

**CITY OF LONG BEACH**

Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

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June 21, 2005

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize the City Manager to accept a Rivers and Mountains Conservancy grant award, in the amount of \$327,000, and execute all documents necessary to implement and administer the El Dorado Nature Center Renewal project through the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy; and
2. Increase appropriations in the Capital Improvement Projects Fund (CP) and in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PR) by \$327,000. (District 4)

DISCUSSION

The Rivers and Mountains Conservancy has awarded \$327,000 in funding to the City of Long Beach through Proposition 40, the California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Bond Act, for the El Dorado Nature Center Renewal project (Project). The Project will provide for the first phase of the implementation of the El Dorado Nature Center Master Plan for habitat restoration.

The project includes partial restoration of the riparian woodlands located along the San Gabriel River, and partial restoration of the riparian, and upland habitats located west of the existing Nature Center stream system. The goals of the project are to: (1) restore and enhance selected plant communities native to southern California and the San Gabriel River watershed; (2) increase functional value of wildlife habitat, and; (3) develop among visitors an awareness of, and a respect for, the integrity of native landscapes; an understanding of the interconnectedness of these natural communities; and a demonstration of heightened awareness through appropriate behavior.

This letter was reviewed by Donna F. Gwin, Senior Deputy City Attorney, on June 8, 2005, and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on June 13, 2005.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on June 21, 2005 to enter into the grant agreement in a timely manner.

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FISCAL IMPACT

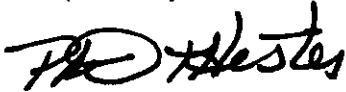
The total cost of the Project is estimated at \$327,000. Funding to provide ongoing operation and maintenance of the El Dorado Nature Center is included in the Department's annual operating budget.

Since the grant award is currently unbudgeted, an appropriation increase is included in the recommended action. Funding to cover the City's project management and accounting cost is not an eligible grant expense and is not included in the grant funding. The overhead expense will come from existing General Fund (GP) appropriations in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PR).

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,



PHIL T. HESTER
DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

PTH:DLE:AM:LH

APPROVED:

for 
GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER