



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

C-14

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www.lbparcs.org

November 6, 2007

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District in the amount of \$5 million for Los Angeles River projects in the City of Long Beach. (Districts 1, 7, 8 and 9)

DISCUSSION

In November 1992 and November 1996, the voters of Los Angeles County approved Proposition A, the Safe Neighborhood Parks proposition. As a result, the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) was allocated \$12 million in funding for projects that benefit the lower Los Angeles River. Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Fourth District Supervisor, has requested that the MRCA assign \$5 million of these funds to the City of Long Beach (City) for projects related to the Los Angeles River. These funds would be used as follows:

- DeForest Wetlands Development - \$2.5 million: This project will recreate 34 acres of historic wetlands, scrub, and woodland habitat, as well as provide water quality improvement, passive recreational amenities, and interpretive enhancements, while retaining flood control properties to create a river parkway along the Los Angeles River from the existing DeForest Park to Del Amo Boulevard. This is a joint project between the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, the California Coastal Conservancy, the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), and the City of Long Beach.
- Drake/Chavez Greenbelt Acquisition - \$1 million: The 0.78 acres to be acquired will become part of a greenway connecting the 23-acre Cesar E. Chavez Park to the six acres of Drake Park. When completed, this greenway will be 46 acres of open space containing wetlands and wildlife habitat in a unique and biologically significant area where salt water meets fresh water at the mouth of the Los Angeles River. The cost of the parcel is \$2.7 million, of which \$1.7 million has already been secured from California Proposition 13 funds through the RMC, Los Angeles County Proposition A Excess Revenue, City Redevelopment funds, and transfers from completed projects.

- Wrigley Greenbelt Development - \$1 million: The project site is a pie-shaped property, approximately one mile long and 40-100' wide, stretching from Willow Street to 34th Street. Numerous trees were planted in this area in 2000, but very little other landscaping was completed. This project will provide the park with native plants, a multipurpose trail, a storm water run-off swale, and other amenities.
- Baker Street Mini-Park Development - \$500,000: This project will develop a parcel acquired with Los Angeles County Proposition funding into a 1.34 acre neighborhood mini-park in the Wrigley Heights area near the Los Angeles River and the 405 Freeway.

On July 12, 2007, the MRCA approved a resolution authorizing the City assignment of the right to apply for \$5 million in Proposition A funds for the implementation of the Los Angeles River projects listed above. As a result of the MRCA's assignment, the City is able to apply to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District) to secure the \$5 million in grant funds. The District requires that a Resolution accompany the City's application.

Deputy City Attorney Gary J. Anderson reviewed this matter and prepared the attached Resolution on October 16, 2007, and Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell reviewed this matter on October 25, 2007.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on November 6, 2007, to allow submission of the grant application to the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.

FISCAL IMPACT

The requested funding through Proposition A, administered through the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, will provide funding in the amount of \$5 million for DeForest Wetlands Development, Drake/Chavez Greenbelt Acquisition, Wrigley Greenbelt Development, and Baker Street Mini-Park Development. Once the grant is awarded, a recommendation will be made to the City Council to authorize acceptance and appropriation of the grant funds.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
November 6, 2007
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Respectfully submitted,



PHIL T. HESTER
DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE

PTH:DLE:AMM:kc:sg

Attachment: Resolution

APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER

OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney
333 West Ocean Boulevard, 11th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

1 RESOLUTION NO.

2
3 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
4 CITY OF LONG BEACH AUTHORIZING THE CITY
5 MANAGER TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE
6 LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN
7 SPACE DISTRICT FOR LOS ANGELES RIVER PROJECTS
8 IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, INCLUDING (a)
9 DEFOREST WETLANDS DEVELOPMENT; (b)
10 DRAKE/CHAVEZ GREENBELT; (c) WRIGLEY
11 GREENBELT; AND (d) THE BAKER STREET MINI-PARK

12
13 WHEREAS, on November 3, 1992, and on November 5, 1996, the people
14 of Los Angeles County enacted Los Angeles County Proposition A, the Safe
15 Neighborhood Parks, Gang Prevention, Tree-Planting, Senior and Youth Recreation,
16 Beaches and Wildlife Protection Initiative (the "Proposition"), which provides funds to
17 public agencies in the County for the purpose of developing facilities for public recreation;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, the Proposition also created the Los Angeles County Regional
20 Park and Open Space District (the "District") to administer said funds; and

21 WHEREAS, the City desires to submit an application for the acquisition and
22 development of projects along the Los Angeles River in the City of Long Beach,
23 including: (a) Deforest Wetland Development; (b) Drake/Chavez Greenbelt; (c) Wrigley
24 Greenbelt; and (d) Baker Street Mini-Park; and

25 WHEREAS, the funding was originally allocated to the Mountains
26 Recreation & Conservation Authority (the "Authority"), which has assigned its rights
27 thereunder, including the right to submit this application, to the City of Long Beach in a
28 resolution attached hereto as Exhibit "A";

1 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves as
2 follows:

3 Section 1. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated
4 herein by this reference, including Exhibit "A".

5 Section 2. The City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to submit
6 an application to the District for funds under the Proposition for the Project in the amount
7 of approximately \$5,000,000.

8 Section 3. The City understands the assurances and certifications in the
9 application and that the City must operate and maintain the Project in perpetuity.

10 Section 4. The City will sign and return to the District, within thirty (30)
11 days after receipt of the Project Agreement, both copies of the Project Agreement.

12 Section 5. The City Manager is hereby authorized to conduct all
13 negotiations, accept all funds, execute and submit all documents including but not limited
14 to applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests, and all other documents
15 which may be necessary for the completion of the Project, and implement and administer
16 the funds and all things related to the Project.

17 Section 6. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption
18 by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this resolution.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
ROBERT E. SHANNON, City Attorney
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Long Beach, CA 90802-4664

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 20__ by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

Noes: Councilmembers: _____

Absent: Councilmembers: _____

City Clerk