REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE August 9, 2005

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS


J. Combs  J. Kolb
H. Fujita  F. Mok
*S. Huntley  K. Regan
B. Jensen  *M. Shull

Approved Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve the Amendment to Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), between the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), the Department of Public Works – Bureau of Engineering (BOE), and the Department of General Services (GSD), substantially in the form attached to include the construction of two new jogging trails as part of services to be performed by GSD and increase the duration from 180 days to 270 days for construction of the South Weddington Park - Facility Enhancements (W.O. #E170261F), subject to approval of the City Attorney as to form;

2. Authorize the Department’s Chief Accounting Employee to establish a new Quimby/Park Fee sub-account for South Weddington Park in Council District 4;

3. Approve the allocation of $413,945.00 in new Quimby/Park Fees collected in the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year to the new sub-account to be established for South Weddington Park;
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4. Authorize the appropriation of $380,000.00 in Quimby/Park Fees collected in the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year to a new sub-account to be established for South Weddington Park for the construction of two new jogging trails as part of the South Weddington Park - Facility Enhancements project (W.O. #E170261F);

5. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit the Amendment to the City Attorney for approval as to form; and

6. Authorize the Department's General Manager to execute the proposed Amendment after the appropriate signatures by the other parties thereto, and approval as to form by the City Attorney has been obtained.

SUMMARY:

The scope of work for the South Weddington Park - Facility Enhancements project (W.O. #E170261F) includes constructing disabled access improvements to the existing outdoor men's and women's restrooms, new concrete walkways serving as a path of travel from the parking lot, and new jogging trails located at the upper and lower portion of the park. Proposition K funds in the amount of $199,500.00 were awarded for the proposed improvements, of which $148,764.00 is available.

On October 20, 2004, the project was approved by the Board (Board report No. 04-313) for bid advertisement for the entire project including the jogging trails. No bids were received on the December 7, 2004, bid opening. Due to the limited funding and the small size of the project, this project was not re-advertised for bids.

BOE requested GSD to provide a cost estimate. GSD submitted a total construction cost estimate of $490,997.00 for the project, including the jogging trails. However, the Prop K funds were not sufficient to include the two jogging trails. GSD submitted another estimate of $120,000.00 which only included disabled access improvements and the new concrete walkways from the parking lot.

On June 1, 2005 (Board report No. 05-143), the Board approved an MOU to establish the responsibilities of RAP, BOE and GSD for the South Weddington Park - Facility Enhancements project (W.O. #E170261F), which included renovations necessary to bring the restroom and walkways from the parking lot into compliance with ADA standards.

After the execution of the MOU, $413,945.00 in Quimby/Park fees collected in the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year were identified, of which $380,000.00 can be appropriated to fund the two jogging trails for the South Weddington Park - Facility Enhancements project (W.O.# E170261F).
These fees were collected within two miles of the South Weddington Park, which is the standard distance for the allocation of Quimby/Park fees for community parks. Therefore, it is recommended that the Board approve the establishment of a new sub-account, authorize the allocation of $413,945.00, and approve the appropriation of $380,000.00 in new Quimby/Park Fees collected in the 2004-2005 Fiscal Year to fund the South Weddington Park - Facility Enhancements (W.O.# E170261F).

In addition, it is also recommended that the Board approve the Amendment to the previously executed MOU to include two new jogging trails under Article IV(B) - Services to be Performed by GSD, and increase the duration of construction from 180 calendar days to 270 calendar days under Article VI(A) - Time Periods.

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), staff has determined that the proposed improvements, including the two new jogging trails will not have a significant impact on the environment. This project has been determined to be Categorically Exempt per CEQA guidelines Article VII, Section 1a (existing facilities), 1b (replacement or reconstruction) and 1k (accessory structures). A Notice of Exemption was filed with the Los Angeles City Clerk’s office on June 19, 2003, and posted by the County Clerk’s office on June 20, 2003.

Council District 4 and Valley Region staff support these project recommendations as outlined in the report.

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:**

Upon Board allocation and appropriation of Quimby/Park Fees in the amount of $380,000.00, there will be sufficient funds to complete this project.

The construction of two new jogging trails may increase maintenance costs at this facility at a later date, in an amount to be determined.

This Report was prepared by Vivien Quintos, Management Analyst II, Grants Administration, and Camille D. Walls, City Planner, Planning and Development.