LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

July 26, 2011

ADOPTED
REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

#1-P JULY 26, 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:

ALLOCATE COUNTY EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR A GRANT TO THE LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS FOR THE CRESCENTA VALLEY DOG PARK PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF AN EXCESS FUNDS GRANT (FIFTH DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate $645,000 in County Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for a grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for a dog park in Crescenta Valley Community Regional Park.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find the development of the Crescenta Valley Dog Park Project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act according to Sections 15303 and 15304 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines and Class 3 and 4 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987 because the project involves construction of small structures and minor alteration to land.

2. Allocate $645,000 in County Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for a grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Crescenta Valley Dog Park Project.

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 award a grant in the amount of $645,000 to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps for the Crescenta Valley Dog Park Project after the Department of Parks and Recreation assigns its right to apply for the funds to the Corps, if applicable conditions have been met and to administer the 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 remain in the Excess Funds account.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate $645,000 in County Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, for a grant to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) for the Crescenta Valley Park Dog Park Project.

The proposed project consists of an approximately 1.5-acre dog park in the northwest section, adjacent to the parking lot, of the existing 32-acre Crescenta Valley Park. The proposed project includes construction of two entry ways, leading into separate areas for small and large dogs; dog hose-off areas; walkways; installation of drinking fountains and water faucets for the dogs; decomposed granite and cedar chip surfacing; landscaping; irrigation; restriping and improvements of the existing parking lot to meet the current Americans with Disabilities Act standards; a six-foot-high chain link fence; signage; benches; shade coverings; and trash receptacles. The proposed project will serve as a pilot project to provide an off leash area for dogs at a County park.

On October 12, 2010, your Board allocated $300,000 for the dog park project at Crescenta Valley Park to the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department). This action requests that the Department forego its funding and assign its right to apply for a Proposition A grant to LACC. The Department's grant will be cancelled. LACC will become the grantee and complete the dog park project.

In a related item on today's agenda, the Department is recommending that your Board adopt a Resolution assigning the County's right to apply for $645,000 in County Excess Funds to the LACC. The Department will assume the grant obligations from LACC once the project is completed.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), Children, Family, and Adult Well-Being (Goal 2), and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3), by enhancing recreational activities at Crescenta Valley Park in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant in the amount of $645,000 is budgeted in the Fifth 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 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 and LACC have met 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 grant will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District for county projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of the Department would be authorized to award a grant 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 the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of Regional Park and Open Space District grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grant as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The development of the proposed dog park is categorically exempt from CEQA according to Sections 15303 and 15304 of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Classes 3 and 4 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the project involves construction of small structures and minor alteration to land.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Grant Project Agreement will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director of the Department and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended project will have no impact on any other projects funded by the District and will enhance recreational opportunities at Crescenta Valley Park in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted 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:WRO:LB:REGIONALPARKOPENSPACEDISTRICT(LACC CRESCENTA VALLEY DOG PARK BL)

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