

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

APPROVED
DEC 14 2011

NO. 11-336

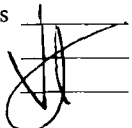
DATE December 14, 2011


BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS

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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: PARTNERSHIP DIVISION – HOOVER RECREATION CENTER – GIFT AGREEMENT WITH THE LOS ANGELES PARKS FOUNDATION FOR FACILITY AND LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS

R. Adams		K. Regan	_____
H. Fujita	_____	M. Shull	_____
*V. Israel	_____	N. Williams	_____


General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve the proposed installation of facility and landscape improvements (Improvements) at the Hoover Recreation Center (Center), valued at approximately \$150,000 at no cost to the City of Los Angeles (City) through a gift from the Los Angeles Parks Foundation (LAPF), a California non-profit organization, pursuant to plans and specifications approved by the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Planning, Construction, and Maintenance Division (PCMD);
2. Approve a proposed gift agreement (Agreement) with the LAPF, substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, between the City and LAPF, specifying the terms and conditions for the design and construction of said proposed Improvements, valued at approximately \$150,000, subject to the approval of the Mayor and of the City Attorney as to form;
3. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit the proposed Agreement to the Mayor, in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3, and concurrently to the City Attorney for review and approval as to form; and,
4. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the Agreement upon receipt of the necessary approvals.

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5. Authorize staff to issue a temporary right of entry permit (ROE) to the LAPF, allowing access to the Center and specifying the terms and conditions for the installation/construction of said Improvements;
6. Authorize the LAPF to proceed with installation of the improvements in accordance with PCMD staff, and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the ROE, and;
7. Upon completion of the installation of the improvements, accept the Gift from the LAPF, subject to a post-development inspection by RAP, and thank the LAPF accordingly for their generosity;

SUMMARY:

The LAPF has offered to donate to the RAP, a gift of facility and landscaping improvements at the Center, located at 1010 West 25th Street in the community of North University Park, consisting of various facility and landscaping improvements, which include the demolition of existing chain link fence and posts, excavation of and haul away of existing play sand, the performance of rough grading, finish grading, and the installation of three inch (3") thick decomposed granite paving, five and one-half inch (5 ½") thick concrete paving, eight inch (8") and one inch (1") wide concrete mow-strips, performance of irrigation adjustments, and the installation of outdoor fitness equipment (collectively referred to as "Improvements"); with an estimated value of approximately \$150,000.

The LAPF is providing said funds through a grant awarded to LAPF in the amount of \$150,000 by the Werner Family Foundation. The LAPF is a 501(c)(3), California non-profit organization that has partnered with the USC School of Landscape and Architecture (USC) to assess, develop and conceptualize the "Ideal Urban Park" for the City of Los Angeles (City) through a study conducted by USC students (Study). The collaboration began in 2008 and was based on the fact that many of the City's existing parks that are between 2 and 4 acres (pocket parks) and located in densely populated urban areas have had few, if any, amenity upgrades. The Study developed a list of modestly priced park upgrades which could be easily implemented to improve many existing pocket parks for expanded and improved community use.

The Center, which is within the vicinity of USC's campus, was a focus for the Ideal Park project because of its proximity to USC. The comprehensive study and needs assessment resulted in a number of realistic options for improvements at the Center, which are envisioned to enhance the communities use of the Center. Examples include the creation of a walking and exercise path within the Center grounds, with improved access from the neighborhood side of the park to encourage patron use, and the placement of outdoor exercise equipment at various points along the path.

The Board's approval of this Report and the proposed Agreement will authorize the construction of the Improvements and provide the Board's acceptance of the same as a gift to the City, subject to the

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completion of a post-development inspection to be conducted by RAP staff from PCMD. The Agreement specifies the terms and conditions under which the LAPF shall design and construct the Improvements at no cost to the City. The proposed Improvements will be constructed pursuant to approved plans and specifications, in accordance with the Schematic Renderings and Site Plan attached hereto as Exhibit-A.

The proposed Improvements have an estimated total cost for design and construction of \$150,000. LAPF will contract directly with a licensed contractor of its choice, making payments directly to the contractor. The contractor's access to the property will be authorized through a right of entry permit (ROE) issued by RAP. Pursuant to the terms and conditions of the ROE, all on site project activities will be coordinated with Region staff prior to the commencement of any work. The project will be overseen jointly between RAP and the LAPF.

ENVIRONMENTAL:

Staff has determined that under the gift agreement the proposed project will involve modifications to an existing park facility with negligible or no expansion of use, minor grading and new landscaping, and replacement of accessory park structures. Therefore, the project is deemed Categorical Exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) without exception pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1 (14), Class 3 4 (171,3), and Class 11 (73) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Staff has discussed the proposed project with the Assistant General Manager of Operations East, and both the Mayor's office and the Office of Councilmember Ed P. Reyes of the First Council District, and each supports the project and concurs with staff's recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There will be no fiscal impact to RAP's General Fund, as the proposed Improvements will be designed and constructed by the LAPF at no cost to the City.

This report was prepared by Joel Alvarez, Sr. Management Analyst, Partnership Division.