



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



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www.LBParks.org

selected **best in the nation**

September 18, 2014

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Support the refurbishment of an existing picnic table at MacArthur Park with mosaic tile artwork as part of a Veterans Art Therapy project, and authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute any documents that may be necessary to facilitate the project. (District 6)

DISCUSSION

Art Therapy has proven to be helpful in alleviating the psychological trauma experienced by soldiers returning from war zones. As such, Valerie Bell, II, founder and facilitator of VETS Program AKA Veterans Art Therapy (VETS) in Long Beach, would like to coordinate an Arts Therapy project in the form of a Veterans Commemorative Mosaic Tile Table (Project) using local veterans to refurbish an existing picnic table in a City park. The purpose of this Project is to encourage veterans to reenter into, collaborate with, and be embraced by, their communities through participation in the design and assembly of the Project. The actual concept and design will be done by veterans who suffer from various ailments related to their service in the military during recent conflicts.

MacArthur Park, located at 1321 Anaheim St., is named for the US Army's youngest Major General, Douglas MacArthur. VETS would apply for a 2014 Navy Heritage Memorial Grant (Navy Grant) to fund the Project and ongoing maintenance in the form of tile replacement, and apply for other grants if the Navy grant is not awarded. Staff at MacArthur Park will endeavor to work with VETS in the event of extreme weather or to store mosaic materials so long as no current programs or activities are adversely impacted.

No intellectual or other property rights would be granted to VETS or to any participants in the Project, and the picnic table would remain the property of the City of Long Beach. Pictures and likenesses of the picnic table would, however, be public domain. No fees are projected to be associated with the Project or to be charged to VETS.

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FISCAL IMPACT

VETS will only go forward with the Project if they receive funding from the Navy Grant or other possible grants, and will be responsible to provide all supplies necessary for the Project, so it is not expected that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine will incur any expenses as part of the recommended action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve the recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,



RAMON AREVALO
MANAGER
MAINTENANCE & DEVELOPMENT




GLADYS KAISER
MANAGER
COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICES

APPROVED:



GEORGE CHAPJIAN
DIRECTOR



STEPHEN P. SCOTT
MANAGER
BUSINESS OPERATIONS

GC:RA:GK:SS:bl