REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE December 14, 2005

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: APPLICATION OF CONTINUED FUNDING FROM CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR 2006-07 GENERAL CHILD
CARE AT JIM GILLIAM AND EXTENDED DAY CARE (LATCHKEY)
AT VARIOUS FACILITIES

*J. Combs
H. Fujita
S. Huntley
B. Jensen

J. Kolb
F. Mok
K. Regan
M. Shall

general Manager

Approved Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve the submission of an application to the California Department of Education for continued funding for Fiscal Year 2006-07 of the General Child Care ($170,822) at Jim Gilliam pre-school and Extended Day Care (Latchkey) Programs ($417,465) at various facilities;

2. Due to the Notice of Funding Availability having been published less than 61 days in advance of the date of the application deadline, allow for the simultaneous submission of the application to the State and to the Mayor and Council for approval per Administrative Code Section 14.6(b);

3. Direct staff to transmit the application to the Mayor; and,

4. Authorize the General Manager to represent the City and execute the corresponding grant agreement, and any subsequent amendments thereto, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 14.6 et seq. as may be amended, on behalf of the City, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.
SUMMARY:

The Department is a current recipient of California Department of Education (CDE) General Childcare Program Funds, which provide grant monies to the Jim Gilliam Child Care Center for its subsidized pre-school program. This program is the Department’s first licensed pre-school program and serves children of families with incomes at or below the 75 percent State median income level. Since January of 1996, the Department has received CDE funds to operate the child care services at this facility. Prior to the CDE subsidy, many parents could only afford to enroll their children for a portion of the day. The center is licensed by the State to serve 45 children from three to five years of age, and is currently operating at full capacity. The grant funded program at Jim Gilliam Child Care Center makes it possible for children to remain at the center all day.

The Department is also a current recipient of Latchkey Program grant funds which are utilized for subsidized after school child care services at the following seven licensed Department child care centers: Baldwin Hills, Echo Park, Eagle Rock, Evergreen, Loren Miller, South Park, and Hubert Humphrey. Since 1986, the Department has used these grant funds to subsidize latchkey services to children of families with incomes at or below 75 percent of the State median income level. This grant will continue to require 50 percent of the program’s participants to pay full or partial fees to match the 50 percent subsidized participants.

In order to receive funds, the Department must submit an annual application for continued funding and execute the resulting agreements with the State of California. The State published the application less than 61 days in advance of the deadline and the Department does not want to risk losing the grant. In order to receive grant funding the Administrative Code permits our Department to submit an application at the same time to obtain approval from the Board, the Mayor and the Council. The Department expects to receive notification of funding in June, 2006.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There is no replacement subsidy if the grant is lost. If the Department loses the grant 95% of participants will not be able to afford the program cost. There would not be enough full-pay enrollees to fill all centers. There are no funds available in the General Funds to make up grant funding if lost.

Prepared by Debby Rolland, Superintendent, West Region.