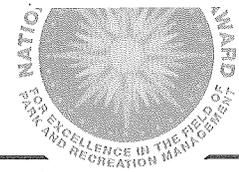




# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

**R-27**



2760 N. Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815-1697

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www.LBParks.org

December 1, 2015

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HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

City of Long Beach

California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute the Funding Agreement for Community Engagement Activities Related to the Countywide Parks Needs Assessment with the County of Los Angeles; and

Increase appropriations in the General Fund (GF) in the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department (PR) by \$12,500. (Citywide)

## DISCUSSION

On February 3, 2015, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors approved a plan to produce a Countywide Comprehensive Park and Recreation Needs Assessment (Assessment). The Assessment will analyze current public parks, open space, and cultural and recreational assets and needs. Participants include all 88 cities in Los Angeles County (County), state and local agencies, and nonprofit organizations based in the County. The goal of the Assessment is to establish a list of priority projects and associated costs for future funding. The Assessment is on an aggressive timeline, with the final summary report, including the prioritized list of park projects and funding needs, due in June 2016.

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) is taking the lead on the Assessment for the City of Long Beach (City), and is responsible for providing data on the condition of park amenities in the City, hosting five community outreach workshops, and bringing a prioritized list of park projects to the City Council for approval by February 2016.

In August and September 2015, PRM staff performed an inventory of existing conditions of all park amenities in regional parks, community parks, neighborhood parks, pocket parks, tot lots, swimming pools, recreation centers, gyms, skate parks, school recreation facilities with joint use agreements, trail corridors along flood control channels, and other public trail right-of-way areas outside of parks. This information, along with park location and acreage information, was provided to the County through the Assessment's web portal.

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In December 2015, PRM will facilitate five community outreach workshops designed to engage the community in the Assessment process, and to receive input on park projects to be included in the prioritized list of park projects. The Long Beach outreach events are scheduled, as follows:

- Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at Veterans Park Community Center;
- Monday, December 7, 2015, at Whaley Park Community Center;
- Wednesday, December 9, 2015, at Orizaba Park Community Center;
- Monday, December 14, 2015, at Scherer Park Community Center;
- Thursday, December 17, 2015, at Houghton Park Community Center.

At least one outreach event must be held in each Planning Area (areas of roughly equal population) for the purpose of gathering comparable information throughout the County. The City has been divided into five Planning Areas: North, East, South, West, and Central. Attached are maps showing Planning Areas Countywide (Attachment A), and Long Beach Planning Areas overlaid on Long Beach Council Districts (Attachment B).

The County has developed an Outreach Toolkit to ensure a consistent feedback process across all Planning Areas. Training in the use of the Toolkit will be available for cities, and a stipend of \$2,500 per Planning Area is available to defray event costs. The City must enter into the Funding Agreement for Community Engagement Activities Related to the Countywide Parks Needs Assessment to be eligible for the stipend of \$12,500. Community engagement plans have been prepared for each of the City's five Planning Areas. The project priorities developed through this process will be brought back to the City Council for approval prior to submitting them to the County in February 2016.

PRM will utilize DakeLuna Consultants at a cost of \$12,500 to facilitate the outreach events and to tabulate the results of community input. The Funding Agreement for Community Engagement Activities Related to the Countywide Parks Needs Assessment will fully fund DakeLuna's activities on behalf of the City of Long Beach. There will be no additional cost to the City.

Once the community workshops are complete and the City Council has approved a prioritized list of park projects, the County will begin a Countywide prioritization of park projects, taking into consideration project needs and opportunities based on feedback from the community engagement process, population needs analyses, the park and recreational opportunity inventory, and existing planning documents. The total costs for future projects by Planning Area will be estimated based on land acquisition costs, park amenity costs, and existing infrastructure needs. The County will develop a Summary Report that will include an executive summary, an introduction and description of the planning context, a description of existing conditions, the community outreach strategy, a list of future park projects, and an appendix containing the full list of projects Countywide. The County list of prioritized park projects is intended to be used to identify future investment in parks Countywide.

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This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Linda Vu on November 9, 2015, and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on November 6, 2015.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on December 1, 2015, in order to submit the Funding Agreement and community engagement plans to the County of Los Angeles as expeditiously as possible.

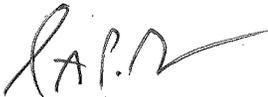
FISCAL IMPACT

The stipend amount of \$12,500 provided by the County of Los Angeles for the Assessment activities will offset the appropriations increase that is requested in the General Fund (GF) in the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department (PR) in the amount of \$12,500. There is no impact to jobs associated with the recommended action.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



STEPHEN SCOTT  
ACTING DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

SS:AGM:MR:sg

Attachments: Attachment A: Countywide Planning Areas  
Attachment B: Long Beach Planning Areas and Council Districts

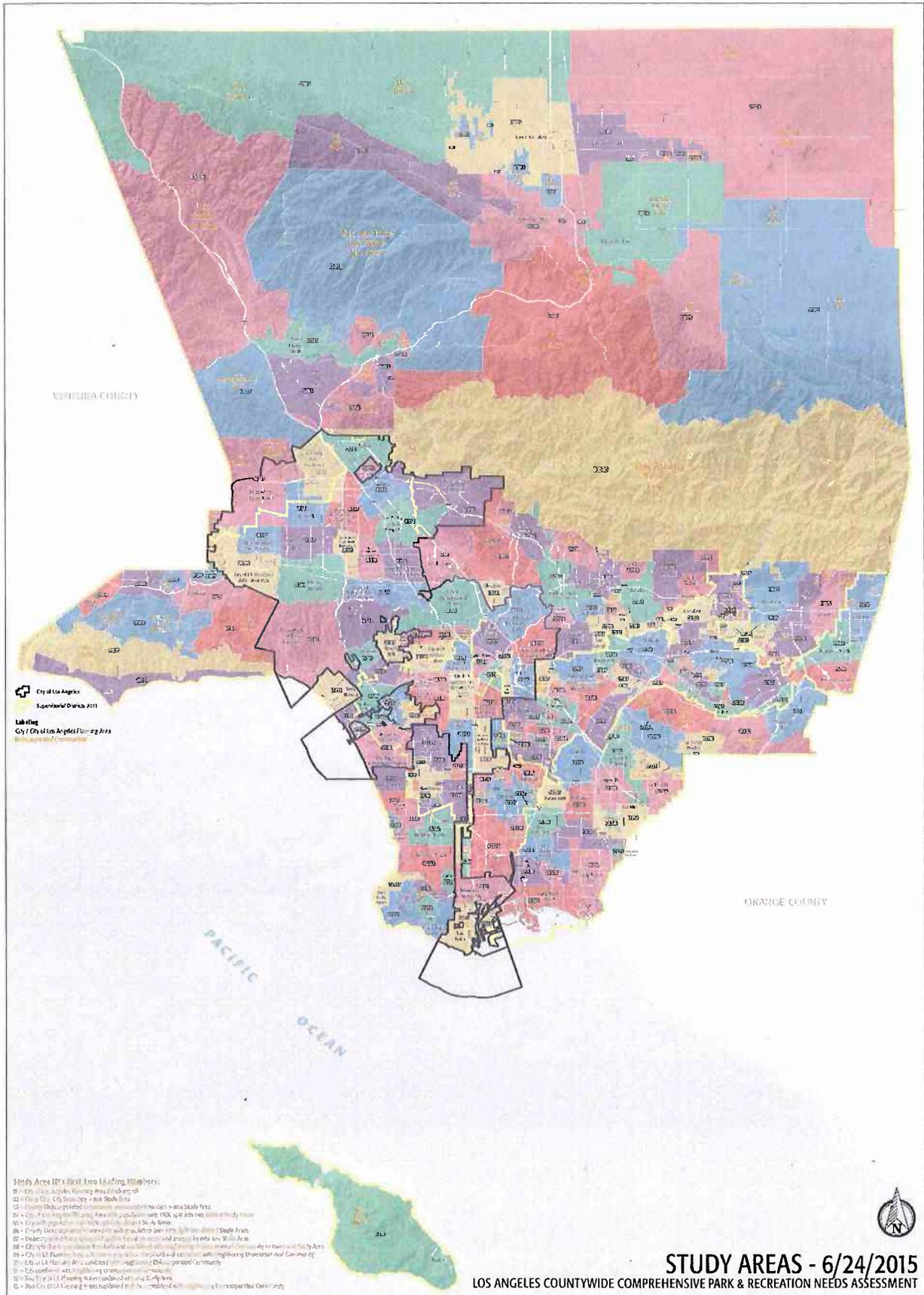
APPROVED:



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PATRICK H. WEST  
CITY MANAGER

# Attachment A. Countywide Planning Areas



Attachment B. Long Beach Planning Areas and Council Districts

