LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

September 21, 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:

APPROVE A REVISED PLAN OF EXPENDITURE AND AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN FOR EXPENDITURE FOR THE SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS PROPOSITIONS OF 1992 AND 1996 TO FUND THE ARCADIA PARK POOL AND POOL BUILDING RENOVATION PROJECT (FIFTH DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

The recommended actions will transfer $2,083,322.05 in Specified Funds allocated to the Castaic Lake General Improvements Project under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 to the Arcadia Park Pool and Pool Building Renovation Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed administrative actions are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Section 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. Approve a Revised Plan of Expenditure to transfer $383,322.05 in Specified Project Funds allocated for the Castaic Lake General Improvements Project under Section (8), Subsection (a), Paragraph (2), Item (D) of the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992 to the Arcadia Park Pool and Pool Building Renovation Project.

3. Approve an Alternative Plan for Expenditure to transfer $1,700,000 in Specified Project Funds allocated to the Castaic Lake General Improvements Project under Section (3), Subsection (a), Paragraph (1), Item (J) of the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 to the Arcadia Park Pool and Pool Building Renovation Project.

4. 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 $2,083,322.05, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for its Arcadia Park Pool and Pool Building 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.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to transfer Specified Funds in the amount of $383,322.05 allocated to the Castaic Lake General Improvements Project under Section (8), Subsection (a), Paragraph (2), Item (D) of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1992 (1992 Proposition) and $1,700,000 allocated under Section (3), Subsection (a), Paragraph (1), Item (J) of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition) to the Arcadia Park Pool and Pool Building Renovation Project. The Castaic Lake General Improvements project was originally funded with $2,711,937 in Specified 1992 and 1992 Proposition funds and the scope of work included improvements to restrooms in the campgrounds including Americans with Disability Act upgrades; the addition of a fish cleaning station for the Recreational Vehicles camp ground area; renovation of picnic shelters; re-roofing and replacement of the air conditioning and heating system at the administration building; and improvements to park walkways. Only $628,614.95 in Proposition funds was expended and the project was completed instead with Per Capita 2000 State Bond Act funds.

The proposed project, located at 405 S. Santa Anita Avenue in Arcadia, will include demolition of the existing pool building, competitive pool, and wading pool; and construction of a new approximately 5,400 square foot pool building with restrooms, changing rooms, classroom, staff offices, and storage and utility rooms; a separate 2,000 square foot mechanical equipment and storage building; an outdoor competition swimming pool; an outdoor shallow recreational pool; and associated site improvements, including, walkways, fencing, and landscaping improvements. The proposed project is funded with $2,083,322 of County Specified Funds under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996, $2,870,000 of Vehicle License Fee, $3,200,000 of Utility Users Tax funding allocated to the Fifth Supervisorial District, and $350,000 in prior year net County cost.

In a related item on today's agenda, the Chief Executive Officer is recommending approval of the reallocation of the Specified 1992 and 1996 Proposition funds to the Arcadia Park Pool and Pool Building Renovation Project.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department (Director) be authorized to award a grant to the Department 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 for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects (Procedural Guide) previously approved by your Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), and Children, Family, and Adult Well-Being (Goal 2), by allowing the County to use reallocated grant funds to build a new swimming pool complex at Arcadia Park in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant, in the amount of $2,083,322.05, is budgeted in the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District's Assessment Project Fund, HB4.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1992 and 1996 Propositions set forth deadlines for agencies to encumber funds allocated to them in the Proposition and further set forth procedures for agencies to request reallocation of those funds, as follows:

Specified Funds - 1992 Proposition
The 1992 Proposition provided funding for projects that were specified in the measure and identified a procedure for revision of those projects prior to July 1, 1998. That procedure remains the method by which specified project funds may be approved by your Board for other uses. An agency may submit a revised plan of expenditure to use the funds for a project that is consistent with the purposes of the 1992 Proposition after the grantee's governing body considers and approves the revision of its project at a public meeting.

Specified Funds - 1996 Proposition
Under the provisions of Section (5), Subsection (e), of the 1996 Proposition an alternative plan for expenditure must be submitted and approved to commit the funds allocated to specified projects between June 30, 2003, and June 30, 2004. As of July 1, 2004, uncommitted specified project funds are subject to allocation to other projects by your Board.

If your Board does not approve the Department's requests, the Department may either expend the funds for the uses originally specified, request your Board's approval to fund different projects with the funds, or relinquish its claim to the funds.

On June 2, 2009, your Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District (District) grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grant as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the District are required to comply with the 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 Arcadia Park Pool and Pool Building Renovation Project.

The administrative actions proposed by the District 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 Grant 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 County may utilize the unspent grant funds on the proposed project.

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:WO:LB:REGIONALPARKOPENSPACEDISTRICT(ARCADIA PARK ALTERNATIVE PLAN BL)

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