



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
"Creating Community Through People, Parks and Programs"

Russ Guiney, Director

September 12, 2006

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

Dear Supervisors:

**APPROVAL OF VARIOUS AGREEMENTS WITH THE COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
DISTRICT FOR THE USE OF FLOOD CONTROL FACILITIES
FOR PARKS & RECREATION PURPOSES
(5TH District, 3-Vote Matter)**

**JOINT RECOMMENDATION WITH THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS THAT
YOUR BOARD:**

1. Find that the proposed projects are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) According to Sections of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, cited herein.
2. Approve and instruct the Directors of Public Works and Parks and Recreation to execute, on behalf of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) and the County of Los Angeles (County), respectively, a Use Agreement, substantially similar to the attached, between the District and County (as User) for provision of a passive park space on the east side of Pickens Canyon Channel in the unincorporated area of La Crescenta, upon approval as to form by County Counsel.
3. Approve and instruct the Directors of Public Works and Parks and Recreation to execute, on behalf of the District and the County, respectively, a Use Agreement, substantially similar to the attached, between the District and County (as User) for provision of a trail along the flood control channel in the unincorporated area of Stevenson Ranch, upon approval as to form by County Counsel.

4. Delegate to the Director of Public Works, acting on behalf of the District, and the Director of Parks and Recreation, acting on behalf of the County, the authority to exercise the three 10 year options authorized under the enclosed Joint Use Agreement 06-13 for the provision of an equestrian trail and staging area at the Lincoln Debris Basin in Altadena.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

These actions will allow Parks and Recreation to provide a variety of park and recreational opportunities to the public on District property. The use of District property, where appropriate, for the provision of both active and passive recreation is one of the strategies that Parks and Recreation is pursuing to address the significant deficiencies in both the availability of park land and recreational amenities throughout the County and especially within unincorporated areas.

Pickens Canyon Channel

The proposed Use Agreement will allow the County to develop, operate and maintain a small pocket park on the east side of Pickens Canyon Channel north of Foothill Boulevard. Upon approval of the Agreement, Parks and Recreation would be allowed to install improvements consisting of landscaping, irrigation and site amenities such as drinking fountains and benches, to create a passive park for the use and enjoyment of residents of the unincorporated area of La Crescenta.

Stevenson's Ranch

The proposed Use Agreement would allow the County to operate and maintain a trail along a portion of the debris basin and flood control channel within Stevenson Ranch on a month to month basis with no definitive term. The segment of trail, which has been constructed by the developer of the property, is part of a larger trail system planned for the area and will provide residents of this unincorporated community an opportunity to engage in healthy lifestyle activities such as walking and jogging.

Lincoln Debris Basin

On November 10, 2005, the Director of Public Works and the Director of Parks and Recreation, under delegated authority, executed Joint Use Agreement No. 06-13 to allow the County to utilize a portion of the Lincoln Debris Basin for an equestrian trail and staging area linking to the Chaney Trail Connector. The initial term of the Joint Use Agreement was for a period of three years. Section 3.A of the Agreement allows the Agreement to be extended for up to three 10-year terms subject to Board of Supervisors' approval. The recommended action would allow the Director of Public Works and the Director of Parks and Recreation to have delegated authority from your

Board to exercise those options if the two directors determine that the continued joint use of the facility is mutually beneficial.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

These actions are consistent with the Strategic Plan Goal of Fiscal Responsibility by utilizing existing land in the public domain for community benefit. In addition, the action will further the Strategic Plan Goals of Service Excellence, Children and Families Well Being and Community Service by providing a variety of recreational and open space amenities to residents of unincorporated areas.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Development for the Pocket Park in La Crescenta will be funded from Park In Lieu Fees available in Park Planning Area No. 38. A cost estimate for the improvements will be prepared when more information is available.

Parks and Recreation anticipates a minor increase in its operating budget upon development of the pocket park along Pickens Canyon Channel and upon assuming maintenance of the trail in Stevenson Ranch. Parks and Recreation will work with the CAO's office to finalize the maintenance costs and available funding for the 2007-08 Budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

County Counsel has reviewed and approved these agreements as to form.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The projects in the Use Agreements and Joint Use Agreement are categorically exempt from CEQA according to Sections 15301, 15303(d), 15304(a)(b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1, 3,(a)(b), 4(a)(c), 5(a) of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the projects provide for minor alteration and operation of existing facilities and alteration to land and land-use limitations.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

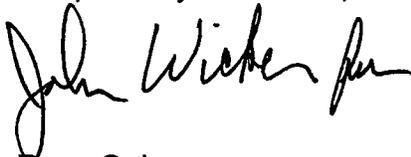
The proposed actions will provide for continued and enhanced recreational opportunities for residents of Los Angeles County.

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CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to Parks and Recreation, Contracts Division, and to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,



Russ Guiney
Director



for Donald Wolfe
Director of Public Works

RG:KW

Enclosures (3)

c: Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller (Accounting Division - Asset Management)
Chief Administrative Office
County Counsel