



Sean Rogan
Executive Director

**HOUSING AUTHORITY
of the County of Los Angeles**

Administrative Office
2 Coral Circle • Monterey Park, CA 91755
323.890.7001 • TTY: 323.838.7449 • www.lacdc.org



Gloria Molina
Mark Ridley-Thomas
Zev Yaroslavsky
Don Knabe
Michael D. Antonovich
Commissioners

November 08, 2011

The Honorable Board of Commissioners
Housing Authority of the
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
HOUSING AUTHORITY

#1-H NOVEMBER 8, 2011

SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Commissioners:

**APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF AN URBAN GREENING GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE
GROWING EXPERIENCE AT THE CARMELITOS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT
(DISTRICT 4) (3 VOTE)**

SUBJECT

This letter recommends the submission of an Urban Greening Grant application to the State of California Strategic Growth Council for up to \$75,000 in grant funds made available under the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84). The grant will be used to fund enhancements to The Growing Experience community garden at the Carmelitos housing development, located in the City of Long Beach.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Adopt and instruct the Mayor to sign the attached Resolution approving the Urban Greening Grant application for submission to the State of California Strategic Growth Council, and authorize the Executive Director or his designee to take any and all actions required for the implementation of the Urban Greening Grant.
2. Authorize the Executive Director to accept and incorporate, if awarded, up to \$75,000 in funds provided through the Urban Greening Grant into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget.
3. Find that the submission of a grant application is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), for the reasons stated in this letter and in the record of the project.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of this action is to authorize the submission of an Urban Greening Grant application to be funded by Proposition 84 through the State of California Strategic Growth Council for The Growing Experience community garden at the Carmelitos housing development.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There is no impact on the County general fund. If awarded, up to \$75,000 in Proposition 84 funds will be incorporated into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2011-2012 budget. Funds will be released from the State of California Strategic Growth Council on a reimbursement basis.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Growing Experience at the Carmelitos housing development consists of an award winning 7-acre urban farm and community garden. The Housing Authority has developed this parcel to include a community garden with 60 individual raised plots, a commercial greenhouse, and approximately 4.5 acres of sustainable crop production. The Growing Experience provides skills development in green careers including urban agricultural related enterprises and drought-tolerant landscaping. The Growing Experience also operates a Community Supported Agriculture program that provides sustainably grown fruits and vegetables to Carmelitos and neighboring residents at a minimal cost.

The proposed Urban Greening Grant will allow The Growing Experience to create a quarter-acre demonstration "Food Forest." This "Food Forest" will grow drought-tolerant and nutritious fruits and vegetables in a manner similar to a natural forest. Rather than utilizing water-intensive growing methods, the "Food Forest" allows fruits and vegetables to grow naturally and with minimal maintenance once planted. The "Food Forest" will complement the goals of The Growing Experience by serving as a community resource for education, fresh produce and expansion of green space. During educational tours, the produce grown at the "Food Forest" will be made available to the community.

On November 16, 2011, the Housing Commission will consider the recommended submission of the Urban Greening Grant application for concurrence with your Board's approval.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

These activities are exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301, because they do not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

If awarded, the Urban Greening Grant will enhance a quarter-acre of The Growing Experience with a "Food Forest." The "Food Forest", while providing open green space, fruit and vegetables to local community members, will also provide opportunities for recreational and community social interaction. These improvements will serve to further enhance the lives of Housing Authority residents and the surrounding community.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

11/8/2011

Page 3

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Rogan", followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

SEAN ROGAN

Executive Director

SR:jb

Enclosures

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES APPROVING
THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR THE URBAN GREENING GRANT
PROGRAM UNDER THE SAFE DRINKING WATER, WATER QUALITY AND SUPPLY,
FLOOD CONTROL, RIVER AND COASTAL PROTECTION BOND ACT OF 2006
(PROPOSITION 84)

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have provided funds for the Urban Greening Grant program; and

WHEREAS, the Strategic Growth Council has been delegated the responsibility of the administration of this grant program, establishing necessary procedures; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the Strategic Growth Council require a resolution certifying the approval of application(s) by the Applicant's governing board before submission of said application(s) to the State; and

WHEREAS, the applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (Housing Authority) does hereby:

1. Approve the filing of an application for the Growing Experience at the Carmelitos housing development in Long Beach;
2. Certify that the Housing Authority understands the assurances and certification in the application; and
3. Certify that the Housing Authority will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project consistent with the land tenure requirements; or will secure the resources to do so; and
4. Certify that the Housing Authority will comply with the provision of Section 1771.8 of the State Labor Code regarding payment of prevailing wages on Projects awarded Proposition 84 Funds; and
5. If applicable, certify that the project will comply with any laws and regulations including, but not limited to, legal requirements for building codes, healthy and safety codes, disabled access laws, environmental laws and, that prior to commencement of construction, all applicable permits will have been obtained; and

6. Certify that the Housing Authority will work towards the Governor's State Planning Priorities intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and promote public health and safety as included in Government Code Section 65041.1; and
7. Appoint the Executive Director of the Housing Authority, or designee, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, payment requests and so on, which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project(s).

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles on this 8th day of November, 2011.

ATTEST:

SACHI A. HAMAI
Executive Officer-Clerk of the
Board of Commissioners

MAYOR MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

By: Benjamin Zavala
Deputy

By: Mike Antonovich

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ANDREA SHERIDAN ORDIN
County Counsel

By: [Signature]
Deputy

