LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

August 21, 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 SECOND SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT COUNTY EXCESS FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW PARKING LOT AT JESSE OWENS PARK, AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF AN EXCESS FUNDS GRANT (SECOND DISTRICT - 3 - VOTE MATTER)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Allocate Second Supervisorial District County Excess Funds to the Department of Parks and Recreation in the amount of $638,000 for the construction of a new parking lot at Jesse Owens Park.

2. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District), to award a grant to the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) for the Jesse Owens Parking Lot Project when applicable conditions have been met and to administer the grant as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel Projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate $638,000 in County Excess Funds to the Department to be used to construct a new 40-space parking lot along Western Avenue at Jesse Owens Park. The project, which also includes $126,000 from the Jesse Owens Park Improvement Fund, will cost a total of $764,000. The parking lot project will include security lighting and landscaping. Additionally, walkways will be installed to connect the parking lot to the existing swimming pool building. The project will also include demolition of an existing free standing comfort station, shuffleboard courts, shade covers, light fixtures and poles.

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.

In a related item on today's agenda, the Chief Executive Officer is recommending the allocation of funding for the Jesse Owens Park Parking Lot Project and other related actions.

It is also recommended that the Director of Parks and Recreation be authorized to award the grant to the Department, when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications and consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and to administer the grant under procedures previously approved by your Board.

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), Goal No. 5 (Children and Families' Well-being) and Goal No. 6 (Community Services) by allocating 1992 and 1996 Proposition and Excess Funds for the construction of a new parking lot at Jesse Owens Park.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant in the amount of $638,000 is budgeted in the Second 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 grant would be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Second Supervisorial District for County projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of Parks and Recreation would be authorized to an award grant 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 grant as well.

County Counsel has reviewed the actions in this letter.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Grant Project Agreement 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 Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded through the District, but are required so that the Department may proceed on the construction of the new parking lot at Jesse Owens Park in the southern portion of Los Angeles County.

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 the Jesse Owens Park Parking Lot Project and as such, has prepared appropriate environmental documents for the project.

CONCLUSION

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

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:LB:OPENSPACEDISTRICT(JESSE OWENS PARKINGLOT BL)

c: Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (30)
County Counsel