LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

October 28, 2008

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 COUNTY EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE SECOND AND FOURTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT TO THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND FOR THE INSTALLATION OF OUTDOOR FITNESS COURSES AT SIX COUNTY PARKS
(SECOND AND FOURTH DISTRICTS - 3 - VOTE MATTER)

SUBJECT

These actions will allocate $120,000 in County Excess Funds available to the Second and Fourth Supervisorial Districts to the Trust for Public Land for the installation of outdoor fitness courses at Ladera, Athens, Alondra, Cerritos Regional, Pathfinder, and Steinmetz County Parks.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find the proposed actions exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, for the reasons cited herein.

2. Allocate $60,000 in County Excess Funds available to the Second Supervisorial District to the Department of Parks and Recreation for a grant to the Trust for Public Land for the installation of outdoor fitness courses at Ladera, Athens, and Alondra County Parks.

3. Allocate $60,000 in County Excess Funds available to the Fourth Supervisorial District to the Department of Parks and Recreation for a grant to the Trust for Public Land for the installation of outdoor fitness courses at Cerritos Regional, Pathfinder, and Steinmetz County Parks.

4. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to award a grant to the Trust for Public Land, (TPL) for the Fitness Zones at Six County Parks Project, after the Department of Parks and Recreation assigns the right to apply for funds to TPL, 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 ACTION

Approval of the recommendations will allocate $120,000 in County Excess Funds available to the Second and Fourth Supervisorial Districts, for the Fitness Zones at Six County Parks Project. The project consists of the installation of outdoor fitness courses at Ladera, Athens, Alondra, Cerritos Regional, Pathfinder, and Steinmetz County Parks. Each fitness zone will consist of six to eight pieces of durable and vandal resistant equipment appropriate for use for all age groups and all fitness levels. Each fitness zone includes Americans with Disabilities Act compliant surfacing and bilingual equipment instructional decals. The fitness zones will also feature bilingual health information panels with general nutritional information, usage instructions, and healthy eating guidelines. The cost for each installation site is $45,000. The total project cost is $270,000, and includes $120,000 in County Excess Funds ($60,000 from 2nd District and $60,000 from 4th District), and $150,000 from the Uni-Health Foundation.

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. The Department and TPL meet this requirement.

In a related item on today's agenda, the Department, which is a qualified recipient of County Excess Funds under the 1996 Proposition, is requesting that your Board, in its capacity as the County's Board of Supervisors, assign the right to apply for the funds to TPL.

It is also recommended that the Director of Parks and Recreation be authorized to award a grant to TPL when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, and to administer the grant under procedures previously approved by your Board.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC 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 Service), by enhancing fitness opportunities in the Second and Fourth Districts through the installation of outdoor exercise equipment at six County Parks.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant, in the amount of $120,000, is budgeted in the Second and Fourth Supervisorial Districts 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 and Fourth Supervisorial Districts from Excess Funds 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 a 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.

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 for the installation of the six fitness zones at County Parks in the Second and Fourth Supervisorial Districts.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District are required to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The County of Los Angeles is the lead agency for the Fitness Zones at Six County Parks Project.

The proposed project is categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) according to Section 15303 (e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 3(b) of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the proposed project provides for the installation of accessory (appurtenant) structures.

CONCLUSION

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

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:RR:LB:REGIONALPARKANDOPENSPACEDISTRICT(TPL FITNESS ZONES BL)

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