LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

August 30, 2005

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 AN ALTERNATIVE PLAN FOR EXPENDITURE FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF BEACHES AND HARBORS FOR A PROJECT IN THE CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE GRANT (FOURTH DISTRICT - 3- VOTE MATTER)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed actions do not meet the definition of a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as cited herein.

2. Approve an alternative plan for expenditure to allow the Department of Beaches and Harbors to assign the right to apply for Specified Project funds allocated to the Department of Beaches and Harbors under Section (3), Subsection (b), Paragraph (1) of the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition) to the City of Manhattan Beach for its El Porto Beach Parking Lot Retaining Wall Project in the amount of $100,000.

3. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District), to award the $100,000 to supplement a grant to the City of Manhattan Beach for the above project and to administer the grant pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel Projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions, as well as the related item on today's agenda, would allow the transfer of $100,000 of the $8,000,000 allocated to the Department of Beaches and Harbors under Section (3), Subsection (b), Paragraph (1) of the 1996 Proposition to the City of Manhattan Beach.

Approval of the alternative plan for expenditure will allocate $100,000 of the funds specified to the Department of Beaches and Harbors to supplement the City's project to build a new retaining wall outside of an old weakened wall that supports the El Porto beach parking lot. The project also includes improvements to the public beach stairs and safety railing. On March 15, 2005, your Board approved an allocation of $400,000 for this project but unanticipated demolition and repair requires additional funding. The total revised cost for these improvements is $1,900,000 including $1,400,000 in City and Federal funding.

In a related action on today's agenda, the Department of Beaches and Harbors is requesting your Board's approval to assign the right to apply for these funds to the City for the El Porto Beach Parking Lot Retaining Wall Project.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendations further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal No. 1 (Service Excellence), Goal No. 4 (Fiscal Responsibility), and Goal No. 5 (Children and Families' Well-being) by enabling the City of Manhattan Beach to enhance the safety of beachgoers and to protect beach areas from erosion.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient funds for the project, in the amount of $100,000, are budgeted in the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District's Assessment Project Fund (HB4) under Other Charges.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition set forth various 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.

Specified Project funds identified in Section (3), Subsection (b), Paragraph (1) of the 1996 Proposition are subject to reallocation by your Board under the provisions of Section (5), Subsection (e), of the 1996 Proposition. After July 1, 2003, an alternative plan for expenditure may be approved by your Board to amend specific identified projects or to expend these funds on projects that are in accordance with the purposes of the 1996 Proposition within the area of the District in which funds were originally authorized to be expended.

If your Board does not approve the alternative plan for expenditure for the project requested, the Department of Beaches and Harbors may either expend the funds for the uses originally specified, request your Board's approval to fund different new projects with the funds, or relinquish its claim to the funds. If an agency were to relinquish its claim to funds, the funds would be available to your Board for reallocation for projects in one or more of the classes of expenditures specified in Section (3) of the 1996 Proposition.

County Counsel has reviewed this action as to form.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded through the District.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed action are exempt from 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.

All projects funded by the District are also required to comply with CEQA. The City of Manhattan Beach is the lead agency for the construction of a new retaining wall at the El Porto beach parking lot and as such, will prepare any appropriate environmental documents prior to the receipt of any grant funds for construction.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one conformed copy of this action to the Chief Administrative Office, Capital Projects Division and to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

c: Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors (22)
County Counsel