



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

Russ Guiney, Director

John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director

Executive Offices • 433 South Vermont Avenue • Los Angeles, CA 90020-1975 • (213) 738-2961

December 17, 2013

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION FOR
MODEL GREEN PARK PROJECT AT EUGENE A. OBREGON PARK FROM THE URBAN
GREENING FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS 1, 2, 4 AND 5) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Request to adopt a resolution authorizing the submission of a competitive grant application to the State of California Strategic Growth Council under the Urban Greening for Sustainable Communities Grant Program.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed Model Green Park Project at Eugene A. Obregon Park is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act because the project consists of minor alterations of an existing facility, installation of small new structures, minor alterations in the condition of land, and new landscaping and for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the Project.
2. Adopt a Resolution to complete the submission process of a competitive grant application to the State of California Strategic Growth Council in the amount of \$1,213,875 for the Model Green Park Project at Eugene A. Obregon Park under the Urban Greening for Sustainable Communities Grant Program.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation or his designee, as agent of the County of Los Angeles, to accept the grant, conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, contracts, agreements, amendments,

deed restrictions, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of these recommended actions is to complete the grant submission process as required by the State of California Department Strategic Growth Council (State). The State requires an adopted resolution to approve the grant application submission from the applicant's governing Board.

The Model Green Park Project (Green Park) at Eugene A. Obregon Park (Obregon), located at 4021 E. First St., Los Angeles, CA 90063, will develop a sustainable park in the high density, disadvantaged urban community of East Los Angeles. Obregon was selected to be the County's model "green" park because it is located at the lowest point within a sub-watershed and poses unique opportunities to manage storm water. The park features many park amenities, is highly-used, and is near public transportation and schools. Obregon, at 11-acres in size, is a small-scale neighborhood park, making it ideal for successful implementation of sustainable elements. In addition, the park was built in 1966 and is an excellent candidate for energy efficiency upgrades.

The Green Park's low impact, storm water best-management practices will include installation of cistern/rain barrels and construction of bio-retention basins, vegetated buffer strips and permeable paving throughout the park. The potable water reduction practices will include minimizing turf areas and replacing with drought tolerant plants. A demonstration garden will be developed, including educational signage of water-wise practices and opportunities for hands-on nature education. The Green Park's heat island mitigation and CO2 reduction practices will include construction of a green roof shade structure in the parking lot and planting native/drought tolerant trees.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendations further the Board approved County Strategic Plan (Goal 2) Fiscal Sustainability by strengthening and enhancing the County's capacity to sustain essential County services through proactive and prudent fiscal policies and stewardship.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Approval of the recommended actions will not result in any fiscal impact to the County. The total project cost of \$1,413,875 will be funded through the grant request of \$1,213,875 and \$50,000 from First District Funds.

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

The recommended actions allow the Department to apply for grant funding necessary to develop and operate a model sustainable park. Additional operating costs may materialize from the project provisions but will be dependent on approval and award of the grant. The Department will re-evaluate the project and identify any additional costs upon acceptance of grant funds, then address them in its New Facilities request.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

An adopted resolution is required by the State to authorize the submission of a grant application by

the applicant's governing Board. However, a draft resolution at the time of application submission is acceptable.

County Counsel has reviewed this letter and approved the resolution as to form.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed Model Green Park Project at Eugene A. Obregon Park is categorically exempt from CEQA. The Project, which consists of installation of cistern/rain barrels, construction of bio-retention basins, vegetated buffer strips, and permeable paving throughout the park is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in Sections 15301, 15303 (e), and 15304 (a) (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1 , 3 (b), and 4(a) (c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves minor alterations at an existing facility, installation of small new structures, minor alterations in the condition of land, and new landscaping.

The proposed project above includes no expansion of an existing use, and will not involve the removal of healthy, mature trees. Additionally, the proposed project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed project's records.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The proposed actions will not have any impact on current services or projects.

CONCLUSION

One adopted copy of this action should be forwarded to the Chief Executive Office-Capital Projects Division, and two adopted copies to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Should you have any questions, please contact Imee Perius at (213) 738-2972 or iperius@parks.lacounty.gov, Faith Parducho at (213) 738-2811 or fparducho@parks.lacounty.gov, or Kaye Michelson at (213) 738-2955 or kmichelson@parks.lacounty.gov.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

12/17/2013

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG::FP:ip

Enclosures

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

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE URBAN
GREENING GRANT PROGRAM UNDER THE SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER
QUALITY AND SUPPLY, FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL PROTECTION
BOND ACT OF 2006 (PROPOSITION 84)**

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided funds for the program shown above; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Growth Council has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this grant program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Strategic Growth Council require a resolution certifying the approval of application(s) by the Applicants governing board before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, the applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out the Model Green Park Project at Eugene A. Obregon Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Model Green Park Project at Eugene A. Obregon Park;

2. Certifies that applicant understands the assurances and certification in the application;

3. Certifies that applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project consistent with the land tenure requirements; or will secure the resources to do so;

4. Certifies that it will comply with the provisions of Section 1771.5 of the State Labor Code regarding payment of prevailing wages on Projects awarded Proposition 84 Funds;

5. If applicable, certifies that the project will comply with any laws and regulations including, but not limited to, legal requirements for building codes, health and safety codes, disabled access laws, environmental laws and, that prior to commencement of construction, all applicable permits will have been obtained;

6. Certifies that applicant will work towards the Governor's State Planning Priorities intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety as included in Government Code Section 65041.1; and

7. Appoints the Director of the County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation, or designee, to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, payment requests, and amendments which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

The foregoing resolution was adopted on the _____ day of _____, 2013, by the County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies, and authorities for which said Board so acts.

SACHI A. HAMAI, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles

By _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JOHN KRATTLI
County Counsel

By Christina A. Salceda
CHRISTINA A. SALCEDA
Principal Deputy County Counsel

Ayes: _____
Noes: _____
Absent: _____