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CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

February 20, 2008

TO: BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSIONERS

FROM: JON KIRK MURKI
General Manager



SUBJECT: 11th AVENUE POCKET PARK PROJECT

Background

The Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and the Department of General Services (GSD) have been working together to identify surplus properties to transfer for the development of new parks. GSD currently maintains a 0.27 acre surplus property located at 6116 11th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90043 which the City can utilize for pocket park purposes.

On Friday, January 18, 2008, the City Council approved a motion (Council File 08-0077) instructing GSD to effectuate a non-financial transfer of this property from GSD to RAP jurisdiction.

Park Development

KaBOOM!, a national, non-profit organization that helps manage, coordinate, and develop children's playgrounds in low-income communities has as a part of its ongoing Community Partner Builds program, selected the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust (LANLT), in conjunction with RAP, to participate in a project to build a new playground in the City. KaBOOM!'s Community Partner Builds program accepts applications from local organizations and agencies across North America, that have available land and resources, to work with KaBOOM!'s corporate sponsors to help build and sustain playgrounds in underserved communities. The proposed playground would be built in commemoration of Cesar Chavez and Cesar Chavez Day, and would contain signage promoting his core values and principles.

RAP, working with LANLT and KaBOOM!, has identified the property at 6116 11th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90043 as an ideal location for the potential development of such a new playground.

LANLT, with the assistance of KaBOOM! and RAP, will be facilitating a community planning process involving local stakeholders from the neighborhood surrounding the 11th Avenue Pocket Park to solicit input on the design of the playground. This community planning process will include the formation of a Planning Committee comprised of staff from RAP, LANLT, and KaBOOM!, as well as representatives of the local community near the proposed site. The Planning Committee will include both adults and children and will be representative of the entire community.

Project Scope

The proposed project would include the construction a 3,000 square foot playground (including a rubberized surface), landscaping, a community garden, and a mural of Cesar Chavez.

Additionally, two signs would be installed. One, measuring 12 ¼ inches wide by 30 ¼ inches tall, with the names and logos of KaBOOM!, its funding partner, LANLT, and RAP will be mounted on poles designed to match the playground components in color and design; the second will honor the life and core values of Cesar Chavez.

The playground and other improvement would be constructed by volunteers from the local community during a one-day build event with RAP staff on hand to oversee and assist if necessary. Upon completion of the playground, a Certified Playground Safety Inspector would review the playground structure to ensure that it is safe and built to all appropriate standards and guidelines.

KaBOOM! would provide the playground equipment at no cost to the City, and LANLT would contribute an additional \$10,000 toward the cost of the project. RAP would prepare the site for the playground installation.

The acceptance of the transfer of jurisdiction of the property at 6116 11th Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90043 from GSD to RAP, the agreement between RAP and LANLT relative to the operations and maintenance of the proposed park and a donation agreement between the City and KaBOOM! will all be brought back to the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners for approval if it is determined after meeting with the community that all parties desire to proceed with the project.

Councilmember Bernard Parks of Council District Eight, the Operations East Assistant General Manager, and the Pacific Region Superintendent support the process for potential development of this park as outlined in this report.

This report was prepared by Darryl Ford, Management Analyst, Planning and Development.