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RPOSD.LACounty.gov

February 27, 2024

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:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

1-P February 27, 2024

JEFF LEVINSON
INTERIM EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ALLOCATE EXCESS FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF AN EXCESS FUNDS GRANT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE BALDWIN LAKE HISTORIC WALL REHABILITATION PROJECT (FIFTH DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 in 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 the Baldwin Lake Historic Wall Rehabilitation Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

- 1. Find that the proposed actions are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the reasons cited herein;
- 2. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 in Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District for a grant to the Department of Parks and Recreation, for the Baldwin Lake Historic Wall Rehabilitation Project; and,
- 3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or her designee, in her capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant when applicable conditions have been met and to administer the grant as of the date of award and pursuant to quidelines in the Proposition A Grants Administration Manual for Specified, Per

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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 an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 in Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition A), to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for the Baldwin Lake Historic Wall Rehabilitation Project (Project).

The proposed Project consists of the rehabilitation of the historic wall, specifically, the rebuilding of the lake wall to surround a portion of Baldwin Lake (Lake). The Lake currently serves several important functions within the Los Angeles River watershed. It collects runoff from the San Gabriel Mountains, retains it onsite to provide filtration, recharge and habitat, and is a vital resource of educational, scenic and restorative value for the nearly 400,000 people who annually visit the 127-acre Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden in the City of Arcadia. The total estimated cost for the Project is \$1,988,450 which will be fully funded by the recommended Excess Funds and Measure W grant funds.

It is also recommended, that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), or her designee, in her capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD), be authorized to award the grant when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of 1996 Proposition A, and the grantee agreement with CEQA requirements for the project. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grant pursuant to the Grants Administration Manual previously approved by your Board.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions further the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goal II, Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities by rehabilitating parkland to serve area residents in the Fifth District.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation, in the amount of \$1,000,000, is budgeted in the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District's (RPOSD) Available Excess Fund.

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FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition includes a method and process 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 Funds grant will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District. The available Excess Funds in the Fifth Supervisorial District come from prior years as no Excess Funds were declared in Fiscal Year 2023-24.

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 meets this requirement.

On March 19, 2019, your Board approved the Proposition A Grants Administration Manual to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Grants Administration Manual will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grant as well.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed actions are not subject to CEQA in that the actions do not meet the definition of a project according to Section 15378 (b)(2) of the State CEQA Guidelines, because the actions are administrative activities of government grants.

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 its project. DPR is the lead agency for CEQA for the proposed project.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

A Project Agreement will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Grants Administration Manual approved by the Board in 2019 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 actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD. The recommended project will rehabilitate parkland in the Fifth District.

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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,

Alerne & Shrue Lozelez

Norma E. García-González

Director

CA:AJ

c: Chief Executive Office

County Counsel

Executive Office, Board of Supervisors