COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
of the County of Los Angeles
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Gloria Molina
Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Zev Yaroslavsky
Don Knabe
Michael D. Antonovich
Commissioners

Carlos Jackson
Executive Director

June 19, 2007

Honorable Board of Commissioners
Community Development Commission of the
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Commissioners:

APPROVAL OF FUNDS FOR RENOVATION COSTS FOR UNITED STATES VETERANS INITIATIVE - LONG BEACH KITCHEN RELOCATION AND RENOVATION IN THE CITY OF LONG BEACH (4)
(3 Vote)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Acting as the responsible agency pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), certify that the Community Development Commission (Commission) has considered the attached Notice of Exemption (NOE) for the renovation of an existing structure at 2220 Williams Avenue in the City of Long Beach, prepared by the City of Long Beach Planning Department, and find that the project will not cause a significant effect on the environment.

2. Authorize the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission (Commission) to execute all required documents necessary to transfer a total amount of $400,000 in County General Funds (CGF) from the Chief Administrative Officer to the Commission for the kitchen renovation activities described herein, following approval as to form by County Counsel.

3. Authorize the Commission, upon transfer of funds from the Chief Administrative Officer, to incorporate $400,000 in CGF into the

Commission's approved budget for the kitchen renovation activities described herein.

4. Authorize the Executive Director to draft and execute a Grant Agreement with United States Veterans Initiative – Long Beach, in a total amount of up to $400,000 in CGF allocated to the Fourth Supervisorial District, to fund kitchen renovation activities as described herein.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

The purpose of the recommended actions is to authorize the Commission to enter into a Grant Agreement with the United States Veterans Initiative - Long Beach for the use of CGF to fund renovation of an existing structure at 2220 Williams Avenue on the grounds of the Villages at Cabrillo in the City of Long Beach, to serve as a kitchen for meals for homeless veterans.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The actions described herein will be funded with a portion of the $20,000,000 in CGF approved by the Board of Supervisors on June 20, 2005, to fund the construction and/or renovation of year-round emergency shelters and enhancements to the homeless support system.

On November 22, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved allocating $3,600,000 in CGF to each Supervisorial District with a ten percent administrative fee, in the total amount of $2,000,000, reserved for the Commission.

The proposed Grant Agreement between the Commission and the US Veterans Initiative – Long Beach will allocate $400,000 for the purposes described herein.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS:

In order to address the staggering numbers of homeless individuals and families and the corresponding critical shortage of beds in Los Angeles County, on June 20, 2005, the Board of Supervisors approved an allocation of $20,000,000 for the construction and/or renovation of year-round emergency shelters and enhancements to the homeless support system.

On November 22, 2005, the Board of Supervisors directed the Commission to administer the funding and oversee all of the projects. The Board also instituted a method by which each Board Office selects recipients of CGF based on agency

experience and the need for homeless services in the community, among other considerations. The program to receive funding follows.

The Grant Agreement between the Commission and the US Veterans Initiative – Long Beach will allocate $400,000 for renovation for a new commercial kitchen in the City of Long Beach. The new kitchen and dining area will be located in a 6,375 square foot rehabilitated building at 2220 Williams Avenue on the grounds of the Century Villages at Cabrillo.

A complete description of the US Veterans Initiative – Long Beach is provided as Attachment A.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION:

As the responsible agency, the Commission reviewed the NOE prepared by the City of Long Beach Planning Department and determined that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines 15303. The Commission's consideration of the NOE will satisfy CEQA requirements.

IMPACT ON CURRENT PROJECTS:

Approval of these actions will allow for an increase in services available for homeless individuals, veterans and families in the County.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbette A. Glover
for CARLOS JACKSON
Executive Director

Attachments: 2

ATTACHMENT A
UNITED STATES VETERANS INITIATIVE - LONG BEACH
KITCHEN RELOCATION AND RENOVATION

The United States Veterans Initiative - Long Beach in the City of Long Beach opened in 2000. It is situated on the grounds of the Century Villages at Cabrillo a 26 acre former Navy base which is home to programs for residential substance use treatment, job reentry, dual diagnosis, and rental assistance for disabled and senior veterans. There are also transitional housing units, a Community Based Outpatient Clinic, and a career center with job counseling. It is the largest residential program in the nation for homeless veterans.

In addition to running social service programs for homeless veterans, the United States Veterans Initiative – Long Beach also holds a lease with the Century Villages at Cabrillo as the food service operator and provider of meals to residents of the programs. Six kitchen staff prepare more than 250 meals per day in a small residential kitchen. It is 170 square feet and struggling to meet the needs of the site's growing veteran population. The daily wear and tear has also taken a toll on the building. The inadequate kitchen strains the staff's ability to produce meals with the quality and variety needed for the veterans and as required by the VA dietician who has also recommended a larger cooking facility.

A partial kitchen exists in the former Navy Exchange building located at 2220 Williams Avenue on the grounds of the Century Villages at Cabrillo. It is located in a separate building in relation to the existing kitchen. This kitchen and facility have not been in use because it is not in working order.

The plan is to renovate the partial kitchen and make it operational, and add a small food grill/sandwich shop which will be staffed by residents of the programs of the United States Veterans Initiative - Long Beach. It is centrally located on the grounds of the Century Villages at Cabrillo, and adjacent to the newly improved central plaza, job resource center, and across the street from the veteran's housing. When renovated, the kitchen operations will move to this location. Once the move occurs, the old kitchen will be used as a coffee and snack set up area for what will be a social hall used for Alcoholics Anonymous and other recovery meetings.

When renovation of the partial kitchen is complete it will be a fully operational kitchen that will provide the needed cooking space, storage capacity, meet the recommendations of the VA dietitian and, create a job training program and a revenue development opportunity. The new building will total 6,375 square feet. The kitchen will be approximately 1400 square feet with a new 3000 square foot dining area that can hold 257 people.

Plans also call for adding cold storage, restrooms, and rubbish disposal areas. Other improvements include a walk-in freezer and cooler, installation of reach-in refrigerators, heating and air conditioning, mechanical renovations, fire suppression

systems, exhaust hoods and ample storage space. Windows and a main entry will open existing stucco walls along the plaza area whereby opening the dining to the central fountain. This facility will further enhance the plaza community spaces for the United States Veterans Initiative - Long Beach and facilitate bringing residents and services together.

Construction Funds	$400,000
Total request	**$400,000**

Categorical Exemption CE- 07-071

CITY OF LONG BEACH NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

Department of Planning & Building
333 W. Ocean Blvd., 5th Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802
Information: (562) 570-6194 Fax: (562) 570-6068
www.longbeach.gov/plan

TO: ___ Office of Planning & Research
1400 Tenth Street, Room 121
Sacramento, CA 95814

FROM: Department of Planning & Building
333 W. Ocean Blvd, 5th Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

X L.A. County Clerk
Environmental Filings
12400 E. Imperial Hwy. 2nd Floor, Room 2001
Norwalk, CA 90650

Project Location/Address: 2220 Williams Street

Project/Activity Description: Kitchen Dining Hall Renovation of former NAVY Building (5700 s.f. Building)

Public Agency Approving Project: **City of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, California**

Applicant Name: Peter Postmayr

Mailing Address: 2001 River Ave 90810

Phone Number: 310-877-8909 Applicant Signature:

(TO BE COMPLETED BY CITY STAFF ONLY)

Case Number: _____ Planner's Initials: MM

Required Permits: Building permits as required by code

THE ABOVE PROJECT HAD BEEN FOUND TO BE EXEMPT FROM CEQA IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE GUIDELINES SECTION 15303.(c) New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures

Statement of support for this finding: Conversion/adaptive reuse of former Navy store to the kitchen and dining hall for the Villages at Cabrillo is the latest step in the overall plan that was approved by the City of Long Beach in 1997.

Contact Person: Jill Griffiths Contact Phone: 562-570-6191

Signature: Jill Griffiths Date: June 1, 2007