REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER TEB 2 0 201

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DATE February 20, 2013

-OARD OF RECREATION - PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: NORMAN O. HOUSTON PARK – OUTDOOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS PHASE II (PRJ20605) PROJECT – ALLOCATION OF QUIMBY FEES

R. Adams	 K. Regan			
H. Fujita	 *M. Shull	CSD fur		
V. Israel	 N. Williams			
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			Genera	Manager
Approved		Disapproved		Withdrawn

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

#### That the Board:

- 1. Authorize the reallocation of \$707,329.00 in Quimby Fees, previously allocated for the Norman O. Houston Park Outdoor Park Improvements (Phase I) (PRJ1390A) project, approved on July 9, 2008, per Board Report No. 08-199, to the Norman O. Houston Park Outdoor Park Improvements (Phase II) (PRJ20605) project, and,
- 2. Approve the allocation of \$707,329.00 in Quimby Fees from Norman O. Houston Park Account No. 89460K-SA for the Norman O. Houston Park Outdoor Park Improvements (Phase II) (PRJ20605) project, as described in the Summary of this Report.

## **SUMMARY**:

Norman O. Houston Park is a 9.50 acre park located 4800 South La Brea Avenue in the Baldwin Hills area of the City. The park includes a small children's play area, a basketball court, outdoor fitness equipment, walking path, picnic tables, and benches. Norman O. Houston Park, along with the City's Jim Gilliam Recreation Center, Los Angeles County's Ruben Ingold Parkway, Culver City Park, and the State's Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area, falls within the boundary of the Baldwin Hills Conservancy; a State agency designated to provide recreation, wildlife, and education activities and programs in the Baldwin Hills area for the public's enjoyment. Bounded on the west by Kenneth Hahn State Park, and to the east by Ruben Ingold Parkway, Norman O. Houston Park is a vital linkage within this network of parks. The park helps provide access for residents in surrounding communities to the trails, facilities, and

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features, in the Baldwin Hills Conservancy's network of parks. Due to the facilities and features it provides, Norman O. Houston Park meets the standards for a Community park, as defined in the City's Public Recreation Plan.

On July 9, 2008, in Board Report No. 08-199, the Board approved the allocation of \$711,436.38 in Quimby Fees for the implementation of a multi-phased development plan for Norman O. Houston Park.

The first phase of the project was the Norman O. Houston Park - Outdoor Park Improvements (Phase I) (PRJ1390A) project. Phase I was primarily funded with Proposition 40 funds. The scope of Phase I included the installation of a new walking path, security lighting, a children's play area, outdoor fitness equipment, picnic tables, and landscaping. Phase I is complete and the unexpended residual Quimby funding is available for reallocation to the next phase of the project.

The Phase II of the project is the Norman O. Houston - Outdoor Park Improvements (Phase II) (PRJ20605) project. Phase II will be funded with \$1,800,000 in grant funds that were awarded to Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) from the Baldwin Hills Conservancy Grant Program (Board Report No. 11-309) and with the residual Quimby funding remaining from Phase I. The scope of Phase II includes the installation of a pre-fabricated restroom building; improvements to the parking lot, fencing, landscaping, and walking path; and, the installation of a bioswale and new shade structures.

Upon approval of this Report, \$707,329.00 in Quimby Fees from Norman O. Houston Park Account No. 89460K-SA will be reallocated from the Outdoor Park Improvements (Phase I) project at Norman O. Houston Park (PRJ1390A) and allocated to the Norman O. Houston Park Outdoor Park Improvements (Phase II) (PRJ20605) project.

The total Quimby Fees allocation for the Norman O. Houston Park Outdoor Park Improvements (Phase II) (PRJ20605) project is \$707,329.00. These Fees were collected within two miles of the Norman O. Houston Park, which is the City's standard distance requirement for the allocation of Quimby Fees for community recreational facilities.

Staff has determined that the subject project is a continuation of an existing project that was previously evaluated under CEQA and determined to be categorically exempt [Class 3(5, 6), 4(3), and 11(3, 6)]. A Notice of Exemption was filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk on January 12, 2010. The work funded by the current Board action will not result in any additional environmental impacts, and therefore, is covered by the existing CEQA exemption. No additional CEQA documentation is required.

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# **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**

The approval of this allocation of Quimby Fees will have no fiscal impact on the Department as the implementation of the proposed park capital improvements will not increase the level of daily maintenance required at this facility.

The estimated costs for the design, development, and construction of the proposed park improvements are anticipated to be funded by Quimby Fees or funding sources other than the Department's General Fund.

The maintenance of the proposed park improvements will be performed by current staff with no overall impact to existing maintenance services.

This report was prepared by Darryl Ford, Management Analyst II, Planning, Construction, and Maintenance Branch.