LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

December 18, 2007

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:

**ALLOCATE FOURTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT CITIES EXCESS FUNDS TO THE CITIES OF DOWNEY, HAWAIIAN GARDENS, LONG BEACH, AND PARAMOUNT AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF EXCESS FUNDS GRANTS (FOURTH DISTRICT - 3- VOTE MATTER)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Find the proposed actions exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act, for the reasons cited herein.

2. Allocate Fourth Supervisorial District Cities Excess Funds as follows:

   - $100,000 to the City of Downey for construction of a new restroom, concession and storage building at Downey Park

   - $100,000 to the City of Hawaiian Gardens for a city-wide anti-graffiti project

   - 100,000 to the City of Long Beach for the development of Rosie the Riveter Park

   - $100,000 to the City of Paramount for development of Paramount Fitness Park

3. Authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants to the four cities above when applicable conditions have been met and to administer the grants as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified and Per Parcel Projects.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate Fourth Supervisorial District Cities Excess Funds as follows:

- $100,000 to the City of Downey for the addition of a 680-square foot building that will contain two restrooms, a concession area and storage room adjacent to baseball and soccer fields at Downey Park. The total cost for the project is $165,000 which includes the $100,000 in Excess Funds requested and $65,000 in City General Funds.

- $100,000 to the City of Hawaiian Gardens for a city-wide anti-graffiti project to deter graffiti on public buildings by planting vines and installation of fences. The total cost for the project is $155,000 which includes the $100,000 in Excess Funds requested and $55,000 in City General Funds.

- $100,000 to the City of Long Beach for the development of Rosie the Riveter Park at a 2.6-acre passive park site. The project will include landscaping, walkways and benches, and historical elements to interpret the Rosie the Riveter theme. The total cost for the project is $115,000 which includes the $100,000 in Excess Funds requested and $15,000 in City-funded Park Impact Fees.

- $100,000 to the City of Paramount for the development of the Paramount Fitness Park on property owned by the Southern California Edison Company. The fitness park will include a ¼-mile rubberized track, par exercise stations, sand volleyball courts, a rubberized workout/fitness area and turf, and landscaping. The total cost for the project is $2,100,000 which includes the $100,000 in Excess Funds requested, $1,000,000 in a grant from the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy and $1,000,000 in City Redevelopment Funds.

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. The four cities have met this requirement.

Finally, it is recommended that the Director of Parks and Recreation be authorized to award the grants to the four cities when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition and grantee compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the projects, and to administer the grants under procedures previously approved by your Board.

## 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), Goal No. 5 (Children and Families' Well-being), and Goal No. 6 (Community Services) by allocating Excess Funds for projects to enhance recreational opportunities in the Cities of Downey, Long Beach and Paramount and deter graffiti in the City of Hawaiian Gardens in the Fourth Supervisorial District.

## FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grants in the amount of $400,000 is budgeted in the Fourth Supervisorial District portion of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6.

## FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

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 grants would be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fourth Supervisorial District from Excess Funds for cities projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of Parks and Recreation 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.

Your Board approved a Procedural Guide on June 17, 1997, to govern the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District grants for Specified and Per Parcel projects. This Procedural Guide would appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grants as well.

## CONTRACTING PROCESS

Grant Project Agreements will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director of Parks and Recreation and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 1997. The Project Agreements will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

## IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended projects will enhance recreational opportunities in the Cities of Downey, Long Beach, Paramount, and deter graffiti in the City of Hawaiian Gardens in the Fourth Supervisorial District.

## ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed actions are not subject to 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 Downey is the lead agency for the Restroom, Concession and Storage Area Building Project, the City of Hawaiian Gardens is the lead agency for the Anti-Graffiti Project, the City of Long Beach is the lead agency for the Rosie The Riveter Park Project, and the City of Paramount is the lead agency for the Paramount Fitness Park Project. As such, the four cities will prepare appropriate environmental documentation for their respective projects.

**CONCLUSION**

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

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:LB:REGIONALPARKOPENSPACEDISTRICT(4th DISTCITIES GRANTS BL)

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