LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

February 20, 2007

The Honorable Board of Directors
Los Angeles County
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

ALLOCATE FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT COUNTY EXCESS FUNDS AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF EXCESS FUNDS GRANTS (FIFTH DISTRICT - 3 - VOTE MATTER)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Allocate Fifth Supervisorial District County Excess Funds in the total amount of $920,000 as identified in the Attachment.

2. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants to the grantees identified in the Attachment when applicable conditions have been met and to administer the grants as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel Projects.

3. Authorize the Director to reimburse the Altadena Foothills Conservancy (AFC) for costs incurred on their Pocket Park Construction Project prior to the date of this action.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the first recommendation will allocate $920,000 in County Excess Funds for various projects in the Fifth Supervisorial District as identified in the Attachment.

In a related action on today's agenda, the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), which is a qualified recipient for the $15,000 of County Excess Funds, is requesting the County assign its right to apply for those funds to AFC for its Pocket Park Construction Project, as also identified in the Attachment.

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds.

It is recommended that the Director be authorized to award the grants to the grantees identified in the Attachment, when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications and consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and to administer the grants under procedures previously approved by your Board.

Finally, it is recommended that the Director be authorized to reimburse AFC for costs incurred on their Pocket Park Construction Project prior to the date of this action. AFC was required to commence with the construction of the project in 2006 or face the loss of Metropolitan Water District grant funds.

In a related action on today's agenda, DPR is recommending approval of the assignment of the right to apply for $15,000 of the funds to AFC.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS

The proposed recommendations further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal No. 1 (Service Excellence), Goal No. 4 (Fiscal Responsibility), and Goal No. 5 (Children and Families' Well-being) by allocating Excess Funds for projects to enhance parks and a golf course in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grants in the amount of $920,000 is budgeted in the Fifth Supervisorial District portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grants would be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District from Excess Funds available for County projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of Parks and Recreation would be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

Your Board approved a Procedural Guide on June 17, 1997, to govern the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District grants for Specified and Per Parcel projects. This Procedural Guide would appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grants as well. Because AFC incurred project costs on their Pocket Park Construction Project prior to this action, the Director is recommending your Board's approval to allow the District to reimburse AFC for these costs once a grant agreement has been executed.

County Counsel has reviewed these actions as to form.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director of Parks and Recreation and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 1997. The Project Agreements will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended projects will enhance recreational opportunities in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed actions are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in that the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Sections 15378 (b)(4)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines because the actions are administrative activities for government grants which by their terms do not involve any commitments to any specific projects which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

All projects funded by the District are also required to comply with CEQA. The County of Los Angeles is the lead agency for all of the projects identified in the attachment and as such, has prepared appropriate environmental documents for the some of the projects and will prepare appropriate environmental documents for the remaining projects.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division, and to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:LB:OPENSPACEDISTRICT(5thDISTRICTCOUNTYEXCESSFUNDS)

Attachment

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)
County Counsel

ATTACHMENT

PROPOSED FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT EXCESS FUNDS PROJECTS

Project	Grantee	Amount
Acton Park Phase II Improvements	**Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)**	**$200,000**

Scope: Improvements consisting of a gazebo, a second ball field, a tot lot play area shade structure, landscaping, irrigation and other site improvements.

Crescenta Valley Park Improvements Project	**DPR**	**$154,000**

Scope: Improvements to restrooms, reroofing of the recreation building, installation of new picnic tables, barbeques and drinking fountains, and various other smaller building refurbishments.

Loma Alta Park Pool Project	**DPR**	**$376,000**

Scope: Improvements to the pool and pool building including but not limited to: pool shell, deck, plumbing, electrical, and mechanical systems.

Knollwood Golf Course Fence Project	**DPR**	**$175,000**

Scope: Replacement of the fence surrounding Knollwood Golf Course.

Pocket Park Construction Project	**Altadena Foothill Conservancy**	**$15,000**

Scope: Construction of an oak woodland pocket park on a peninsula of land at the intersection of Marengo Avenue and Woodbury Road in Altadena. The $15,000 in County Excess Funds are matched with $21,000 from the Metropolitan Water District plus in-kind donations from various companies and nonprofit organizations.

Total: **$920,000**