

November 19, 2020

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the Field and Court Improvements Toolkit (Citywide).

DISCUSSION

Long Beach has 102 sports fields for soccer, softball and flag football as well as 55 sports courts for basketball, tennis, futsal at parks and beaches. These sports amenities are used by park users, schools and by youth, adult and senior sport leagues. These amenities offer a multitude of physical and mental benefits to its participants. To help keep these amenities maintained, playable and modern, Parks, Recreation and Marine (Department) partners with the community for periodic and seasonal improvements to sports fields and courts improvements.

Under section 2.54.005 of the City's Charter, the Commission has exclusive authority over leisure activities in public parks and recreational facilities, recommend plans for improvement of parks for public recreation and for other purposes, and authorize the issuance of permits and agreements related to leisure activities in parks and creation facilities. Typically, improvements to sports fields or sports courts are privately-funded projects and are initiated by sports leagues, friends-of-parks groups, or professional sports teams. These groups identify the improvement, secure the Department's support, engage park users and neighbors, and are issued a park right-of-entry permit to gain access to park property to make improvements. Examples of improvements include replenishing brick dust, field dirt, fencing, field or court components, painting of court surfaces, walls, backstops, benches, snacks and concessions stands, and improvements to storage containers, facilities and irrigation. Proposed improvements are reviewed and approved by the Department and the Commission.

To encourage groups to propose field and court improvements, the Department seeks to proactively communicate the type of improvements needed and the recommended locations. The Department has developed a Field and Court Improvement Toolkit (Attachment A) which provides all parties involved with a clear process for what how to request field and court improvements and what to expect during the process. Outlined in the Toolkit are ten steps that include: (1) Building a coalition and community support, (2) Identifying field or court site and location, (3) Selecting an installer, (4) Submitting an application, (5) Intake and review of the application, (6) Commission approval, (7) Obtaining the Right-of Entry Permit, (8) Pre-installation site-inspection, (9) Materials, site

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preparation and installation, and (10) Maintenance. Additionally, the Toolkit provides a comprehensive overview of roles and responsibilities and an inventory of available sites for ongoing needed improvements. The development of the Toolkit included documenting the Department's existing process, a review by Department staff who oversee PRM sports programs and usage and was presented to youth and adult sport groups for their feedback.

Parks and Recreation Commission is responsible for authorizing the issuance of permits and agreements related to leisure activities in public parks and recreational facilities, including athletic fields, ball parks, and tennis courts (Municipal Code Article IX, Sec. 902). It is requested that the Parks and Recreation Commission receive and file the Toolkit, providing support of the Department process for field and court improvements. Any future proposed improvements will follow the process outlined in the Toolkit and be brought before the Commission for consideration of a right-of-entry permit.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact from the recommended action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,



GLADYS KAISER
MANAGER
COMMUNITY RECREATION SERVICES



HURLEY OWENS
MANAGER
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APPROVED:



BRENT DENNIS
DIRECTOR

BD:vd:SS:GK:MR:AC

Attachment A: Field and Court Toolkit

