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For More Information, Contact:
Jerry Kalman, Community Benefit Committee
kalman4fallbrook@gmail.com
(760) 468-4689

**FALLBROOK PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT'S COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM
SETS FINANCIAL AWARDS TO NINE LOCAL NON-PROFITS**

2025 Award Recipients to Receive \$798,166

FALLBROOK, Calif., October 30, 2024 --- Fallbrook Public Utility District's (FPUD) Community Benefit Program sent contracts to nine local non-profit organizations for 2025 projects, Jim Mendelson, chairman of the committee, announced today.

According to Mendelson, the one-year contracts, approved by FPUD's board of directors, allocate funds to improve several local cultural attractions, recreation venues and community access to popular facilities in the area. Each award, according to Mendelson, will contribute to community betterment within the FPUD service area.

Nine local groups requested funding from the FPUD group. The 2025 funding for those projects totaled \$798,166.

Fallbrook Center for the Arts will receive \$11,760 for restoration of three murals in Fallbrook.

Fallbrook Community Youth Baseball will receive \$293,781 for two projects: repairing the parking lot and renovating the bathroom.

Fallbrook Land Conservancy will receive \$67,850 for two projects: maintenance of plants in the downtown area of the village and repairs to the boardwalk in the Los Jilgueros Preserve.

Fallbrook Regional Health District will receive \$28,950 for facility upgrades, one of which provides better ADA access to its two buildings on Mission Rd.

Fallbrook Sports Association will receive \$73,800 for routine maintenance at the Ingold Sports Park.

Fallbrook Trails Council will receive \$64,500 for three projects associated with the trail system along the Santa Margarita River.

Fallbrook Village Association will receive \$59,525 for three projects in town associated with the Vince Ross Square, Jackie Heyneman Park and the Railroad project along Main Ave.

Mission Resource District will receive \$25,000 for maintenance of the South Mission Rd. median strip during 2025.

Wildlands Conservancy will receive \$173,000 for two different projects pertaining to the Santa Margarita River, one of which upgrades the biofiltration system to control water flow from the parking lot into the river, the other for durable signage at the three main access points to the trail system.

Mendelson said that the non-profits submitted funding requests earlier in 2024. The Community Benefit Program committee made its decisions on final award recipients at its

monthly meeting October 22, 2024, and made recommendations to the FPUD board of directors at their October 28, 2024, meeting where the board adopted the committee's recommendations.

"The committee takes very seriously our mission to benefit FPUD's ratepayers as it promotes, coordinates and oversees community projects in the district's service area," Mendelson said. "We saw almost a doubling of qualified non-profit candidates for this round of funding, and, as we go forward into 2025 expect these projects will significantly enhance the quality of life in the FPUD service area."

He added that the committee will open the bidding process for FY2026 projects in the second half of CY2025. The committee's guidelines and updated procedures for requesting awards for community projects before the bidding process will be available on the pages of the FPUD website dedicated to the Community Benefit Program.

Established by the Fallbrook Public Utility District's Board of Directors in late 2022, the Community Benefit Program's seven members ordinarily meet on the second Monday of each month. The group has a framework for considering requests by FPUD-area nonprofit organizations seeking financial assistance for parks and recreation, street lighting and roads and other projects that benefit the community.

Funding proceeds are from existing San Diego County property tax revenues received by the utility. Jim Mendelson (949-201-9967), email: FCBPChair@outlook.com, is the chair.

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