



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

**R-32**

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

July 5, 2005

### HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

City of Long Beach  
California

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Increase appropriations in the Capital Projects Fund (CP) in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PR) by \$2,416,000; and authorize the City Manager to execute all documents related to the acquisition of a 2.99-acre section of the former Pacific Electric Right-of-Way extending from Orange Avenue to Walnut Avenue for the Pacific Electric Right-of-Way Bike Trail Project. (District 6)

#### DISCUSSION

On December 19, 2000, the City Council authorized the City Manager to apply to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) for funding of various projects in response to the MTA's call for projects (Exhibit "A"). The application requested consideration of the acquisition and development of three parcels of the former Pacific Electric Right-of-Way: the first parcel from Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue to Lemon Avenue, the second parcel from Lemon Avenue to Orange Avenue, and the third parcel from Orange Avenue to Walnut Avenue, for a total of 6.19 acres. The acquisition and development of these parcels was requested in order to enhance regional bikeways as part of the Pacific Electric Right-of-Way Bike Trail Project. Subsequently, the City was awarded \$2,416,000 for this project and the grant agreement has been executed.

On December 19, 2000, the City Council also requested the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine to actively pursue competitive grant funds in order to purchase undeveloped portions of the former Pacific Electric Right-of-Way to facilitate the Recommended Goals and Strategic Actions of the Long Beach 2010 Strategic Plan (Exhibit "B"). The 2010 Strategic Plan establishes a priority of increasing the inventory of open space and focusing attention on preserving and acquiring open space for those neighborhoods where rapid growth and increased density have significantly reduced potential parks and other open spaces. One portion of the former Right-of-Way included in Council's request is a 2.99-acre section that extends from Orange Avenue to Walnut Avenue (Subject Property) (Exhibit "C"). On November 18, 2004, the Parks and Recreation Commission recommended to the City Council and the City Manager that the City acquire several parcels of land for park purposes, one of which was the Subject Property (Exhibit "D").

The City is currently in negotiations with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR), the owner of the Subject Property. UPRR has agreed to sell the 2.99-acre site to the City for \$1,790,861.

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An additional amount up to \$10,000 will be expended for escrow and closing fees and further environmental investigation, for a total acquisition amount of \$1,800,861.

This letter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Richard F. Anthony on June 20, 2005, and Budget Management Officer David Wodynski on June 23, 2005.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on July 5, 2005, to expedite acquisition of the property and close of escrow.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City has yet to expend any portion of the \$2,416,000 in MTA grant funds. The MTA grant provides for 70 percent of the total project cost with the City providing the remaining 30 percent as a match requirement (\$1,035,000). On July 5, 2005, the City Council authorized the allocation of \$1.8 million of Central Redevelopment Project Area Bond Funds within the Redevelopment Fund (RD) in the Department of Community Development (CD) for acquisition and development of the former Pacific Electric Right-of-Way. This funding will be used as the match requirement for the MTA grant. There will be no impact on the General Fund.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



CRAIG BECK  
ACTING DIRECTOR OF  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



PHIL T. HESTER  
DIRECTOR OF PARKS,  
RECREATION AND MARINE

APPROVED:

  
for  
GERALD R. MILLER  
CITY MANAGER

Attachments:      Exhibit "A" - Council Letter Dated December 19, 2000  
                         Exhibit "B" - Council Letter Dated December 19, 2000  
                         Exhibit "C" - Subject Property Map  
                         Exhibit "D" - Parks and Recreation Commission Letter Dated November 18, 2004