

LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

October 20, 2015

The Honorable Board of Directors
County of Los Angeles
Regional Park and Open Space District
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

1-P October 20, 2015


PATRICK O'GAWA
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS
AVAILABLE TO THE FOURTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AND
AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT FOR THE AHWINGA
AND NATIVE OAK TRAILS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT;
AND AUTHORIZE ADVANCE OF FUNDS UNDER SPECIFIED CONDITIONS
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
FOR THE NORWALK GOLF COURSE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 4) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate \$175,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fourth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 to the Department of Parks and Recreation for general improvements along Ahwinga and Native Oak Trails, and authorize advance of funds in the amount of \$3,500,000 to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the Norwalk Golf Course Improvements Project previously awarded.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed Ahwinga and Native Oak Trails Improvements Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the record of the project.

2. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$175,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fourth Supervisorial District, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for the Ahwinga and Native Oak Trails Improvements 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, or his designee, to award a grant to the Department when 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.
4. Authorize that the \$3,500,000 in Cities Excess Funds previously allocated by your Board for the Norwalk Golf Course Improvements Project on May 19, 2015, be advanced to the Department of Parks and Recreation on the condition that the funds and any interest accrued thereon be used for the project, and that any documentation normally required for reimbursement will be required prior to any expenditure of the advanced funds being approved by the Regional Park and Open Space District.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$175,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fourth Supervisorial District, pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for the proposed Ahwinga and Native Oak Trails Improvements Project (Project).

The proposed Project involves general improvements along Ahwinga and Native Oak Trails, including reconstruction of segments of trails with significant erosion regrading of trail, installation of pinch points and railing at switchbacks, and other work, as required. The total project cost is estimated at \$175,000, and will be fully funded by the recommended Specified Excess Funds.

It is recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, or his designee, be authorized to award a grant when applicable conditions have been met. Conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the Project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee's agreement with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the Project, if applicable. It is further recommended that the Director, or his designee, be authorized to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by the Board.

On May 19, 2015, the Board awarded \$3,500,000 in Cities Excess Funds, available to the Fourth Supervisorial District, pursuant to the 1996 Proposition, to the DPR for the Norwalk Golf Course Improvements Project.

Approval of the recommended actions will allow RPOSD to disburse grant funds on an advance basis and thereby enable DPR to commence pre-construction, construction, and completion activities on the Norwalk Golf Course Improvements Project.

DPR will maintain the advance funds in an account separate from any other funds, and will provide RPOSD with quarterly status reports, including a detailed description of all activities on the account. The advance funds and any interest thereon will be used for the Norwalk Golf Course Improvements Project. All documentation normally required for reimbursement will be required before RPOSD will approve any expenditure of the advance funds.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended action will further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by providing healthy activities in the Fourth Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grants in the amount of \$3,675,000, which includes \$175,000 for the Ahwinga and Native Oak Improvements Project and \$3,500,000 for the Norwalk Golf Course Improvements Project, is budgeted in the Fourth Supervisorial District portion of RPOSD's 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. DPR 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 proposed Ahwinga and Native Oak Trails Improvements Project as well as the previously-approved Norwalk Golf Course Improvements Project are funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fourth Supervisorial District.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director, or his designee, will be authorized to award and administer 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, the Board approved the Procedural Guide for governing the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will also appropriately govern the administration of the recommended additional grants.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

All projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The County is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The Project, which consists of reconstruction of segments of trails with significant erosion regrading of trail, installation of pinch points and railing at switchbacks, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15301 (d), 15302 (c) and 15303 (e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(c), 2(e) and 3 (b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the Project involves restoration of existing facilities, replacement of existing facilities involving negligible or no expansion of capacity, and installation of accessory structures.

The proposed Project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic 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.

On May 19, 2015, the Board found the Norwalk Golf Course Improvements Project categorically exempt from CEQA.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Grant Project Agreement(s) (Agreements) will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Agreements will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

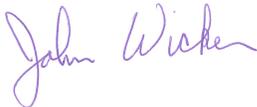
IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

These actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD, but are required for the enhancement of safe and accessible recreational opportunities in the Fourth Supervisorial District.

CONCLUSION

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

Respectfully submitted,



JOHN WICKER
Chief Deputy Director

JW:JB:WRO:tb

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