LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

January 19, 2010

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 CITIES EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF AN EXCESS FUNDS GRANT TO THE CITY OF BELL GARDENS (FIRST DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate Cities Excess Funds available to the First Supervisorial District to the City of Bell Gardens for its John Anson Ford Park Athletic Field Rehabilitation Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed administrative actions are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as 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.

2. Allocate $159,000 of Cities Excess Funds available to the First Supervisorial District to the City of Bell Gardens for its John Anson Ford Park Athletic Field Rehabilitation Project.

3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant for the identified project when applicable conditions have been met and to administer the grant as of the date of award and pursuant to guidelines in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects (Procedural Guide).

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate $159,000 in Excess Funds available to the First Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Park Propositions to the City of Bell Gardens (Bell Gardens) for the completion of its John Anson Ford Park Athletic Field Rehabilitation Project. The project scope includes site preparation, construction of concrete curbing around the field, and purchase and installation of synthetic turf. The total cost of the project is $354,000. Bell Gardens will supplement the $159,000 in Excess Funds with a $90,000 grant from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and $105,000 Community Development Block Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director) be authorized to award the grant to Bell Gardens when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with CEQA requirements for the project, and to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by your Board.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIC GOALS

The proposed recommendations further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3), by enhancing safe and accessible recreational opportunities in the City of Bell Gardens in the First Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant in the amount of $159,000 is budgeted in the First 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 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. Bell Gardens meets this requirement.

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 First Supervisorial District from Excess Funds for city 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.

On June 2, 2009, your Board approved the Procedural Guide, for governing the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District grants. The Procedural Guide will 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 and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended project will enhance safe and accessible recreational opportunities in the City of Bell Gardens in the First Supervisorial District.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District are required to comply with CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The City of Bell Gardens is the lead agency for the John Anson Ford Park Athletic Field Rehabilitation Project.

The proposed administrative actions are not subject to 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.

CONCLUSION

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

Respectfully submitted,

John Wicker for

Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:WRO:LB:REGIONALPARKOPENSPACEDISTRICT(BELL GARDENS BL)

c: Chief Executive Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Acting County Counsel