



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

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August 15, 2006

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

City of Long Beach

California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute a three-party agreement between the City of Long Beach, Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation and Mark Sauer Construction, Inc., to reconstruct the historic water tower and tank at the Rancho Los Cerritos Historic Site. (District 8)

DISCUSSION

The wooden water tower and tank at Rancho Los Cerritos Historic Site (Rancho), first built in the 1870s (see Attachment A), has severely deteriorated (see Attachment B). In 2004, the Rancho Los Cerritos Foundation (Foundation) contracted with Heritage Architecture and Planning to document the historic structure and to prepare plans and specifications for its reconstruction. The Foundation has raised funds through grants and private donations for construction of the new tower, per the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation Projects. On July 13, 2006, the Board of Directors for the Foundation voted to commit all funds necessary for the project.

In June 2006, the City's Purchasing Division bid the water tower and tank reconstruction project on behalf of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine and two valid bids were received. Mark Sauer Construction, Inc., (Contractor) submitted the low bid. The City, Foundation, and Contractor will enter into a three-party agreement whereby the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine will oversee management of the project. Project construction will be performed by the Contractor and the Foundation will pay all project costs.

The Rancho is a National and State historic landmark, noted for both its architectural and historical significance. Reconstruction of the water tower is one of several garden restoration projects recommended in the Rancho Los Cerritos master plan, which was approved by the City Council in 2002. The availability (or lack) of water played a vital role in settlement patterns in southern California, in the establishment of the Los Cerritos Rancho, in the location of the current two-story adobe, and in the economic fortunes of its owners. Therefore, reconstruction of the water tower and tank presents an important opportunity to share powerful stories about land use, climatic changes and economic growth to Rancho visitors.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

August 15, 2006

Page 2

This matter was reviewed by Senior Deputy City Attorney Donna F. Gwin on August 2, 2006, and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on August 1, 2006.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on August 15, 2006, to enable the execution of the agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with the recommended action, as all project expenses will be invoiced to and paid by the Foundation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



PHIL T. HESTER
DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

PTH:EC
Attachments

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER