



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

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August 5, 2014

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to adopt an update to the 1998 Youth Employment Plan, which outlines the City of Long Beach's commitment to employ at-risk youth between 14 and 24 years of age, as a requirement to receive County of Los Angeles Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 funding. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

As required by the County of Los Angeles (County), this action updates the 1998 City Council-adopted Youth Employment Plan (YEP) to include all construction projects that have been funded by the County 1992 and 1996 Proposition A funds (Proposition A). The original projects in the 1998 YEP included Cesar E. Chavez Park, Hudson Park, Admiral Kidd Park, Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier Improvements, Belmont Plaza Pool Rehabilitation, Play Equipment at Los Altos and Wardlow Parks, El Dorado Park Sports Field Improvements, and Rancho Los Cerritos Improvements. Since the adoption of the original YEP in 1998, the City of Long Beach (City) has been awarded a number of additional Proposition A project grants, and the County is now requiring that those projects be included in the updated YEP (Attachment). This update is required by the County in order to reimburse the City for work already performed on Proposition A-funded projects. The City's youth employment goals required in the YEP were completed in 2004.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Kendra L. Carney on June 23, 2014, and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on June 26, 2014.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on August 5, 2014, in order to allow for timely processing of grant reimbursement requests by the County of Los Angeles.

FISCAL IMPACT

The recommended action will enable the City to be reimbursed by the County for Proposition A-funded expenditures on all projects that are not currently included on the YEP. There is no impact to jobs associated with the recommended action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



GEORGE CHAPJIAN
DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

GC:AMM:sg

Attachment: Youth Employment Plan

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

**YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PLAN
City of Long Beach**

BACKGROUND

Los Angeles County voters approved the Safe Neighborhood Park Proposition (Proposition A) in November of 1992, providing \$540 million for park improvements and open space acquisition throughout Los Angeles County. In November 1996, the voters approved an additional \$319 million to be used for similar purposes. The funds come from an assessment on real property in the County and bond financing is used to pay for the park improvements authorized by the Propositions. Each city in the County, and several State agencies, and the County itself were allocated funds under these measures. The Propositions also provide funding for maintenance of the improvements created with the Proposition A funds.

Since 1998, the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 have provided approximately \$45 million to the City of Long Beach for various improvements and acquisition of land. One condition of the funding is that a portion of County grant development projects must be used for employment of at-risk youth. The City of Long Beach had an obligation to allocate \$2,235,256 for youth employment by the year 2019. According to the County's guidelines, the City has the opportunity to meet the youth employment requirements through either maintenance projects or capital projects.

On December 1, 1998, the Long Beach City Council approved a Youth Employment Plan detailing how the \$2,235,256 would be spent. The Plan included \$464,500 of youth employment for construction and \$1,770,756 of youth employment for maintenance. In 2004, the County determined that the City had met its Youth Employment Goal. Detailed planning for and reporting of the employment of at-risk youth in the construction and maintenance of projects funded by the Propositions is no longer required.

LONG BEACH PROJECTS

City of Long Beach projects funded by the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 include:

- 21st to Hill Street Mini Park
- Admiral Kidd Park
- Baker & Golden Park
- Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier Development & Rehabilitation
- Belmont Plaza Pool Rehabilitation
- Bixby Park
- Cesar E. Chavez (formerly called Westside Park or Park on Golden)

Chittick Field Sports Complex
DeForest Park Repair and Maintenance
DeForest Wetlands
Drake/Chavez Greenbelt Project
Houghton Park
Hudson Park
Joe Rodgers Field Improvements
Longview Park
Marina Vista Park Shade Structure
Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Pool
Pacific Electric Right-of-Way Project
Picnic Tables at Various Parks
Rancho Los Alamitos Improvements
Rancho Los Cerritos Rehabilitation
Rosie the Riveter Park
Rotary Park
Scherer Park Lake
Silverado Community Center Repairs
Sleepy Hollow Greenbelt
Sports Field Improvements at Various Parks
Tot Lots at Various Parks
Wrigley Greenbelt Development

TASKS PERFORMED BY AT-RISK YOUTH

1. Demolition work that does not require use of heavy equipment.
2. Grading that does not require use of heavy equipment.
3. Installation of concrete walkways.
4. Planting of ground cover, shrubs, and smaller trees that do not require use of heavy equipment.
5. Landscape maintenance during the plant establishment period.
6. General park maintenance.
7. Park activities programming.

ESTIMATED COST OF YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Total estimated hours of youth employment for capital projects: 31,843 hours
Total estimated cost of youth employment for capital projects: \$ 464,500
Total estimated cost of youth employment for maintenance projects: \$ 1,770,756

METHOD OF YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

The City of Long Beach had a contractual partnership with the Conservation Corps of Long Beach (CCLB), a nonprofit incorporated to provide Long Beach area youth with educational development through job training and career and conservation awareness programs. The CCLB provides constructive work opportunities for young adults who either dropped out of school or graduated without the basic skills necessary for gainful employment. Through its partnership with the CCLB and through direct hiring of at-risk youth, the City provided employment opportunities for local youth in conformance with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District's (District) definition of "at-risk youth."

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT GOAL

Under the provisions of the District's policy on employment of at-risk youth, the Youth Employment Goal (YEG) of the City of Long Beach is \$2,235,256, of which \$464,500 was designated for construction, and \$1,770,756 was designated for maintenance.

In 2004, the County determined that the City had exceeded its Youth Employment Goal.