beverage container recycling and litter cleanup activities. The goal of this program is to reach and maintain an 80 percent recycling rate for all California refund value beverage containers--aluminum, glass, plastic, and bi-metal. Projects implemented by cities and counties will assist in reaching and maintaining this goal. No funding match is required for the CalRecycle Beverage Container Recycling grant.

The City of Petaluma has been notified that the City will receive \$275,000 from this grant to fund a Resource Recovery Program to replace or add new trash and recycling receptacles to Parks, Transit, and Downtown locations that either do not have existing receptacles or have receptacles that are temporary, too small for adequate service, or in disrepair.

Petaluma has a total of forty-seven parks which serve the Petaluma community and many of these parks are without recycling or composting recovery containers. The absence of these containers makes it difficult for the City of Petaluma to achieve its zero waste and climate goals. The

CalRecycle grant will ensure that permanent trash and recycling receptacles will be installed in every park.

Petaluma currently has 150 Transit locations that either do not have receptacles or the current receptacles are in disrepair. This grant will enable staff to install proper receptacles for fifty (50) of these Transit locations.

Additionally, the CalRecycle grant will enable staff to replace thirty (30) receptacles in the downtown area that are either too small for adequate service or in disrepair and install an additional thirty (30) recycling containers to locations where this service currently doesn't exist.

The Historic and Cultural Preservation Committee (HCPC) provided feedback on design selection for the downtown locations on April 11, 2023. HCPC was presented with five (5) design options and selected three (3) to move forward for a community survey.

## **DISCUSSION**

The City Council enacted Ordinance 2689 N.C.S. intending to elevate climate issues to the highest priority in its goal-setting process; to give precedence to climate mitigation and adaption when evaluating policies and purchases, planning projects, and allocating resources, and to seek financial and regulatory aid to support those efforts.

The Climate Action Commission was established by City of Petaluma Ordinance No. 2689 N.C.S. adopted August 5, 2019, and effective September 5, 2019. The Climate Action Commission's enabling legislation was amended on August 3, 2020, by Ordinance No. 2742 N.C.S., which took effect September 3, 2020.

The Climate Emergency Action Framework, adopted by City Council in January 2021, is the result of collaboration of the Petaluma Climate Action Commission with input from city staff and volunteers in the community. Its purpose is to outline principles to guide the City's ongoing response to and discussion about the climate crisis and to guide and inform subsequent policies and implementation strategies. These principles establish Petaluma's shared vision of a healthy, sustainable, and equitable community. The Climate Emergency Framework establishes a goal to generate zero waste (commonly understood as 90% diversion) by 2030, moving as quickly and closely as possible to 100% diversion.

The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) administers a program to provide opportunities for the beverage container recycling and litter cleanup activities. Pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 14581(a)(3)(A) of the California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act, CalRecycle is distributing \$10,500,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 to eligible cities and counties specifically for beverage container recycling and litter cleanup activities. The City of Petaluma has been notified of being awarded a grant amount of \$275,000 which would cover costs for all of the Parks locations, fifty (50) Transit locations, and thirty (30) trash and thirty (30) recycling locations in the downtown area. Receptacles will be chosen through working with departments, commissions, and the Petaluma Downtown Association. Parks, transit locations, and the downtown area may have different receptacles based on feedback, space, use, and needs. A

community survey will be conducted in partnership with local organizations to select the final style for the downtown locations.

### **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

This item was noticed in compliance with the California Brown Act. The Petaluma Resource Recovery program will partner with local community groups as well as the downtown businesses to conduct a community survey for the final selection of the receptacle style for the downtown locations. Receptacle design choices will be presented to the Historic and Cultural Preservation Committee for feedback. Additionally, partnerships will be established with Recology to provide classroom education pertaining to the Resource Recovery Program which will include a Climate Ready student art contest. The winners of this contest will have their artwork temporarily installed on some of the downtown receptacles in order to cultivate a sense of pride and community ownership while raising awareness for the program.

### **COUNCIL GOAL ALIGNMENT**

The City Council has identified “Our Environmental Legacy” as one of its key strategic initiatives for 2019-2023. This recommended action supports: Workplan Item #42 – “Find ways for the City operations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve water, decrease waste, and minimize use of fossil fuels and investigate and pursue options for carbon sequestration.”

### **CLIMATE ACTION/SUSTAINABILITY EFFORTS**

The Climate Emergency Action Framework, adopted by City Council in January 2021, is the result of collaboration of the Petaluma Climate Action Commission with input from city staff and volunteers in the community. Its purpose is to outline principles to guide the City’s ongoing response to and discussion about the climate crisis and to guide and inform subsequent policies and implementation strategies. These principles establish Petaluma’s shared vision of a healthy, sustainable, and equitable community. The Climate Emergency Framework establishes a goal to generate zero waste (commonly understood as 90% diversion) by 2030, moving as quickly and closely as possible to 100% diversion. Participation in the CalRecycle Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program would facilitate the City of Petaluma in meeting these climate goals related to resource recovery.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

These actions are exempt from the California Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15301 (Existing Facilities) and 15303 (New Construction of Small Structures) of the State CEQA Guidelines as this action will result in the replacement of existing trashcans and the placement of new trashcans. Additionally, this action is exempt pursuant to the commonsense exemption as the addition and replacement of new trashcan receptacles will reduce any impacts caused by illegal dumping.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

Authorizing the grant application CalRecycle Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program has no direct financial impacts as matching funds are not required.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

The Council may choose to not authorize the grant application, its acceptance, and its execution for the CalRecycle Beverage Container Recycling Grant Program. As a result, staff would not submit applications for these projects.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Resolution