



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



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[www.LBParks.org](http://www.LBParks.org)

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May 17, 2018

## MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

City of Long Beach  
 California

### RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Special Event Permit Application #18-09814 of Bikeable Communities, a domestic nonprofit corporation, for the conduct of the Willow Springs Gravel Grinder, a pilot urban gravel bike race, in Willow Springs Park, with parameters determined by the Office of Special Events and Filming and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine and paying applicable fees. (District 7)

Or

Determine the proposed activity does not provide a sufficient overall public benefit and deny Special Event Permit Application #18-09814 of Bikeable Communities, a domestic nonprofit corporation, for the conduct of the Willow Springs Gravel Grinder, an urban gravel bike race, in Willow Springs Park. (District 7)

### DISCUSSION

Willow Springs Park (Willow Springs), located at 2745 Orange Ave., and covers 48 acres between Orange and California Avenues and Spring Street and the Municipal Cemetery. Through both the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) and the City Office of Sustainability (OOS), the City of has been applying for and receiving grants to transform the area in fulfillment of the master plan, including the recent Wetlands Restoration Project opened in October 2017 that upgraded 12 acres of the site with restored seasonal wetlands, removal of invasive trees and damaged pipes, planting over 200 native and riparian tree species and over 6,400 native and drought tolerant plants, installation of over 200,000 square feet of irrigation, construction of 43,000 square feet of ponding areas and 1,700 square feet of bioswales and the conversion of a dirt access road to a 2,400-foot pedestrian trail with public access via entry points at both Orange and California Avenues.

On April 6, 2018, Bikeable Communities (Bikeable), a California domestic nonprofit corporation, submitted an Special Events and Filming Application (Attachment A) to host a pilot Urban Gravel Bike Race (Bike Race) that local residents and residents from surrounding communities could participate in. The Bike Race is proposed to offer a fun competitive environment that can challenge all levels of riders and off the opportunity to experience the fun of gravel bike racing for the first time.

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The Bike Race is a one-day event that will include four levels of racers all paying an entry fee and making multiple trips around the proposed 1.3-mile track (Attachment B). No alcohol or merchandise will be sold. It is expected that the participants, volunteers and spectators will total approximately 100 people. Spectators will not be charged an entry fee.

As the Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) has exclusive authority over leisure activities of a recreational nature in City parks, PRM and SEF have implemented a new process to seek approval or denial of applications for special events in City parks or other areas operated by the PRM. As Willow Springs has not previously been considered for any special events, there are no existing fees specific to this location, so staff from PRM and OOS are proposing that Bikeable pay an existing Open Space Rental Fee of \$200. In addition to the normal requirements and reimbursements expected of special events conducted in City parks, staff has worked with Bikeable to ensure that the Bike Race is a positive activation of Willow Springs, and as a result, Bikeable will ensure volunteer positions and hours toward several improvements of the park.

If the Bike Race is approved by the Commission, the Permit would include the following key points, including those designed to protect the newly-installed passive recreation elements and habitat:

- Date, location and time: The footprint of the Bike Race will be contained within Willow Springs Park and areas currently controlled by Signal Hill Petroleum (SHP) through easements. SHP has informed SEF of their willingness to allow the Bike Race. Setup will occur on both Friday, June 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM and on Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM. The Bike Race would take place on Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 AM to Noon. Tear down and any necessary cleanup will occur in the hours after the Race. Willow Springs would be closed to the general public on Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> from dawn until the completion of the race.
- Parking and Traffic Management: All parking will be coordinated through SEF in accordance with a traffic plan submitted by Bikeable that will take into account the relatively small size of the parking lot at Long View Point and safety associated with parking on ancillary streets.
- Staff Fee Reimbursement: Bikeable will be responsible to reimburse PRM and/or OOS \$25 per hour for any and all staffing required for oversight leading up to or during the Bike Race.
- Temporary Fencing, Ropes, Barricades and Signage: Prior to the race, staff from PRM and OOS will identify locations where Bikeable will need to install temporary fencing, roping/tape or barricades around areas where bikers and spectators are prohibited from entering. Staff will also identify locations where Bikeable will need to place directional or instructional signage for bikers or spectators.

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- Admission: Admission for spectators is free. All spectator areas will be coordinated through SEF in accordance with a requested Spectator Area Plan, to be submitted by Bikeable that will take into account protection of newly-planted habitat areas.
- Participant Fees: The Bike Race will charge entry fees of \$25 per participant, with a \$5 fee for juniors.
- Investment in Willow Springs: In lieu of an exclusive use fee, Bikeable will be required to provide a sufficient number of volunteers to conduct a 3-hour "mulch-spreading activity" at Willow Springs, overseen by OOS on a mutually agreeable Friday or Saturday preceding the Bike Race. Bikeable will also guarantee volunteers for three, 1-hour OOS-conducted cleanups of Willow Springs in the 12 months following the Bike Race. These events will recognize Bikeable as a "Cleanup Event Sponsor".
- Trash: The Bike Race will ensure the provision of trash and recycling bins and trash hauling, and volunteers will provide custodial services. The City will have no costs associated with the event outside of any normal costs for operating Willow Springs Park.
- Damage and Security Deposit: Bikeable will submit a standard Security Deposit of \$375. As needed, this fee could be applied toward reimbursing the Conservation Corp of Long Beach (CCLB) for work to remove any remaining trash from the race track or replant any damaged plants. Both PRM and OOS will have until July 16<sup>th</sup> to identify any issues at Willow Springs that require assistance of CCLB for mitigation.
- Vehicles Accessing Park Site: No vehicles are to be parked within Willow Springs except in areas specifically designated for parking.
- Insurance: Bikeable shall purchase and maintain all applicable insurance and endorsements, as required and approved by the City's Risk Manager.

### FISCAL IMPACT

If the Bike Race is approved, the City will receive \$200 for a rental fee as well as an as-yet-to-be-determined amount of staff reimbursement charges, which will all accrue to the General Fund (GP) in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PR) or Office of Sustainability (DV).

### SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve one of the recommended actions.

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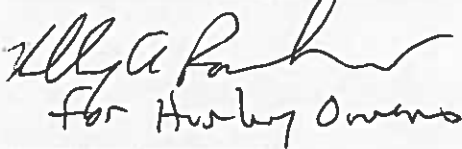
Respectfully Submitted,



LESLIE UNTENER  
INTERIM MANAGER  
BUSINESS OPERATIONS BUREAU



GLADYS KAISER  
MANAGER  
COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICES BUREAU

  
for Hurley Owens

HURLEY OWENS  
MANAGER  
MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS BUREAU

APPROVED:



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STEPHEN P. SCOTT  
INTERIM DIRECTOR

SS:LU:GK:HO:rl

Att: A – SEF Application for Urban Gravel Bike Race  
B – Map of Proposed race track