



Los Angeles County Regional Park And Open Space District

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May 03, 2016

The Honorable Board of Directors County of Los Angeles Regional Park and Open Space District 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

1-P May 3, 2016

LORI GLASGOW EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ALLOCATE SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS

AVAILABLE TO THE THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND

ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT TO THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

FOR THE RUNYON CANYON EXPANSION PROJECT

(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 3) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate Specified Excess Funds available to the Third Supervisorial District, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, to the Trust for Public Land for the acquisition of properties to expand the existing Runyon Canyon Park.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. Find the proposed Runyon Canyon Expansion Project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the project.
- 2. Allocate Specified Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, to the Trust for Public Land for the Runyon Canyon Expansion 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 an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, to the Trust for Public Land 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; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate Specified Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000, to the Trust for Public Land (TPL) for the Runyon Canyon Expansion Project (Project).

The Project involves the acquisition of privately owned-hillside properties along Solar Drive to expand the City of Los Angeles's existing Runyon Canyon Park. The total estimated project cost is \$10,750,000. The recommended Specified Excess Funds will be supplemented with funds from City of Los Angeles Proposition K, State Parks-Stateside Lake and Water Conservation Funds, and California Natural Resources, Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program. TPL is applying for the supplemental funds, which must all be secured as a condition of receiving the recommended Specified Excess Funds.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, be authorized to award a grant to TPL when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the projects, if applicable. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by the Board.

<u>Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals</u>

The proposed recommendations further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by enhancing health-promoting activities in the Third Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grants, in the amount of \$1,000,000, is budgeted in the Third Supervisorial District's portion of the Regional Park and Open Space District's (RPOSD) 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. TPL 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 Excess Fund grant will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Third Supervisorial District for Specified projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director would be authorized to award grants to the various grantees when all applicable conditions have been met.

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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, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grant as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. RPOSD is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from the CEQA. The Project, which involves the acquisition of privately owned-hillside properties along Solar Drive to expand the City of Los Angeles's existing Runyon Canyon Park, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15325 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 25 of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the Project consists of acquisition of land to preserve open space.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grants have been met. The Project Agreements 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 RPOSD. The recommended Project will promote healthy activities in public spaces in the Third 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 Programs Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

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Respectfully submitted,

JOHN WICKER

Director

JW:JB:WRO:tb

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel

Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors