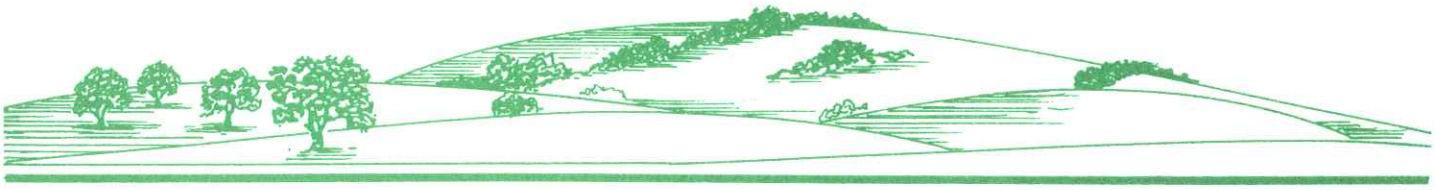

LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

July 12, 2011

ADOPTED
REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

#1-P JULY 12, 2011

SACHI A. HAMAI
SECRETARY

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:

REALLOCATE SECOND SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR A GRANT FOR ITS KENNETH HAHN STATE RECREATION AREA PARK TO PLAYA - TRAIL SEGMENT 1 PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE A SUPPLEMENT TO AND ADMINISTRATION OF AN EXISTING TRAILS GRANT FOR THE PROJECT (SECOND DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District to reallocate $100,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Second Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, from funding previously allocated to the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority, to the Department of Parks and Recreation to supplement an existing grant for its Park to Playa - Trail Segment 1 Project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. As a responsible agency, find the proposed project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act according to Sections 15304 and 15311 of the State California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, and Classes 4 and 11 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the project involves minor alterations to the condition of the land and the construction of minor structures.

2. Reallocate $100,000 in Second Supervisorial District Specified Excess Funds, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, from funding previously allocated to the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for its Park to Playa - Trail Segment 1 Project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as the Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to supplement an existing grant to the Department of Parks and Recreation with $100,000 for its Park to Playa - Trail Segment 1 Project after the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority assigns its right to apply for the funds to the Department, if applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the amended grant as of the date of this action and pursuant to procedures in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise funds shall be returned to the Excess Funds account.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (District) to reallocate $100,000 in Specified Excess Funds to the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to supplement an existing grant for the Park to Playa - Trail Segment 1 Project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area located at 4100 South La Cienega Boulevard in Los Angeles.

The proposed Project will consist of an information kiosk and directional signage; 570 feet of decomposed granite trail 6 feet wide with a concrete header; 550 feet of new dirt surface trail 6 feet wide with retaining walls as necessary; new vista point with decomposed granite pad, benches, fencing, and re-planting. Additionally, the existing wood steps that lead up to the Japanese garden will be replaced with 8 feet long railroad ties 10 feet apart with decomposed granite in the trail treads. This trail will switchback to connect to an existing trail system that leads to the City View Trail. The total cost for the Project is estimated at $120,000. The $100,000 in Specified Excess Funds will supplement a trails grant containing $20,000 in Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition Funds of 1996 (1996 Proposition) specified to the Department for projects in the Baldwin Hills.

On August 17, 2010, your Board most recently allocated Specified Excess Funds to the Baldwin Hills Regional Conservation Authority (Authority) for acquisition and development projects in the Baldwin Hills under the 1996 Proposition. The Authority will assign the right to apply for $100,000 of those funds to the Department for its Park to Playa - Trail Segment 1 Project.

In a related action on today's agenda, the Department is requesting that your Board authorize the Director of the Department to accept the Specified Excess Funds reallocated from the Authority to supplement an existing grant for the Park to Playa - Trail Segment 1 Project at Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operations Effectiveness (Goal 1), Children, Family and Adult Well-Being (Goal 2), and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3), by providing additional access to trails in the Baldwin Hills.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant supplement, in the amount of $100,000, is budgeted in the Second Supervisorial District portion of the District's Excess Funds Project Fund, HD6. An additional $20,000 for the Project is already budgeted in the District's Assessment Fund, HB4.

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. The Department meets 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 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 Second Supervisorial District for highest priority regional open space and recreation projects in the Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of the Department would be authorized to award a grant amendment 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, your Board approved a Procedural Guide to govern the administration of the District grants. This Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grant as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All public agency projects funded by the District are required to comply with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the Project. The County of Los Angeles is the lead agency for the Park to Playa - Trail Segment 1 Project. Thereafter, the District is a Responsible Agency. As such, the District has conducted an analysis of the Project and has independently determined that the Project is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Sections 15304 and 15311 of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Classes 4 and 11 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the Project involves minor alterations to the condition of the land and the construction of minor structures.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Grant Project Agreement Amendment will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation 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 Agreement Amendment will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by the District but are required so that the Department may proceed on the development of the Park to Playa - Trail Segment 1 Project, if all applicable conditions of the grant are met.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects/Debt Management Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

Russ Guiney
Director, Parks and Recreation

RG:IV:LB:REGIONALPARKOPENSPACEDISTRICT(PARK TO PLAYA BL)

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