



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer

At its meeting held October 12, 2004, the Board took the following action:

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The following statement was entered into the record for Supervisor Antonovich:

“In Fiscal Year 2003-04, the County eliminated the Department of Parks and Recreation’s Trails Crew, to help fund the Countywide structural budget deficit. This curtailment has resulted in serious health and safety issues along the 134 miles of trails for which the Department is responsible to maintain, including overgrown vegetation, fallen trees and tree limbs, illegal dumping, and eroded and washed out trail sections and fire roads. These conditions represent not only a potential hazard to hikers, bikers and equestrians, but also limit access for fire personnel and equipment to extinguish brush fires.

“The lack of sufficient staff dedicated to trail maintenance could lead to citations and fines from the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures and from the Fire Department, due to lack of compliance in clearing brush away from adjacent homes. Furthermore, the reduction of trails maintenance staff has led to the establishment of homeless camps at some staging areas. Restoration of the trails staff would allow the Department to deal with existing issues, and also to mobilize volunteers in some areas to assist with trail maintenance.”

“I therefore recommend that the Board direct the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate funds from the Provisional Financing Uses account to increase the Department of Parks and Recreation’s Fiscal Year 2004-05 budget, to add \$269,000 and five positions to restore the Trails Crew, and one-time costs of \$58,000 to purchase necessary equipment to assist in the maintenance of the trails.”

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Russ Guiney, Interim Director of Parks and Recreation and Sharon R. Harper, Chief Deputy Administrative Officer answered questions posed by the Board.

After discussion, Supervisor Antonovich's recommendation was tabled for consideration later in the meeting.

Later in the meeting, on motion of Supervisor Yaroslavsky, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board approved Supervisor Antonovich's recommendation as amended to direct the Chief Administrative Officer to allocate funds from the Provisional Financing Uses account to fully fund the Department of Parks and Recreation's budget for the remaining seven months of Fiscal Year 2004-05, to restore the Trails Crew, and one-time costs of \$58,000 to purchase necessary equipment to assist in the maintenance of the trails.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor

County Counsel

Director of Parks and Recreation