LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

August 10, 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 SOUTH EL MONTE (FIRST DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate $300,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the City of South El Monte for the Mary Van Dyke Park Improvements 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 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 $300,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the City of South El Monte for the Mary Van Dyke Park Improvements 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 in the amount of $300,000 to the City of South El Monte for the Mary Van Dyke Improvements Project when applicable conditions have been met and to administer the grants as of the date of this action and pursuant to guidelines in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate $300,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), for a grant to the City of South El Monte (South El Monte) to complete the Mary Van Dyke Park Improvements Project.

The project includes installation of new picnic shelter, benches, tables, concrete paving, fencing, lighting, and signage. The total project cost is $300,000 and is fully funded by Cities Excess Funds.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director) be authorized to award the grant to South El Monte when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with CEQA requirements for the project, and to administer the grant under the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects (Procedural Guide) previously approved by your Board.

### Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions will further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), Children, Family, and Adult Well-Being (Goal 2), and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3), by enhancing safe and accessible recreational opportunities in the City of South El Monte in the First Supervisorial District.

## FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant in the amount of $300,000 is budgeted in the First Supervisorial District portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (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. South El Monte has met 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 will 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 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 to govern the administration of District grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grant as well.

## ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the 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. South El Monte is the lead agency for the proposed Mary Van Dyke Park Improvements 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.

## 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 your Board in 2009. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

## IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by the District but are required for the enhancement of safe and accessible recreational opportunities in the South El Monte in the First Supervisorial District.

## 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,

Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:WRO:LB:REGIONALPARKOPENSPACEDISTRICT(SOUTH EL MONTE BL)

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