

May 14, 2002

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENTS
TO THE CAPITAL PROJECTS/REFURBISHMENT BUDGET
FOR VARIOUS PARKS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
(Second, Third and Fourth Districts - 4-Vote Matter)**

**JOINT RECOMMENDATION WITH THE DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION
THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Find this action exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
2. Approve Capital Project Nos. 77098, 77099, 69221, 77104, and 77105 which will provide for the replacement, expansion, and/or acquisition of park facilities and open space at Steinmetz Park, Ladera Park, Ted Watkins Park, and Bethune Park.
3. Approve the allocation of the grant funds awarded from the State of California's Habitat Conservation Fund for the acquisition of the Zuniga Creek Pond and Wetlands to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC)
4. Approve the attached budget adjustment, in the amount of \$1,360,000, to increase appropriation in the Capital Projects Budget, to reflect \$860,000 Community Development Block grant for the expansion of the Steinmetz Park Senior Center (CP No. 77098), \$300,000 State Habitat Conservation Fund grant for the partial funding of the purchase of open space known as the Zuniga Creek Pond and Wetlands, \$100,000 allocation of Park In-Lieu Fees for the Bethune Park – Skateboard Area Project (CP No. 77105) and \$100,000 reallocation to Park In-Lieu Fees Other Charges from Services and Supplies.

5. Approve the attached appropriation adjustment, in the amount of \$1,105,000 to transfer appropriation and net County cost from the Second District Various Improvements Capital Project (CP. No. 77044) to:

- Ladera Community Building Expansion Project (CP No. 77099) \$574,000
- Ladera Restroom Replacement Project (CP No. 69221) \$331,000
- Ted Watkins Skateboard Facility Project (CP No. 77104) \$ 95,000
- Bethune Skateboard Facility Project (CP No. 77105) \$105,000

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Your Board's approval of these actions will increase appropriation and revenue in the Capital Projects Budget by \$1,360,000 to account for approved grants and authorize the transfer of \$1,105,000 appropriation from Second District Various Improvements Capital Project to various Parks and Recreation capital projects. Your Board's approval of these actions will allow the implementation of these projects.

Steinmetz Park

The senior center expansion project consists of the construction of a 2,000 square foot multi-purpose room and restroom expansion to the existing Steinmetz Park senior center. In December 1999 the Steinmetz Park – Senior Center Project was completed. That project entailed the construction of a new senior center to provide recreational services to the senior patrons in the surrounding community. Due to the success of the recreational programs, Parks and Recreation has provided additional services by utilizing an existing multi-purpose room in the adjacent recreational building. Expansion of the senior center room will allow Parks and Recreation to accommodate additional seniors who wish to participate in programs and services. Upon completion of the facility program by Parks and Recreation, the construction of the project will be managed by Public Works.

Ladera Park

The community center expansion project consists of a 1,400 square foot community room and restroom addition. The recreational activities provided at the park have expanded to meet the request for increased recreational services to the surrounding community. The current community center provides recreational activities (day camps, summer lunch, and senior program) that have outgrown the size of the current

community center. The proposed center expansion will allow Parks and Recreation to continue with these successful activities and provide sufficient area for other recreational services requested by the surrounding community.

The restroom project is located in the northwesterly portion of Ladera Park and consists of the replacement of a freestanding restroom that was destroyed by fire last month. The demolition of the old structure and construction of a new ADA compliant facility of approximately 700 square feet includes a women's and men's restroom plus a janitor's closet. The proposed project will provide a replacement restroom for park patrons. Upon completion of the facility programs by Parks and Recreation, the construction of the project will be managed by Public Works.

Ted Watkins Park

A new skateboard facility is planned that will incorporate an existing concrete slab into the design. Previously, the slab has been used for special event recreational programming and due to the increasing popularity of skateboarding, Parks and Recreation is recommending a change in use to increase recreational services provided to the community. The proposed project will incorporate a portable, modular skateboard system to include board ramps and event equipment, installation/upgrading of security lighting, and installation of a skateboard rules and regulations sign as required by the County Ordinance No. 2002-0002 (Section 1 Part 9 of Section 17.04). The construction of the project will be managed by Parks and Recreation.

Bethune Park

A new skateboard facility is planned to replace an outdated exercise equipment area that is not utilized by the community. Due to the increasing popularity of skateboarding, Parks and Recreation is recommending a change in the recreational services provided to the community. The proposed project will consist of a portable, modular skateboard system to include board ramps and event equipment, construction of an enlarged concrete slab; and installation of a skateboard rules and regulations sign as required by the County Ordinance No. 2002-0002 (Section 1 Part 9 of Section 17.04). The construction of the project will be managed by Parks and Recreation.

Zuniga Creek Pond and Wetlands (part of Tri-Watershed Preservation and Acquisition)

On December 12, 2000, your Board approved a Habitat Conservation Fund grant application to partially fund the acquisition of the Zuniga Creek Pond and Wetlands located in the Santa Monica Mountains. The acquisition of the Zuniga Creek Pond and Wetlands will preserve open space for the Western Pond Turtles, Western Mastiff Bats and San Diego Coast Horned Lizard, all of which are on the State list of Special Concerned Species. Further, the open space provides a corridor for the movement of deer, mountain lions and bobcats. The proposed acquisition is 120 acres of private land adjacent to State-owned parkland and includes a small watershed and a one-acre man-made pond surrounded by three acres of wetland habitat for the Willow Riparian Stringer. The proposed acquisition is funded by several different grants.

On December 2000, your Board adopted a Resolution authorizing Parks and Recreation to submit an application for funding of this project under the State Habitat Conservation Fund Grant Program. That application stated that the County would be the titleholder of the subject property. In November 2001, the Department requested, and the State agreed, to change the titleholder from the County to the Mountain Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA). The Department is recommending that title be held by the MCRA, which is the operating arm of the SMMC. Your Board's approval of this action will allow the State Habitat Conservation funds to be accepted by the County and transferred to the MCRA to acquire the subject property. In addition, the Department is recommending that a condition be inserted into the escrow instructions requiring the property be held and open for public use in perpetuity.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions are consistent with the County Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence and Fiscal Responsibility. The proposed projects will invest in public infrastructure and will provide facilities and services that are easily accessed, beneficial, and responsive to the respective community needs.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Project Impact/Financing

The Steinmetz Park Senior Center Expansion Project is estimated to cost \$860,000 and will be funded with a Community Block Development Grant. The attached appropriation adjustment will increase appropriation and revenue to account for the Steinmetz Park Senior Center Expansion Project (CP No. 77098).

The Zuniga Creek Pond and Wetlands Acquisition Project will cost \$1,100,000. The acquisition will be funded by \$280,000 from the SMMC, funding provided by the Mountains Restoration Trust through a \$250,000 Southern California Wetlands Recovery Grant and a \$50,000 North American Wetland Conservation Act Grant, \$300,000 from the County through a State Habitat Conservation Grant and a \$220,000 grant to the County under the Coastal Impact Assistance Program which is recommended in a related matter on today's agenda. The grant's matching fund requirement will be fulfilled by the other identified fund sources. The attached appropriation adjustment in the amount of \$300,000 will increase appropriation and revenue to the Parks Department operating budget Other Charges to allow for the County's contribution to the Zuniga Creek Pond and Wetlands Acquisition Project.

The Ladera Park Community Center Expansion Project is estimated to cost \$905,000 and will be funded by \$331,000 Second District allocation of Proposition 12 - Per Capita Program and \$574,000 Second District Various Capital Improvements. The attached appropriation adjustment transfers \$574,000 appropriation from Second District Various Capital Improvements (CP No. 77044) to partially fund the Community Center Expansion Project (CP No. 77099). The Proposition 12 - Per Capita Program appropriation and revenue will be included in the Capital Projects Budget upon execution of a State grant.

The Ladera Park Restroom Project is estimated to cost \$331,000. The attached appropriation adjustment transfers \$331,000 appropriation from Second District Various Capital Improvements (CP No. 77044) to fund the entire Restroom Project (CP No. 69221).

The Ted Watkins Park Skateboard Area Project is estimated to cost \$95,000. The attached appropriation adjustment transfers \$95,000 appropriation from Second District Various Capital Improvements (CP No. 77044) to fund the entire Skateboard Area Project (CP No. 77104).

The Bethune Park Skateboard Area Project is estimated to cost \$205,000. The attached appropriation adjustments increases appropriation and revenue in the amount of \$100,000 from Park In-Lieu Fees - Park Planning Area 23 and transfers \$105,000 appropriation from Second District Various Capital Improvements (CP No. 77044) to fund the Skateboard Area Project (CP No. 77105). The reallocation of appropriation to Park In-Lieu Fees Other Charges from Services and Supplies is required to balance with the funding source identified in the FY 2001-02 Capital Projects Budget.

Operating Budget Impact

Upon completion of these Capital Projects, additional one-time and ongoing operating funds will be required. The following list identifies the amounts by project:

	<u>One Time</u>	<u>Ongoing</u>	<u>Total</u>
Ladera Park Restroom Project	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
Ted Watkins Park Skateboard Area Project	\$ 700	\$ 0	\$ 700
Bethune Park Skateboard Area Project	\$ 700	\$ 0	\$ 700
Steinmetz Park Senior Center Expansion Project	\$ 7,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 12,000
Zuniga Creek Pond and Wetlands Acquisition Project	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0*

*Title to the Zuniga Creek property is to be held by the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority. There are no One Time or Ongoing operating expenses incurred by the County.

Upon completion of the Ladera Park – Community Center Expansion Project, Parks and Recreation anticipates an estimated one-time, start-up costs of approximately \$71,000 to provide equipment, furnishings, and supplies. An additional \$122,000 is anticipated for annual on-going operational costs for staffing, supplies, and utilities to maintain the facility. These costs are expected to begin in late 2002-03.

The Chief Administrative Office is currently analyzing these estimates and will work with the Department to determine appropriate operating requirements and develop recommendations to address funding of these costs.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the action.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Approval of this action is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Section 15061 (b)(3) of State CEQA Guidelines because it can be seen with certainty that the action will have no significant effect on the environment. Steinmetz Park – Senior Center Expansion Project, Ladera Park – Community Center Expansion and Restroom

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
May 14, 2002
Page 7

Projects, Ted Watkins Park – Skateboard Area Project, and Bethune Park – Skateboard Area Project will be required to fulfill the CEQA requirements as part of the approved capital project process.

A Notice of Exemption was filed with the County Clerk on June 27, 2000, stating the proposed Zuniga Creek Pond and Wetlands acquisition was Categorically Exempt under the CEQA in accordance with Sections 15313, 15316 and 15323 of the Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES

These actions will provide funding for several projects. These projects will not negatively impact any other projects currently planned or under construction but will provide for enhanced public services and additional open space.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Office-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division and the Auditor-Controller and three conformed copies to the Department of Parks and Recreation for distribution.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

Tim Gallagher
Director Parks and Recreation

DEJ:TG
SNY:JSE
DJT:DKM:mda

Attachment (2)

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)
County Counsel
Auditor-Controller

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2001-02**

4-VOTE MATTER

FINANCIAL SOURCES:

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Steinmetz Park
Senior Center Expansion Project
Housing and Community Block
Development Grant
A01 - PK - 77098 - 8946
\$860,000 Increase Revenue

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Bethune Park
Skateboard Area Project
Charges for Services Quimby/CP
A01 - CP - 77105 - R401
\$100,000 Increase Revenue

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Park In-Lieu Fees Special Fund
Services and Supplies
J06 - PK - 65011 - 2000
\$100,000 Decrease Appropriation

Department of Parks and Recreation
Zuniga Creek Canyon
State Other
A01 - PK - 27640 - 8831
\$300,000 Increase Revenue

FINANCIAL USES:

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Steinmetz Park
Senior Center Expansion Project
Building and Improvements
A01 - PK - 77098 - 6014
\$860,000 Increase Appropriation

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Bethune Park
Skateboard Area Project
Building and Improvements
A01 - CP - 77105 - 6014
\$100,000 Increase Appropriation

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Park In-Lieu Fees Special Fund
Other Charges
J06 - PK - 65011 - 5500
\$100,000 Increase Appropriation

Department of Parks and Recreation
Zuniga Creek Canyon
Other Charges
A01 - PK - 27640 - 5500
\$300,000 Increase Appropriation

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENT
FISCAL YEAR 2001-02**

3-VOTE MATTER

FINANCIAL SOURCES:

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Various Capital Projects
Various Second District Projects
Building and Improvements
A01 - CP - 77044 - 6014
\$1,105,000 Decrease Appropriation

FINANCIAL USES:

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Ladera Park
Community Center Expansion Project
Building and Improvements
A01 - CP - 77099 - 6014
\$574,000 Increase Appropriation

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Ladera Park
Restroom Project
Building and Improvements
A01 - CP - 69221 - 6014
\$331,000 Increase Appropriation

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Ted Watkins Park
Skateboard Area Project
Building and Improvements
A01 - CP - 77104 - 6014
\$95,000 Increase Appropriation

Capital Projects/Refurbishments
Department of Parks and Recreation
Bethune Park
Skateboard Area Project
Building and Improvements
A01 - CP - 77105 - 6014
\$105,000 Increase Appropriation