



**LOS ANGELES COUNTY
REGIONAL PARK AND
OPEN SPACE DISTRICT**

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510 South Vermont Avenue • Room 230 • Los Angeles • CA 90020-1975 (213) 738-2981

May 15, 2018

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 29, 2018

CELIA ZAVALA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**ALLOCATE EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AND
AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF EXCESS FUNDS GRANTS TO THE CITY OF
COVINA FOR THE COVINA WOMAN'S CLUB REHABILITATION PROJECT, FRIENDS OF LA
LAGUNA FOR THE LA LAGUNA DE SAN GABRIEL PLAYGROUND REHABILITATION
PROJECT, AND CITY OF PALMDALE FOR THE
GENERAL IMPROVEMENTS AT FOUR PARKS PROJECT
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5 - 3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$593,000 in Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 to the City of Covina, Friends of La Laguna, and the City of Palmdale for the amounts and projects listed herein.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed actions to allocate and award grant funds are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the reasons stated herein.
2. Certify that the Board, as a responsible agency under the CEQA, has independently considered and reached its own conclusions regarding the environmental effects of the proposed La Laguna de San Gabriel Playground Rehabilitation Project, the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND), and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program adopted by the City of San Gabriel, as lead agency; determine that the documents adequately address the environmental impacts of the proposed project; find that the Board has complied with the requirements of CEQA with respect to the process for a responsible agency and adopt by reference the City's MND and Mitigation Monitoring and

Reporting Program.

3. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$593,000 in Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 as follows: \$400,000 to the City of Covina for the Covina Woman's Club Rehabilitation Project; \$40,000 to Friends of La Laguna for the La Laguna de San Gabriel Playground Rehabilitation Project; and \$153,000 to the City of Palmdale for the General Improvements at Four Parks Project.

4. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or his designee, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grants 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 an amount not to exceed \$593,000 in Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition) as follows: \$400,000 to the City of Covina (Covina) for the Covina Woman's Club Rehabilitation Project (Covina Woman's Club Project); \$40,000 to Friends of La Laguna (FOLL) for the La Laguna de San Gabriel Playground Rehabilitation Project (La Laguna Rehabilitation), and \$153,000 to the City of Palmdale (Palmdale) for the General Improvements at Four Parks Project (Four Parks).

Covina Woman's Club Project

The Covina Woman's Club (CWC) was first organized as the Monday Afternoon Club on October 11, 1898, and is the oldest service club in Covina. CWC is dedicated to the study and development of education, fine arts, health and safety, Veterans' needs, youth activities and scholarship. CWC is a non-profit organization with membership open to all members of the public. Built in 1961, the CWC Clubhouse has served as a local community and recreational facility for over 55 years. The Clubhouse is available to the general public for rental and provides a venue for a variety of recreational activities such as weddings, recitals, concerts and annual garden show, and other celebrations. The Clubhouse also serves as Covina's de facto facility for recreational opportunities serving the older adult population.

The proposed Covina Woman's Club Project, located at 128 South San Jose Avenue in Covina, involves general rehabilitation of the property including site preparation, and removal and replacement of the existing building's roof and related improvements. The total estimated cost is \$400,000 and will be fully funded with the recommended Excess Funds grant. Covina will administer the grant funds and CWC will assume the long-term obligations of grant projects funded pursuant to the 1996 Proposition.

La Laguna Rehabilitation

FOLL is a non-profit organization whose mission is to preserve and protect the remaining historic playgrounds created by artist Benjamin Dominguez in the City of San Gabriel (San Gabriel). FOLL has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with San Gabriel to partner in the preservation and restoration of the historic playgrounds.

The proposed La Laguna Rehabilitation, located within Vincent Lugo Park at 300 West Wells Street in San Gabriel, involves site preparation and rehabilitation of the central concrete play structure of the historic playground. The total estimated cost is \$45,000; the recommended \$40,000 Excess Funds grant will be supplemented by \$5,000 of private donations from the local community. FOLL will administer the grant project and San Gabriel will assume the long-term obligations of grant projects funded pursuant to 1996 Proposition.

Four Parks

The proposed Four Parks involves general improvements to Yellen, Marie Kerr, Manzanita, and Domenic Massari Parks in Palmdale, including purchase and installation of shade structures and playground equipment. The total estimated cost is \$193,000; the recommended \$153,000 Excess Funds grant will be supplemented with \$40,000 of Palmdale Park Development Fees.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), or his designee, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD), be authorized to award grants when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, as well as grantee agreement with CEQA requirements for the projects. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grants under procedures previously approved by the Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendations further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Supporting the Wellness of Our Communities (Goal II.2) and Pursuing Operational Effectiveness, Fiscal Responsibility and Accountability (Goal III.3) by providing grant funds to enhance healthy activities in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grants in an amount not to exceed \$593,000 is budgeted in RPOSD's Excess Project Funds, 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. Covina, FOLL, and Palmdale each meet 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 improvements projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended Excess Funds grants will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director, or his designee, would be authorized to award grants 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, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grants as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The recommendations to allocate and award grant funds are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in that the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Section 15378 (b)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines, because the actions are administrative activities of government grants.

All public agency projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with CEQA as a condition of the grants. The lead agencies are responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the projects. Covina is the lead agency for Covina Woman's Club Project, San Gabriel is the lead agency for La Laguna Rehabilitation, and Palmdale is the lead agency for Four Parks.

On July 3, 2007, San Gabriel, in its role as lead agency in matters pertaining to compliance with CEQA, 1) found and determined that with the imposition of mitigation measures as a condition of approval of the proposed La Laguna Rehabilitation, there was no substantial evidence that the project would have a significant effect on the environment; 2) found that the Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) reflected the independent judgment of the City; 3) approved the MND; and 4) found that the project will have no adverse effect on fish and wildlife resources. A Mitigation and Reporting Program has been included as part of the scope of the MND. This program will be implemented and monitored by San Gabriel.

With respect to the Board's approval of the project described herein, RPOSD also acts as a responsible agency for the purposes of CEQA, and therefore, we recommend that the Board independently consider and adopt the MND and the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for La Laguna Rehabilitation.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Project Agreement for each grant 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 grant 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 projects will promote healthy activities in public spaces in the Fifth 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 to the Department of Parks and

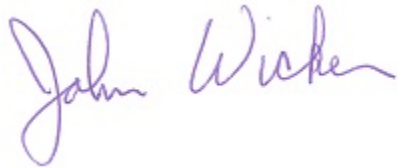
The Honorable Board of Directors

5/15/2018

Page 5

Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "John Wicker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "John" and last name "Wicker" clearly distinguishable.

JOHN WICKER

Director

JW:JIB:WRO

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