



LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

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September 10, 2013

The Honorable Board of Directors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ADOPTED

REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

1-P September 10, 2013

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
SECRETARY

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS
AVAILABLE TO THE THIRD SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT FOR
A GRANT TO THE MOUNTAINS RECREATION AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FOR THE
PACOIMA WASH EIGHTH STREET PARK TREE PLANTING PROJECT
(THIRD DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$100,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Pacoima Wash Eighth Street Park Tree Planting Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed Pacoima Wash Eighth Street Park Tree Planting Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act because the project involves installation of small new facilities and new landscaping and for the reasons stated herein of the project.
2. Allocate \$100,000 in Specified Excess Funds available to the Third Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Pacoima Wash Eighth Street Park Tree Planting 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 \$100,000 to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for the Pacoima Wash Eighth

Street Park Tree Planting Project if applicable conditions have been met and authorize the Director 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 ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$100,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Third Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), for the Pacoima Wash Eighth Street Park Tree Planting Project to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA).

The project consists of site preparation and the purchase and installation of approximately 150 new trees and irrigation at the existing Eighth Street Park along the Pacoima Wash tributary of the Los Angeles River. Total project cost is estimated at \$100,000.00 and will be funded entirely with the recommended allocation of Specified Excess Funds.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director) be authorized to award a grant to MRCA, when applicable conditions have been met, such as grantee qualifications, consistency between the projects and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, if applicable, and to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by your Board.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the Excess Funds grants, in the amount of \$100,000, is budgeted in the Third Supervisorial District's 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. MRCA has 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 Third Supervisorial District for Specified projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director of the Department 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.

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 grants as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All projects funded by the District are required to comply with the CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. MRCA is the lead agency for the Pacoima Wash Eighth Street Park Tree Planting Project.

The proposed Pacoima Wash Eighth Street Park Tree Planting Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of installation of small new facilities and planting trees, is within certain classes of project that has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15303 (d) and 15304 (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 3(b) and 4 (c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves the installation of small new facilities and new landscaping.

The proposed project does not include any expansion of an existing use, and will not involve the removal of healthy, mature trees. Additionally, the proposed project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed project's records.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The Grant Project Agreement 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 will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended project will enhance the environment through the tree planting in the Third Supervisorial District.

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.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

9/10/2013

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:JB

WRO:AJ:lb

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