



Legislation Text

File #: 08-0412, **Version:** 1

Recommendation to adopt resolution authorizing City Manager to execute documents necessary to accept and expend funds from the State of California, Department of Boating and Waterways, to reimburse the City for costs incurred to remove and dispose of abandoned watercraft. (Districts 2,3)

Throughout the year, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, through its Marine Bureau, must deal with vessels that are found adrift, abandoned at our docks, sinking, or in danger of sinking, in the marinas and navigable waterways along our coast. Normally, these vessels are brought to the docks or launch ramps by the Fire Department or Police Department, and then stabilized, if possible. If the vessel sinks or is deemed to be a navigable hazard, it must be removed and destroyed.

The Marine Bureau attempts to locate the last registered owner to pay for the expenses incurred in this effort. If a registered owner cannot be located or refuses to pay for the stabilization and removal, the State of California, Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW), offers grant funds to reimburse public agencies for most of the costs involved in this effort. The Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund grant requires the City to initially pay 100 percent of the costs incurred for each abandoned vessel; subsequently, DBW will reimburse the City for 90 percent of those costs. DBW then makes an effort to obtain reimbursement from the registered owner, if one has been identified.

The City has participated in this grant program since 1999. Based on previous experience, it is estimated that the City will spend approximately \$200,000 toward the removal and disposal of abandoned vessels during the 12-month period commencing July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

This matter was reviewed and the Resolution prepared by Deputy City Attorney Gary J. Anderson on April 21, 2008, and Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell reviewed this matter on April 21, 2008.

City Council action is requested on May 6, 2008, in order to submit the grant application to the State of California, Department of Boating and Waterways, by the May deadline.

This grant reimburses 90 percent of costs incurred by the City for the removal and disposal of abandoned vessels over a 12-month period. Since the vessels are abandoned, we cannot control these costs, therefore, these expenses will be incurred at full cost, if we do not receive grant funds to reimburse the City for 90 percent of the expense. If the grant is awarded, it is estimated that the City would be eligible for approximately \$180,000 in reimbursable costs. The 10 percent differential of approximately \$20,000, is budgeted in the Tidelands Fund (TF) in the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PR).

Approve recommendation.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT FOR

GRANT FUNDS UNDER THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPARTMENT OF BOATING AND WATERWAYS ABANDONED WATERCRAFT ABATEMENT FUND (AWAF) GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE REMOVAL OF ABANDONED VESSELS FROM THE NAVIGABLE WATERS AND MARINAS IN LONG BEACH

Phil T. Hester
Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine

NAME
TITLE

APPROVED:

PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER