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REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

June 20, 2012

OARD OF RECREATION

J PARK COMMISSIONERS

NO. 12-193

C.D. 4

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: RUNYON CANYON PARK – EARLY CLOSURE ON THE 2012 INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY



RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve a temporary modification of the operating hours of Runyon Canyon Park to close at 5:00 p.m. on July 4, 2012.

SUMMARY:

DATE

Independence Day brings a number of fireworks displays to the skies over Los Angeles to celebrate our nation's independence. The City's parks, such as Runyon Canyon, are popular viewing areas where many people gather to view fireworks displays. However, there is also the potential that people who gather to view legal fireworks displays can bring and discharge illegal fireworks.

Illegal fireworks pose a potential fire risk to the various hillsides and brush areas throughout the City, including Runyon Canyon. Due to the risk that these fireworks pose to the hillsides, it is imperative to ensure that the public is safe from any potential fire danger. The Office of Public Safety (OPS) Police, the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) have recommended that Runyon Canyon be closed early on the Independence Day Holiday (July 4). Runyon Canyon's current hours of operation are from dawn until dusk. Park Rangers and OPS are planning to have units available to perform this early closure and to perform extra patrols until all fire danger from possible fireworks has subsided.

Council District 4, Region Operations staff and maintenance staff concur with the OPS recommendation to temporarily modify the hours of operation at Runyon Canyon Park to close at 5:00 p.m. on July 4, 2012.

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

This temporary change in hours of operation for Runyon Canyon Park may result in some accumulated overtime for Park Rangers, but will have no other fiscal impact on the Department's General Fund.

This report was prepared by Kevin Regan, Assistant General Manager, Operations Branch.