

# **CITY OF LONG BEACH**

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



2760 N. Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815-1697 (562) 570-3100 • FAX (562) 570-3109 www.LBParks.org

best # nation

August 16, 2018

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION City of Long Beach California

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a Right of Entry Permit and any other documents necessary with Conservation Corps of Long Beach, a California 501(c)3 non-profit, for installation of a Lower LA River Corps Site at DeForest Park and Wetlands (Districts 8 & 9)

## DISCUSSION

The Conservation Corps of Long Beach (CCLB), founded in 1989, provides workforce development and alternative education for inner-city youth and young adults with a mission to develop at-risk youth to reach their full potential through work, service, conservation, and education. For almost three decades CCLB and the City of Long Beach have worked together to provide job training and educational opportunities for Long Beach youth while improving the local environment, communities, and neighborhoods. CCLB participants are led by professional staff skilled in arboriculture, horticulture, biology, construction, agriculture, ecology, environmental science as well as a host of other relevant disciplines. Utilizing the staff's experience, technical skills, and expertise, the CCLB educates, trains, and serves young people from some of the most impoverished communities in the greater Long Beach region.

CCLB is looking to provide expanded youth development, as well as environmental and community services in Long Beach, specifically near and around the Lower Los Angeles River. CCLB proposes to partner with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (Department) to locate a Lower LA River Conservation Corps Site at the entrance to the DeForest Wetlands, to expand job training opportunities in the Lower LA River region. In exchange, CCLB is proposing to provide a crew of corpsmembers to assist with parkland stewardship and conservation activities including: coordinating regularly scheduled community volunteer days; seasonal as-needed weeding and removal of invasive species and replanting; corpsmembers training in the newly constructed DeForest Wetlands as well as other river-adjacent parks, greenspaces and business districts. Given the need for activation at DeForest Wetlands and the opportunities for stewardship and training in a wetland environment for youth, CCLB's proposal provides a community benefit and all corpsmembers will be provided by CCLB at no cost to the Department.

This partnership supports the Department's goal of partnering with groups to activate parks for community benefit.

Parks and Recreation Commission (Commission) approval is requested to authorize the Department Director to issue a Right of Entry Permit (ROE) to CCLB. The proposed ROE would include the following terms to outline the partnership and community benefit:

- <u>Term</u>: Five years, July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2023, with three, five-year renewal options at the discretion of the Department Director. Either party may terminate the agreement with 60 days written notice.
- <u>Location</u>: Approximately 3,000 square feet at the entrance to the DeForest Wetlands within DeForest Park, roughly at DeForest Avenue & Osgood Street, identified by the Department (Attachment 1). This site is planned to include the following, provided by CCLB:
  - A CCLB-staffed secure operations and storage area;
  - A trailer with a small office area, break/lunch room, restrooms, and classroom/training room/meeting space; and
  - Secured parking for several CCLB vehicles.
- <u>CCLB Operations</u>: CCLB will have a primary crew of two to four corpsmembers, who will generally work four days a week, during which time they will perform regular stewardship activities, in coordination with the Department and the Department's landscape contractor, and job training activities in DeForest Wetlands. The crew of corpsmembers will consist primarily of local north and west Long Beach youth and will be distinguished by CCLB uniform. CCLB corpsmembers will be supervised and led by professional CCLB staff skilled in arboriculture, horticulture, biology, construction, agriculture, ecology, environmental science as well as a host of other relevant disciplines. As CCLB regional programming expands and programmatic funding is acquired by CCLB in subsequent years, CCLB envisions an on-going parkland team of six to 10 corpsmembers dedicated to Lower LA River parkland stewardship and training, including additional support for DeForest Wetlands.
- CCLB On-Site Stewardship: While the Department oversees the landscape maintenance contractor onsite, CCLB's stewardship activities are intended to be supplemental, and CCLB will work with the Department on an annual stewardship program, which will include 1) Weekly weed abatement and tree watering; 2) Periodic trail erosion repair; 3) Coordinating community volunteer days where volunteers perform stewardship activities such as weed abatement, trash pickup, seasonal planting, mulching and trail repair at DeForest Wetlands; and 4) Seasonal stewardship activities, supplemental to ongoing park maintenance, to be determined by seasonal requirements (e.g. weeding in the spring/post winter rains, native plant replacement, trail erosion repair, etc.); and 5) Cleanup and maintenance projects, as needed to supplement park maintenance.
- <u>CCLB Programming</u>: CCLB corpsmembers will receive a minimum of 14,560 hours
  of field and classroom training, for a minimum value of \$200,200. This will also be
  the deployment site of up to 7-8 corpsmembers who perform similar services in the
  region. Corpsmembers will also provide activation of the site through stewardship,
  educational programming and community tours.

- Advertisement: CCLB shall work with the Department to promote classes and programs available in DeForest Park and Wetlands, including but not limited to, program flyers, RecConnect classes, and promotion of Department social media.
- <u>CCLB Site Maintenance</u>: CCLB shall maintain and provide trash pickup in their occupied site. Any graffiti on the CCLB site will be removed within 24 hours. As CCLB performs stewardship activities in DeForest Wetlands, they will report vandalism and other issues in DeForest Wetlands through the GoLongBeach app.
- <u>CCLB Site Improvements/Utilities</u>: CCLB shall be responsible for the cost of any needed tenant improvements, including fencing, trailer, lighting and security, associated with the LA River Corps Site.
- <u>Community Benefit</u>: CCLB proposes a total value of \$900,000 each year over the five-year term, including tenant improvements, on-site CCLB staff and corpsmembers hours, corpsmembers training, site stewardship activities and projects, activation, and leveraging CCLB program and grant funds.
- <u>Insurance</u>: CCLB will maintain all applicable insurance and endorsements, as required and approved by the City's Risk Manager.

## FISCAL IMPACT

It is anticipated that as a result of the new trailer and lights, the Department will incur a nominal utility cost increase related to the Lower LA River Corps Site. All other tenant improvements, CCLB staff and corpsmembers, training, and stewardship activities are proposed to be the responsibility of CCLB at no cost to the City, in exchange for the use of City property.

### SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted.

STEPHEN SCOTT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
BUSINESS OPERATIONS BUREAU

BUSINESS OPERATIONS BUREAU MAINT

HURLEY OWENS MANAGER

MAINTENACNE OPERATIONS BUREAU

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION August 16, 2018

Page 4

GLADYS KAISER

MANAGER

COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICES

APPROVED:

GERARDO MOUÉT

**DIRECTOR** 

SS:LU:GK:HO:bl:mr

ATT: 1 - Proposed CCLB LA River Site within DeForest Park

