



# Building A Better Long Beach

May 2, 2011

## REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEMBERS

City of Long Beach  
California

### RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and authorize the Executive Director to approve funding of a Neighborhood Partners Program Grant in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the Hamilton Middle School Landscape Project at 1060 E. 70th Street. (North – District 9)

### DISCUSSION

The Neighborhood Partners Program (NPP) is a continuing program offered by the Department of Development Services to assist neighborhood/community groups within either designated Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) target zones or the North Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area to accomplish neighborhood beautification and improvement projects. The NPP provides matching grants of up to \$5,000 in goods and services to accomplish approved projects. The match provided by the applicant must be equal to at least 50 percent of the total project cost and may be supplied in the form of cash, goods and services, or volunteer work hours.

Prior to June 2006, the NPP was only available within CDBG target zones. In June 2006, the North Long Beach Project Area Committee (NPAC) recommended that a portion of the funds allocated for NPAC local programs be used to expand the NPP to the entire North Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area. In January 2011, the NPAC worked closely with Neighborhood Services Bureau staff to issue a joint notice of funding available.

In response to this notice, an application for a \$5,000 grant was received from the Downtown Lions Club of Long Beach for improvements to Hamilton Middle School located at 1060 E. 70th Street (Hamilton) in Sub-area 1 of the North Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area. Hamilton is a public middle school in the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD). The Downtown Lions Club (Lions Club) of Long Beach was chartered in August of 1921 and has been serving the Long Beach community for 90 years. Lions Club projects include supplying eye tests and glasses to eligible children in the LBUSD, providing scholarships for Long Beach students as well as other funding for youth groups and services including the Children's Clinic at Long Beach

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Memorial Medical Center, the Boys and Girls Clubs and others that meet certain charity guidelines.

Hamilton's front entry area of approximately 2,021 square feet is in a deteriorated condition. Packed dirt, a deteriorating marquee, small patches of grass and two small trees welcome students, administrators, teachers, staff, and hundreds of parents that drop their students off for school. Budget cuts from LBUSD and the lack of resources from the residents of the area are just some of the reasons for Hamilton's neglect.

The proposed landscape project will re-design the landscape and build a garden located in front of Hamilton where the marquee is currently located. The materials include tile, concrete, cinder blocks, asphalt, mortar, mastic, dirt, decomposed granite, planting and material in both five- and one-gallon sizes. Lions Club organizers have secured commitments from 50 volunteers with valued labor contributions exceeding \$13,500. Other material contributions total over \$1,100. The landscaping project is part of a larger beautification effort for Hamilton, which is under design. Total project costs are estimated at \$20,177.

On April 28, 2011, the NPAC recommended approval of Lions Club's NPP grant application in the amount of \$5,000 as part of non-maintenance related improvement costs. The required supplemental matching fund in the amount of \$5,000 has been verified in the grant application. Funds are available for this grant program in the FY 2011 budget for the North Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area under NPAC Local Programs.

Both the Agency Board and the Long Beach City Council adopted the required resolutions making certain findings of benefit regarding certain public improvements, including public facilities, within the North Long Beach Redevelopment Project Area using Redevelopment funds on January 20 and January 18, 2011, respectively.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

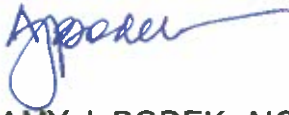


ROBERT M. ZUR SCHMIEDE, AICP  
ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Amy Bodek", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

AMY J. BODEK, AICP  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AJB:RMZ:DSW:TF

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