

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 05-322

DATE December 14, 2005

C.D. 14

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: HAZARD PARK – RIGHT OF ENTRY PERMIT AND NEGOTIATION FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR STREAM RESTORATION BY NORTHEAST TREES

J. Combs _____	J. Kolb _____
H. Fujita _____	F. Mok _____
S. Huntley _____	K. Regan _____
B. Jensen _____	*M. Shull <u>ms</u>

Robert H. Jensen (fn)
General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve in concept the proposed stream restoration project which will expand and restore the perennial wetland, and restore functionality to the creek in the creek/wetland area of the Department's Hazard Park as proposed by Northeast Trees;
2. Authorize Department staff to issue a Temporary Right-of-Entry Permit to Northeast Trees, its contractors and consultants, to allow access to portions of Hazard Park to conduct biological tests, topographical surveys, and other required work related to the proposed stream restoration project; and,
3. Direct Department staff to assist, if necessary, representatives of Northeast Trees in their preparation of the stream restoration and site plan design and negotiate and finalize a construction and maintenance agreement with Northeast Trees for final approval by the Board.

SUMMARY:

Northeast Trees, a non-profit organization, has been identified as a recipient of a portion of a \$1.3M grant from the Earth Island Institute for stream restoration. The area being considered for this grant is a creek/wetland area of the Department's Hazard Park located at 2230 Norfolk Street, Los Angeles, 90033. The proposed project seeks to expand and restore the perennial wetland, and restore functionality to the creek within the park. This will be achieved by designing the removal of fill materials, site grading, appropriate native wetland, riparian and upland plantings, and soil bioremediation techniques for slope stabilization and erosion control. Access over the creek with a

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pedestrian bridge and a trail will protect the creek and wetland from excessive incursions while promoting awareness and observation of the habitat.

The Board is being asked by Northeast Trees to consider and grant conceptual approval to the proposed restoration project. The final plan, when completed, will be presented to the Board for approval. At this time, Northeast Trees needs access to portions of Hazard Park to conduct various biological tests, topographical surveys, and other related work necessary to planning the stream restoration project. The required work is to be performed by Northeast Trees staff, contractors, and/or consultants. It is recommended that the Board authorize staff to issue a temporary right of entry permit to Northeast Trees to allow access to park property to conduct the necessary work.

In addition to authorization to issue a temporary permit, the Board is being requested to direct staff to negotiate and finalize a construction and maintenance agreement with Northeast Trees, or its designee, for Board approval.

CEQA determination on the wetland restoration project will be presented to the Board when the final restoration plan and the construction and maintenance agreement is brought forward to the Board for final consideration. The Board's approval in concept and authorization for Temporary Right-of-Entry Permit to plan the project do not constitute Board approval for the project. When the project plans are sufficiently developed to be studied for purposes of CEQA, appropriate CEQA studies will be undertaken, after which the project will be returned to the Board for consideration. At that time, the Board may chose to approve, modify, or disapprove the project.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There are no anticipated fiscal impacts to the General Fund as the preliminary work is being conducted by Northeast Trees through a \$1.3M grant from the Earth Island Institute.

This report prepared by Cid Macaraeg, Sr. Management Analyst II of the Real Estate and Asset Management Section.