

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 05-89

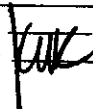
DATE April 6, 2005

C.D. 8

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF LOREN MILLER RECREATION CENTER'S CLEAN AND SAFE SPACES PARKS PROGRAM DESIGNATION TO EXPOSITION PARK INTERGENERATIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER

K. Chan _____
J. Combs _____
H. Fujita _____
B. Jensen _____

J. Kolb _____
F. Mok _____
*K. Regan 


General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the transfer of Loren Miller Recreation Center's Clean and Safe Spaces (CLASS) Parks Program designation, including all applicable budget allocations, to Exposition Park Intergenerational Community Center (EPICC).

SUMMARY:

EPICC is one of two recreation centers serving the residents surrounding the Exposition Park community. There is a high concentration of adolescent youth in this area, with a youth membership at EPICC currently over 9,000, 65% between the ages of 13 and 17. Additionally, EPICC has multiple facilities and the capacity to support a thriving CLASS Parks program. With these elements already in place, it would be natural to designate EPICC as a CLASS Parks facility.

Through the EPICC Non-Profit Board of Directors, there are opportunities to raise additional funds to support the growth of our CLASS Parks Programs. In addition to CLASS Parks sponsored programs and activities, EPICC's program partners would be available to all CLASS Parks participants. These supplemental programs have a high membership base due to the large number of middle school and high school students within a five-mile radius of EPICC. Some participating agencies include: the Amateur Athletic Foundation that provides funding for competitive sports programs; the Break Away Technologies Program that allows residents of the surrounding area to increase both knowledge and access to technology; and the Anti Self Destruction Program that enables young people ages 16-18 years with an interest in new media, videography, or broadcast journalism to build self-esteem.

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One of ten CLASS Parks locations added to the original 37 designated centers, Loren Miller Recreation Center is located two miles from EPICC. The re-designation of the Loren Miller CLASS Parks Program to EPICC will not leave the facility in an adverse situation. This is due to the fact that since the implementation of the Loren Miller CLASS Parks designation, a Recreation Coordinator was never assigned to the facility, the program was never fully implemented, and Loren Miller does not receive CLASS Parks Recreation Assistant hours.

Loren Miller Recreation Center has been under renovation and will focus its resources and emphasis on the future addition of its childcare center. Additionally, Loren Miller's designation as a state-licensed child care facility places restrictions on where and when the CLASS Parks Program could operate. Due to the renovation, the facility will be temporarily closing.

It is important that teens have a safe place to go to after school and on weekends to deter them from participating in non-constructive activities. Statistics from the 2002-2003 California Department of Education Data Quest indicate two local schools in the Exposition Park area have a higher dropout rate than the state's 3.19% dropout rate. Foshay Learning Center (middle school) has a 10% dropout rate and Manual Arts High School has a 30% dropout rate. Both schools are less than a half-mile from EPICC. A critical need clearly exists for teen programs in the area to address the well-being and success of our teen population and the community as a whole.

The equipment, furniture, supplies (tables, chairs, office, and craft), and resources given to Loren Miller from CLASS Parks Administration were limited in number and will remain at the facility. To better accommodate teens at EPICC, such items as counters and shelving will be needed. This equipment and other needed supplies will be allocated from current and future CLASS Parks budget allocations.

Resources that will be transferred include: Full-Time Recreation Coordinator position (currently vacant), Special Assistant II (SPAII) hours, money for improvements (316 Account money for Maintenance and Facility Repair items), and health fair money.

LOREN MILLER RECREATION CENTER 04-05 BUDGET ALLOCATIONS			
ACCOUNT	*ALLOCATION	AMT DEBITED	BALANCE
3160	\$13,318.84	\$1,338.23	\$11,980.61
SPAII	\$10,325.00	\$3,321.89	\$7,003.11
HEALTH			
FAIRS	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
TOTAL	\$28,643.84	\$4,660.12	\$23,983.72

* NOTE: These figures represent an average amount per CLASS Park.

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Given that EPICC has the space, partnerships, and staff that can handle an increased number of teens, CLASS Parks Administration recommends that Loren Miller's CLASS Parks budget allocation be transferred to EPICC. This recommendation is supported by Councilmember Bernard Parks, Council District 8.

Report prepared by Belinda Jackson, Executive Director, EPICC