

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 05-334

DATE December 14, 2005

C.D. 10 & 13

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: LAFAYETTE PARK AND GLASSELL PARK - GRANT OF FUNDS FROM NIKE CORPORATION AND AMATEUR ATHLETIC FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THREE SYNTHETIC SOCCER FIELDS

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

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Manager

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve the proposed grant agreement, substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, between the City, Nike, Inc., and the Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles for the construction of synthetic soccer fields at Lafayette Park and Glassell Park, subject to the approval of the Mayor, and the City Attorney as to form;
2. Direct the Chief Financial Officer to designate a Department fund and account number into which the grant amount of \$300,000.00 is to be deposited upon receipt of the funds from the Grantor;
3. Authorize the Department to enter into a sole source construction contract with FieldTurf, Inc., for the amount not to exceed \$300,000.00, for the installation of two synthetic soccer fields at Lafayette Park and one at Glassell Park;
4. Direct the Board Secretary to send the grant agreement to the Mayor and City Attorney; and,
5. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the grant agreement and construction contract, subject to the necessary approvals.

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### SUMMARY:

Nike, Inc., and the Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles (AAF), acting as partners, have offered to provide funding for the construction of three (3) synthetic soccer fields on park property; two (2) at Lafayette Park, located at 625 S. Lafayette Park Place in the Tenth Council District, and one (1) at Glassell Park, located at 3560 Verdugo Road in the Thirteenth Council District. The grant consists of cash in the amount of \$300,000.00, and will be used for project expenses, including but not limited to planning, design, and construction. The agreement is for a three (3) year term.

### Field Locations:

The two fields proposed for Lafayette Park will replace the existing dirt field at its present location at the southwest portion of the park (Exhibit-A). Each of the two fields will be located immediately adjacent to each other. The side-by-side configuration will allow for 3-on-3 play within each individual field and for 5-on-5 play by combining both fields into one. The location of the single field at Glassell Park will be at approximately the southeast corner of the park (Exhibit-B).

### Nike Grind Products:

Each field will be constructed in part with Nike Grind Products, which is a licensed, environmentally friendly and safe, synthetic material manufactured from recycled athletic shoes under the Nike Reuse-A-Shoe program. Nike takes manufacturing waste materials such as cut strips and pieces of shoe rubber and material, returned athletic shoes that have manufacturing flaws, and post-consumer athletic shoes which are either worn-out or outdated, and shreds, grinds and processes the materials to create "Nike Grind Products." Nike represents that by using Nike Grind Products to construct athletic fields, the environment is being spared from a vast amount of waste materials being dumped into it. For each field constructed, approximately 75,000 pairs of shoes and many, many pounds of rubber manufacturing waste won't end up in landfills.

### FieldTurf, Inc:

Nike Grind is used by various licensees to make a variety of sports surfacing products, with FieldTurf synthetic sports fields being one of them. As a condition of the proposed grant, Nike and AAF require that the proposed fields be made in part with Nike Grind Products, and that the fields be constructed and installed by FieldTurf, Inc., which is the only manufacturer of synthetic sports fields licensed to use Nike Grind Products. For many years, Nike has worked closely with FieldTurf, a leading innovator of synthetic turf, to make some of the best athletic field surfaces in the world. FieldTurf emulates real grass. FieldTurf uses a smooth, coated fiber and open-weave

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system that contains a combination of Nike Grind and other rubber material, with a sand infill to create a synthetic grass surface with realistic qualities. The highly porous nature of the sand infill provides excellent drainage for consistent play in all types of weather.

Traditional grass fields require huge amounts of water and fertilizers for upkeep, making natural grass fields expensive and more difficult to maintain. Extended play on grass fields is also a maintenance nightmare as the constant wear and tear never allows natural turf to recuperate, as in the case of the dirt bowl at Lafayette Park. FieldTurf, which requires neither water nor fertilizers, is not only Earth-friendly, but also allows for more play with far less maintenance.

FieldTurf has estimated the costs involved to complete the project. Based on these estimates and the City's review thereof, the installation of the fields may be able to be completed entirely and solely with the funds granted by Nike and the AAF, at no cost to the City. However, should there be additional costs to construct the field(s), the City would bear that cost. Staff will return to the Board to request the appropriation of additional funds if necessary.

### Installation Oversight:

The installation of the fields will be reviewed and monitored by a project manager from the Bureau of Engineering's Architectural Division. Prior to installation, site specific plans will be reviewed to determine the feasibility of completing the project(s) within budget and for compliance with City standards and requirements. FieldTurf and Nike have worked successfully with the Department in the past, primarily with the installation of synthetic fields at other park facilities. The City, FieldTurf, and Nike also combined forces to construct the synthetic, multi-purpose field at Salesian High School with private and public funding.

### Department Contributions:

In exchange for this generous grant, the Department will agree to:

1. Acknowledge Nike and AAF as grantor partners on applicable Department written materials, news releases, and related marketing or publicity including, but not limited to a "kick-off" press conference and Field dedication ceremonies;
2. Assist and cooperate in mutually acceptable dedication events at the fields;
3. Allow Nike and the AAF the right to publicize, show photographs, and use the name of the fields and otherwise promote the Grantor's contribution;
4. Allow Nike and AAF the right to use the fields from time to time for sports events, upon reasonable notice and subject to the approval of the Department;

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5. Allow Nike and AAF the right (but not the obligation) to place and remove, on or around the fields, their logo(s), trademark(s), and other signage, marks and/or insignia as related to events held at the fields, subject to the reasonable approval of the Department; and,
6. Allow Nike and AAF to operate a booth or similar area for strictly promotional purposes at Nike and/or AAF events at the fields.

The performance of the above requirements shall not interfere with Department programming and prescheduled events. Nike will coordinate with the Department prior to committing the fields to any events not operated by the Department.

### ENVIRONMENTAL:

Staff has determined that this project will consist of an agreement between the Department and the partnership of Nike, Inc. and Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles to allow the construction of two synthetic soccer fields in Lafayette Park and another synthetic field in Glassell Park. The three (3) soccer fields will be accessory facilities to the existing recreational uses at both parks. Therefore, the project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1d, Class 4, Category 7 and Section 1k, Class 11, Category 6 of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Staff has discussed the proposed project(s) with the Assistant General Manager of Operations East, the Superintendent of the Metro Region, and the Offices of Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr., of the Tenth Council District and Eric Garcetti of the Thirteenth Council District, and each supports the project and concurs with staff's recommendations.

### FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, this project should not have any fiscal impact on the Department, as the costs of the construction and installation of the proposed synthetic soccer fields will be funded entirely through the Nike-AAF grant, based on estimates provided by FieldTurf. However, any project costs that may exceed the amount of the grant will be the responsibility of the Department. No such overages are anticipated as the project plans and budget have been validated by the BOE.

Future maintenance expenses will be reduced as the upkeep of synthetic fields is much less expensive than that of natural turf, with no irrigation, fertilizer, or mowing being required.

This report was prepared by Joel Alvarez, Management Analyst II, of the Department's Real Estate and Asset Management Section.