



R-6

Dee Andrews
City of Long Beach
Councilmember, Sixth District

Date: Tuesday, August 22, 2017
To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Dee Andrews, Sixth District Councilmember *DA*
Subject: Allocation of Funds for Martin Luther King Jr. Park Playground

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the reallocation of one-time funds designated for park programming in the amount of \$25,655 to support a full playground replacement at Martin Luther King Jr. Park. (District 6)

DISCUSSION:

On September 13, 2016, the City Council voted on a recommendation to adopt the Budget Oversight Committee's proposed funding recommendations, as amended, to the FY 17 Proposed Budget. After deliberations and budget considerations, a motion including an allocation of contingent appropriation of FY 16 General Fund Surplus in an amount of \$130,000 for Central Parks programming was made. This motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

On February 21, 2017, City Council adopted a resolution which authorized the City Manager, or designee, to submit a grant application to the California Department of Housing and Community Development's Housing-Related Parks Program (HRP), for the rehabilitation of park facilities and grounds at Drake Park, Peace Park, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Park. The resolution also included accepting such grant funding in an amount of up to \$1,326,350, and execute all documents necessary to accept the funds and implement the project. On July 5, 2017, the Department of Parks, Recreation, & Marine was awarded the Housing-Related Parks Program grant, but the grant was oversubscribed, therefore the amount awarded was less than what was originally expected.

The Parks, Recreation & Marine Department has continued to move forward in preparation for new playgrounds, but the new playground at Martin Luther King Jr. Park has been reduced to a shade structure or one new set of swings. On July 7, 2017, PRM requested Sixth Council District support in applying for a California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS) grant, to leverage the HRP grant for a new playground at Martin Luther King Jr. Park as originally projected, and with Council support, these funds would assist with their

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application's competitiveness. The following attachments depict the current state of the playground at King Park, as well as the proposed plans, should these funds and the combination of grants be used for a full playground replacement.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact. One-time funds allocated for park programming in the amount of \$25,655 are already appropriated in the General Fund (GF) in the Parks, Recreation, and Marine Department (PR).



CITY OF LONG BEACH

Martin Luther King Jr. Park Playground
August 4, 2017

Introduction

Martin Luther King Jr. Park, named after civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., is located at 1950 Lemon Ave. The City has secured \$317,000 in grant funds from the Department of Housing and Community Development to rehabilitate the playground, and is applying for \$52,729 from the California Parks and Recreation Society Health Play Initiative grant to further leverage grant funding. Additional financial support is needed for playground pieces to complete the playground project.



Objectives

The playground at MLK Park has aged beyond its useful life, with repeated calls for maintenance. Given the age of the equipment, many parts are no longer available, and any repairs have a short life span due to the heavy use of this play area.



With the recently awarded grant funding, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) is able to rehabilitate the playground including demolishing the existing playground and installing new, modern and colorful playground structures for ages 2-5 and 5-12, a rubberized safety play surface and sand.



However, additional pieces are desired to ensure this playground has a full range of play opportunities for local youth. In addition to the playground structures, two sets of swings, multiple spinners and several diggers are also desired.

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Contribution Opportunities

The following is a list of desired play equipment that are in need of a contribution. Pledges are requested by August 14 and contributions must be collected/deposited no later than October 1, 2017.

Desired Playground Equipment	Cost per Unit	Amount Needed
Whirlwind Seat Spinner (2)	\$1,000	\$2,000
Multi-Player Spinner (1)	\$5,500	\$5,500
Shadow Play Sky Runner (2)	\$3,750	\$7,500
Swing Set (2)	\$6,000	\$12,000
Diggers (4)	\$1,325	\$5,300
Total Amount To Raise		\$32,300

Images of the desired playground equipment and the planned layout are included below.



Park Background/History

Originally dedicated as 19th Street Playground on June 13, 1964, the 1.17-acre park, was later changed to Martin Luther King, Jr. Park to honor the Civil Rights leader. In 1969 the park was expanded from 1.17-acres to 5.86-acres and ball fields, game courts, tennis courts and a community recreation center were added. The Central Facility Center was added in the late 1970s which includes Health and Human Services Department programs and offices for the 6th District City Council staff. Around 1980 funding received from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the state Parks Bond Act of 1984 expanded the park an additional 3-acres and added an outdoor swimming pool. In the late 1980's The Boys & Girls Club built a facility in the Park. The outdoor swimming pool was enclosed in 1996, with the restrooms and showers, locker rooms, restrooms, staff offices, and a classroom for the pool were completed in 2007, finishing the swimming pool with funding from the state Safe Neighborhood Park Bond Acts of 2000 and 2002. Most recently, a Community Peace Garden was installed in the park. Programs offered at the park include after school programs for ages 5-14, quarterly free youth sports leagues, year-round swim lessons, Summer Food Service Program, and summer movies in the park. There is also a park mural "The Content of Their Characters" designed to send a positive message.

