



## CITY OF LONG BEACH

Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

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October 19, 2004

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

City of Long Beach

California

**SUBJECT:** Resolutions Authorizing the City Manager to Submit Grant Applications to the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation Through Two Park Bond Funded Grant Programs (Districts 1, 6 and 9)

### DISCUSSION

The California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 (Act), was passed by California voters to provide bond funding to enhance recreational opportunities in the state. Through the Act, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine has identified grant opportunities for the funding of various recreation projects through the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, Youth Soccer and Recreational Development Program and the State Urban Parks and Healthy Communities Program.

The Youth Soccer and Recreational Development Program (Soccer) provides funds to foster the development of new youth soccer, baseball, softball, and basketball recreational opportunities. The Soccer program does not specifically require matching funds; however, applications with matching funding will receive a higher priority in the awards process.

The State Urban Parks and Healthy Communities Program (Communities) provides funds for the acquisition and development of properties for active recreational purposes. An active recreational purpose is an activity that requires athletic fields, courts, gymnasiums, or other recreational facilities/venues for youth soccer, baseball, football, basketball, tennis or swimming, or any recreation activity which involves physical exertion and occurs within a facility/venue that was especially designed for this pursuit. This program has a 25 percent matching funds requirement.

The proposed soccer and communities projects and expected costs are:

- Seaside Park Youth Soccer Field - \$301,554 total project cost. The proposed Seaside Park is a two-acre park site at 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Chestnut Avenue. Originally, the location of Seaside Hospital, the site was given to the City in 2003 by Los Angeles County from their surplus property inventory. Part of the site is uniquely located on the lower tier of a hillside. The County had improved the site for use as a parking lot, and constructed retaining walls to support the slope and create the level site area. The proposed plan utilizes the area for a youth soccer field as it takes advantage of

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the configuration of the site. It is expected that the soccer field construction will include site preparation, drainage, irrigation, soil improvement, hydroseed, fencing, bleachers, shade structure, drinking fountain, and trees.

- Houghton Park Youth Soccer Field - \$1,147,500 total project cost. The existing turf soccer field at Houghton Park is unlighted and very heavily used. The high level of daytime use has resulted in the extreme wear and tear of the turf, exposing the soil, and creating an unusable dusty/muddy play surface. Usage is so heavy in this field that it is not possible to maintain the turf through an annual maintenance program. Grant funds are being sought to replace the existing turf/dirt area with an artificial playing surface. Over the last five years, several communities in southern California have successfully established artificial soccer fields, resulting in an improved field appearance, reduced City maintenance costs, and reduced patron injuries. As a youth sport, soccer is primarily played in the fall and winter seasons, and due to the limited daylight, afterschool play hours are reduced. Adding lighting to the Houghton Park field will substantially increase the hours the field is available for youth league play.

The proposed State Urban Parks and Healthy Communities projects and expected costs are:

- Pacific Electric Multi-Use Trail - \$3,181,345 total project cost. The proposed project will provide for the acquisition of two parcels of the former Pacific Electric Railroad Right-of-Way (PE ROW) along with the acquisition of one parcel located in the City of Signal Hill and adjacent to the PE ROW parcels. All parcels are adjacent to Chittick Field (east of Walnut Avenue). The proposed project will provide for the creation of a multi-use trail (Class I bike path), improvements (benches, landscaping, recreation amenities), and non-motorized entry access to the north side of Chittick Field. The trail will also link pedestrians and cyclists to a proposed middle school, and provide joint-use access to recreational facilities at the future school, which will also be located adjacent to Chittick Field.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Sports Fields - \$400,000 total project cost. The proposed project will provide for field lighting and other related improvements at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park (MLK). Located at MLK are two baseball fields, one that is lighted and used for adult softball, and another field that is not lighted and is used for youth sports. Unlighted courts reduce the recreation and exercise usage in the fall, winter, and spring seasons as the daylight is limited.

The grant applications are due to the California Department of Parks and Recreation by November 5, 2004. No date for notification of projects selected for grant awards has been made available at this time.

Donna F. Gwin, Senior Deputy City Attorney, prepared the attached resolutions. This letter was reviewed by Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on October 8, 2004.

### TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on October 19, 2004, in order to meet the November 5, 2004 grant application deadline.

### FISCAL IMPACT

The total development costs for the projects are as follows:

- Seaside Park Youth Soccer Field. The total project cost is estimated at \$301,554. If funded, the Soccer grant monies will offset \$210,877 of the project development costs. The remaining \$90,677 will be funded with a City match from the FY 05 Capital Projects Funds budget.
- Houghton Park Youth Soccer Field. The total project cost is estimated at \$1,147,500. If funded, the grant monies will offset \$1 million of the project development costs. The remaining \$147,500 will be funded with a City match from the FY 06 Capital Projects Fund budget.
- Pacific Electric Multi-Use Trail – The total project cost is estimated at \$3,181,345. If funded, the grant monies will offset \$1 million of the project development costs. Of the remaining \$2,181,345, \$500,000 will come from CDBG funds, \$211,671 in funding will be provided by a City match from the FY 06 Capital Projects Fund budget, and \$1,469,674 will come from a previously awarded MTA grant located in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine.
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Sports Fields – The total project cost is estimated at \$400,000. If funded, the grant monies will offset \$300,000 of the project development costs. The remaining \$100,000 will be funded with a City match from the FY 05 Capital Projects Fund budget.

If these grant applications are funded, the projects will not commence until FY 06 or later and completion of the projects will take approximately 18 months. Though future on-going expenses are unknown at this time, it is expected that these projects would require minimal maintenance upon completion. It is further expected that the General Fund will absorb these on-going costs as no other funding sources for maintenance expenses have been identified.

If the grants are awarded by the state, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine will request City Council approval to accept and appropriate the funds.

### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a Youth Soccer and Recreation Development Program grant application to the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, for approximately \$301,554 for

the Seaside Park Youth Soccer Field; and to execute any documents necessary for the implementation and administration of the project; and,

2. Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a Youth Soccer and Recreational Development Program grant application to the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, for approximately \$1,147,500 for the Houghton Park Youth Soccer Field; and to execute any documents necessary for the implementation and administration of the project; and,
3. Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a State Urban Parks and Healthy Communities Program application to the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, for approximately \$3,181,345 for the Pacific Electric Multi-Use Trail; and to execute any documents necessary for the implementation and administration of the project; and,
4. Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a State Urban Parks and Healthy Communities Program application to the State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, for \$400,000 for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Sports Fields; and to execute any documents necessary for the implementation and administration of the project.

Respectfully submitted,

*Phil T. Hester*

PHIL T. HESTER  
DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

PTH:DLE:GP:LH  
Attachment

APPROVED:

*Gerald R. Miller*

GERALD R. MILLER  
CITY MANAGER