



Los Angeles County Regional Park And Open Space District

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October 14, 2014

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

4-P October 14, 2014

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Directors:

**ALLOCATE SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO
THE FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT TO THE MOUNTAINS RECREATION
AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF
A GRANT TO LEGACY L.A. FOR THE HAZARD PARK ARMORY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT
(FIRST DISTRICT)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$950,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District, to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for a grant to Legacy L.A. for the proposed Hazard Park Armory Improvements Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find the proposed Hazard Park Armory Improvements Project 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 \$950,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District, to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for a grant to Legacy L.A. for the proposed Hazard Park Armory Improvements Project.
3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant to Legacy L.A. for the proposed Hazard Park Armory Improvements Project, after the Mountains Recreation and

Conservation Authority assigns its right to apply to Legacy L.A. and if applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grant as of the date of award and pursuant to guidelines 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 an amount not to exceed \$950,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the First Supervisorial District pursuant to the Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for a grant to Legacy L.A. (LLA) for the proposed Hazard Park Armory Improvements Project (Project).

LLA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to make positive interventions in the lives of young people by offering alternatives to gangs and violence. LLA operates its programs in the armory campus at Hazard Park under a long-term Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Los Angeles.

The proposed Project consists of general improvements to the existing Hazard Park armory campus, including rehabilitation of and improvements to existing structures and utilities, development of accessory structures such as benches, picnic tables, and an outdoor amphitheater, and development of walking paths as well as new landscaping to accommodate LLA's recreational programming needs.

The total estimated project cost is \$6,000,000. The recommended Specified Excess Funds will be supplemented by \$5,000,000 in City of Vernon Community Benefit funds and \$50,000 in private contributions.

MRCA, which is the designated recipient of Specified Excess Funds for projects along the Los Angeles River and its tributaries, will assign its right to apply for the \$950,000 to LLA.

It is also 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, be authorized to award a grant, after MRCA assigns its right to apply to LLA and when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, and grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project, if applicable. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grant pursuant to the Procedural Guide previously approved by the Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendations further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goal of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) by enhancing recreational activities in the First Supervisorial District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grants, in the amount of \$950,000, is budgeted in the First Supervisorial District's portion of Regional Park and Open Space District's (RPOSD) 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 and LLA each meet 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 Excess Fund grants will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the First Supervisorial District for Specified projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director will be authorized to award grants to the various grantees 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 RPSOD 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. RPOSD is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The Project, which consists of general improvements to the existing Hazard Park armory campus, including rehabilitation and alterations of existing structures and utilities; construction of accessory structures such as benches, picnic tables, and an outdoor amphitheater, construction of walking paths as well as new landscaping, 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(a)(b)(d), 15303 (e), and 15304 (a) (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(c)(d)(e), 3(b), and 4(a)(c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the Project involves rehabilitation and alterations of existing structures and utilities, construction of accessory structures, minor alterations in the condition of land, and new landscaping.

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

A Grant Project Agreement 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 grants have been met. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by

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County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD. The proposed Project will promote healthy activities in public spaces in the First Supervisorial District.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Facilities and Asset Management Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Russ Guiney", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

RUSS GUINEY

Director

RG:JB:WRO:tb

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