



Motion to fund an NPG for Hami Gardens in an amount of up to \$1055.62 for equipment, supplies and seed

Agenda Item: SGB021623-01
Date: February 16, 2023
Proposed By: Executive Committee
Include motion in Consent Agenda? Yes

Background

Since 2009 this neighborhood council has supported Hami Gardens with funding for various community improvements. Hami Gardens is located on the grounds of Alexander Hamilton High School. It was originally started with a City of Los Angeles Beautification Grant and with money provided by this neighborhood council. The gardens are open to students and to the community. Since that start Hami Gardens has grown to become a vital part of campus and community life for those interested in gardening, food production, environment, weather, biology, botany, sustainability, cooking, and social responsibility.

The garden is open afterschool on Tuesday and Saturday mornings to both students and the community. Produce grown in the garden is shared by the students, neighbors and with the SOVA Food Pantry.

The garden has been used by various Hamilton High School classes, student clubs, afterschool programs, local elementary schools, student independent studies, Eagle Scout Troops and gardening classes conducted by the Hami Garden's Master Gardener-in-residence. In the garden, the students have studied everything from organic pest repellents to the shrinking population of Monarch butterflies, giving the students and community a greater understanding of issues facing both farmers, the environment, and the declining habitat of migratory butterflies.

During the early days of the pandemic, the gardens were closed to students. The gardens were maintained by community volunteers during this period. The garden was kept open and growing food because of the need for produce by the SOVA Food Pantry. During the pandemic, the Gardens contributed over 800 lbs. of produce to the food pantry. The gardens are now open to students with the recent LAUSD reopening of the campus to on site learning.

This request was originally approved last fiscal year by this board but went unfunded when the year closed and funds became unavailable. It has been revised upward from \$665.74 to \$1055.62 due to: (a) additional tools being needed, (b) prices have increased since the last submission of the NPG, and (c) seed is needed for two planting seasons.

Proposed Motion

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council as part of its Neighborhood Purpose Grant program will fund up to \$1055.62 to purchase the requested equipment, supplies and seed for the Hami Gardens, with \$700 being transferred from the Elections Budget item to the NPG Budget item.

Michael Lynn
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Terrance Gomes
Treasurer

Baila Romm
Secretary

Jon Liberman
Corresponding Secretary

**South Robertson
Neighborhoods Council**

PO Box 35836
Los Angeles, CA 90035

P: (310) 295-9920
F: (310) 295-9906
E: info@soronc.org

soronc.org



Considerations

Committee review:
(highly recommended)

Votes For: 4

Against:0

Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:
(applies to funding motions only)

\$-0-

Arguments for:

Arguments against:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The garden is an educational tool for students and for the community.2. The produce grown at the garden provides assistance to food insecure students and to community members. | <p>None.</p> |
|---|--------------|

Neighborhood Council Funding Program
APPLICATION for Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG)



This form is to be completed by the applicant seeking the Neighborhood Purposes Grant and submitted to the Neighborhood Council from whom the grant is being sought. All applications for grants must be reviewed and approved in a public meeting. Upon approval of the application the Neighborhood Council (NC) shall submit the application along with all required documentation to the Office of the City Clerk, NC Funding Program.

The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

Name of NC from which you are seeking this grant: _____

SECTION I - APPLICANT INFORMATION

Hami Garden c/o Hamilton High School

1a)	_____	_____	_____	_____
	<i>Organization Name</i>	<i>Federal I.D. # (EIN#)</i>	<i>State of Incorporation</i>	<i>Date of 501(c)(3) Status (if applicable)</i>
1b)	2955 South Robertson Blvd.	Los Angeles	CA	90034
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	<i>Organization Mailing Address</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip Code</i>
1c)	9725 Cresta Drive	Los Angeles	CA	90035
	_____	_____	_____	_____
	<i>Business Address (if different)</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip Code</i>

1d) **PRIMARY CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Paula Waxman (310) 780-7507 or (310) 559-2552 hamigarden@gmail.com

_____	_____	_____
<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>Email</i>

2) **Type of Organization- Please select one:**

Public School *(not to include private schools)* or 501(c)(3) Non-Profit *(other than religious institutions)*

Attach Signed letter on School Letterhead **Attach IRS Determination Letter**

Hamilton High School 2955 South Robertson Blvd. Los Angeles CA 90034

3) _____

_____	_____	_____	_____
<i>Name / Address of Affiliated Organization (if applicable)</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Zip Code</i>

SECTION II - PROJECT DESCRIPTION

4) **Please describe the purpose and intent of the grant.**

Please see attached next page 4/11

5) **How will this grant be used to primarily support or serve a public purpose and benefit the public at-large. (Grants cannot be used as rewards or prizes for individuals)**

Please see attached next page 4/11

SECTION II- PROJECT DESCRIPTION

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Section II- (4) Purpose/intent of the grant.

The Hami Garden was established in 2010 on the campus of Hamilton High School with a generous Community Beautification Grant. It has been governed by Paula Waxman, the Community Garden Manager since inception, and resident Master Gardener, George Pessin, who has helped the students and community maintain the garden by donating his expertise and educating the students and community in horticulture and backyard vegetable gardening.

The students are about to begin the spring planting. We have not asked for a grant from the Neighborhoods Council in several years using money raised by the students through the sale of plants and collecting and recycling plastic bottles and cans. The current NPG request is intended to replace garden equipment that has worn out or has simply been used up (twine, tape to repair irrigation tubing). Also, as more students want to work in the garden, we have need for more tools, gloves, etc. This grant would also be used to purchase seed for the winter planting season as well. And finally, our shed was vandalized over the pandemic. Our first aid kit and a large dust pan were stolen. A wonderful community member volunteered his time to repair the shed door, which was pried open.

Section II- (5) How will this grant be used to support or serve a public purpose and benefit the public at large?

Without the generous support of our Neighborhood Council, the Hami Garden would not be able to continue its work feeding and educating the students on campus and volunteers from the community. We also would not be able to continue to donate produce to SOVA, the food bank that serves food insecure students, their families, and members of the SORONC community. The food grown on campus is first distributed to student volunteers, next community volunteers, and finally the SOVA food bank on Pico and Robertson. During the pandemic, we donated over 600 pounds of produce to the SOVA food bank.

Regarding education, high school students study organic farming practices, such as organic pest repellents (not pesticides which kill pollinators), hybridization, entomology, how to address broader issues such as declining habitats, global warming and water conservation. Part of the garden is dedicated to dealing with the decline in the monarch population by providing the pollinators with the milkweed that is their only food source. Another part of the garden is devoted to drought tolerant, and native plants.

Each year, we select two student garden managers who act as liaison between the garden, the school administration, and the students. They are responsible for securing student volunteers and depending upon their interests, starting garden/vegetarian/environmental clubs on campus. And, during school months, they also can get instruction in grant writing.

We have hosted students from Hamilton's UCLA Afterschool Program, from the Special Education Department, and from Shenandoah Elementary School. The Shenandoah class also combined the visit with a poetry writing assignment by high school students.

Periodically our Master Gardener offers to the community a basic class on how to begin a backyard garden.

SECTION III - PROJECT BUDGET OUTLINE

You may also provide the Budget Outline on a separate sheet if necessary or requested.

	Requested of NC	Total Projected Cost
6a) Personnel Related Expenses		
Not applicable N/A	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$
6b) Non-Personnel Related Expenses		
See attached pages 7-11	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

- 7) Have you (applicant) applied to any other Neighborhood Councils requesting funds for this project?
 No Yes If Yes, please list names of NCs: _____
- 8) Is the implementation of this specific program or purpose described in Question 4 contingent on any other factors or sources of funding? (including NPG applications to other NCs) No Yes If Yes, please describe:

Source of Funding	Amount	Total Projected Cost
Please see attached page 4/11	\$	\$
	\$	\$
	\$	\$

- 9) What is the TOTAL amount of the grant funding requested with this application: \$ 1055.62
- 10a) Start date: 3/15/23 10b) Date Funds Required: 3/01/23 10c) Expected Completion Date: 4/01/23
 (After completion of the project, the applicant should submit a Project Completion Report to the Neighborhood Council)

SECTION IV - POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

- 11a) Do you (applicant) have a current or former relationship with a Board Member of the NC?
 No Yes If Yes, please describe below:

Name of NC Board Member	Relationship to Applicant
Please see attached next page.	

- 11b) If yes, did you request that the board member consult the Office of the City Attorney before filing this application?
 Yes No (Please note that if a Board Member of the NC has a conflict of interest and completes this form, or participates in the discussion and voting of this NPG, the NC Funding Program will deny the payment of this grant in its entirety.)

SECTION V - DECLARATION AND SIGNATURE

I hereby affirm that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided herein and communicated otherwise is truly and accurately stated. I further affirm that I have read the documents "What is a Public Benefit," and "Conflicts of Interest" of this application and affirm that the proposed project(s) and/or program(s) fall within the criteria of a public benefit project/program and that no conflict of interest exist that would prevent the awarding of the Neighborhood Purpose Grant. I affirm that I am not a current Board Member of the Neighborhood Council to whom I am submitting this application. I further affirm that if the grant received is not used in accordance with the terms of the application stated here, said funds shall be returned immediately to the Neighborhood Council.

12a) Executive Director of Non-Profit Corporation or School Principal - **REQUIRED**
 Ms Jennifer Baxter Principal [Signature] 10-11-22
 PRINT Name Title Signature Date

12b) Secretary of Non-profit Corporation or Assistant School Principal - **REQUIRED**
 Wesley Aco Assistant Principal [Signature] 10-11-22
 PRINT Name Title Signature Date

* If a current Board Member holds the position of Executive Director or Secretary, please contact the NC Funding Program at (213) 978-1058 or clerk.ncfunding@lacity.org for instructions on completing this form

SECTION III-PROJECT BUDGET OUTLINE

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6a) Personnel Related Expenses.

None

6b) Non-Personnel Related Expenses

See attached Hami Garden Wish List p. 7 and Seed List pp. 8-11.

7) Have you applied to any other Neighborhood Councils requesting funds for this project?

No

8) Is the implementation of this specific program or purpose described in Question 4 contingent on any other factors or sources or funding? Including NPG applications to other NCS? We have not applied to any other Neighborhood Councils.

We get grants as needed from:

Kellogg Garden Supplies: They supply all soil amendment needs such as fertilizers and mulch. Our needs vary from year to year. Sometimes we have several years with no need. But they are always there to help us. So I can only give you an estimate. Their donations vary from several hundred dollars up to \$600/year.

DIG Corporation: They donated a replacement for their irrigation timer when ours failed. They have also replaced damaged irrigation line at no cost. I do not know the value of the timer or line.

Student Fundraisers: The students sell plants and succulents and also raise funds from recycling aluminum cans and plastic bottles. We share these funds with the Environmental Club and the Giving Club. This is a new idea but should raise about \$150 a year.

9) What is the TOTAL amount of the grant funding requested with this application: \$1055.62

10a) Start date: Spring planting will begin 3/15/23

10b) Date funds required: 3/01/23

10c) Expected completion date: 4/15/23

Section IV: POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

11a) Does applicant have a current or former relationship with a Board Member of the NC?
Yes.

I was on the Board of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council from 2008 to 2012.
Board Member Fabiola Prieto, has volunteered a few times in the garden. She has been instructed not to participate in a discussion or voting of this NPG.

HAMI GARDEN TOOLS LIST**From Anawalt:**

5 plastic buckets (small)	7.49 each	37.45
4 pair hand pruners	35.99	143.96
1 pair of gloves man	9.99	9.99
1 pair gloves women	18.99	18.99
1 First Aid Kit	59.99	59.99
2 rolls duct tape	10.99 each	21.98
2 packs of zip ties	9.99 each	19.98
1 extra-large garden dust pan	16.99	16.99
1 broom	24.99	24.99
1 BT 32 oz. (organic pesticide)	13.99	13.99
1 Neem Oil large	31.99	31.99
1 Diatomaceous Earth 2 lbs.	12.99	12.99
2 Hand Tillers	23.99 each	47.98
2 5 x 10 ' trellis netting	7.99 each	15.98
2 insecticidal soap	11.99	23.98
1 yellow sticky stakes	7.99	7.99
2 irrigation repair tape	9.99 each	19.98
1 green stretch tie tape ½ inch	4.99	4.99
2 twine	2.99	5.98
2 cow peat pots	6.99 each	13.98
1 scissors	15.49	15.49
6 floating row cover	23.99	143.94

From Amazon:

Black & Decker lithium 1.5 AH 20 volt battery with charger	47.89
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California sales tax is

	c.84.93
Sub total	\$ 979.32



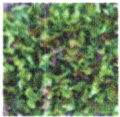
Florence Fennel (100 Days)

\$1.95



Flat leaf parsley

\$1.95



Pinetree Lettuce Mix (Begin harvesting in 40 Days)

\$2.95



Ogen Melon (85 Days)

\$1.95



Howden Pumpkin (Heirloom 105 Days)

\$2.25



Striata D' Italia Summer Squash (Heirloom, 50 Days)

\$2.25



Cherokee Purple Tomato (Organic Heirloom 80 Days)

\$2.25



Climbing Triple Crop Tomato (80 Days)

\$1.95



Kaleidoscope Mix Pepper (68-80 Days)

\$3.95



Italian Large Leaf Basil

\$1.95

Flat Leaf Parsley

\$1.95



Large leaf Cilantro

\$1.95



Green Arrow Pea (63 Days)

\$2.25



Warrior Bunching Onion (60 Days)

\$2.25



Fortex Pole Bean (60 Days)

\$5.50



Serengeti Bush Bean (55 Days)

\$2.50



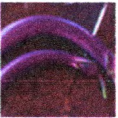
Delectable Corn (F1 Hybrid 80 Days) SE

\$3.25



Garden Sweet Burpless Cucumber (F1 Hybrid 60 Days)

\$2.50



Pingtung Long Eggplant (Heirloom 66 Days)

Subtotal

\$66.35

Shipping

\$9.95

Total Seeds

\$76.30

Total Tools

\$979.32

GRAND TOTAL FOR NPG: \$1,055.62

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Los Angeles Unified School District
Alexander Hamilton High School
Small Learning Communities - Business & Enterprise Technology
Academy - Communication Arts Academy - Global Studies - Math
Medical & Science - Performing Arts - Music Academy
2955 South Robertson Boulevard, Los Angeles
California 90034 310 280 1595 Fax 310 842 8543
www.hamiltonhs.usd.edu

Alberto M. Carvalho
Superintendent of Schools

Adama Brown
Chief District Officer
Superintendent

Jennifer Baxter
Principal

October 10, 2022

Mr. Terrence Gomes, Treasurer
South Robertson Neighborhood Council
PO Box 35835 Los Angeles, CA 90035

Ms. Jennifer Baxter
Principal, Hamilton High School
2955 South Robertson Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90034

Dear Mr. Gomes

In accordance with the guidelines of the Neighborhood Purposes Grant, I am writing to confirm that the Hami Garden is located on the Hamilton High School Campus and managed and maintained by Paula Weisman.

The Hami Garden has been an important part of our campus life since 2010 and was established by the South Robertson Neighborhood Council with a City Beautification Grant. It works to further environmental education in many of its aspects, and contributes significantly to food insecure students, their families, and the community at large with donations of produce to the SOVA FOOD PANTRY on Pico near Robertson.

With this generous gift of tools and materials, you are ensuring that the education and community support provided by our Hami Garden will continue.


Jennifer Baxter
Principal