REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE December 13, 2006

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: VERNON BRANCH LIBRARY - POCKET PARK (W.O. #E170940F) - REJECTION OF BID AND DIRECTION TO RE-BID

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board:

1. Reject the sole bid received on October 17, 2006;

2. Approve the final plans and specifications for re-bid of the Vernon Branch Library - Pocket Park (W.O. # E170940F); and,

3. Approve and advertise the project for receipt of bids as Tuesday, January 23, 2007 at 3:00 PM in the Board Office.

**SUMMARY:**

On September 6, 2006, the Board approved final plans and call for bids for the Vernon Branch Library - Pocket Park (W.O. # E170940F), located at 4521 S. Central Ave, Los Angeles, 90011 (Board Report No. 06-246). The work includes improvements to develop the site as a pocket park. Improvements include new trellises, security lighting, concrete walkways, decomposed granite paving, landscaping, fencing/walls, concrete platforms, sand pit area, and seat walls. On October 17, 2006, the following bid was received:
Bidder: Dalaj International Corp.

Base Bid $460,000
Deductive Alternate #1 - Trellis A $5,000
Additive Alternate #1 - Trellis B $8,000
Additive Alternate #2 - Drinking Fountain $12,000

The available construction budget is $330,000. The base bid received exceeds the budget by $130,000; therefore insufficient funds are available to award the contract amount even if the contingency is utilized along with exercising all deductive alternates. As a result, it is recommended that the bid be rejected. A possible explanation for receiving only a single, high bid is the current bidding climate and amount of available construction projects.

It is recommended that the project be re-bid in the hope that more competition in bidding will yield lower bid pricing. The Bureau of Engineering staff will continue to proactively contact potential bidders to try to generate more bidding interest in the project. The re-bid will contain trellis A and the drinking fountain as deductive alternates to give the Department the maximum possible flexibility in awarding the largest possible scope within the available funding. Trellis B will remain as an additive alternate.

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), staff has determined that the proposed park development will not have a significant impact on the environment. This project has been determined to be Categorically Exempt per City CEQA guidelines Article III, Section 1(c) (new construction of small structures). A Notice of Exemption was filed with the Los Angeles City Clerk’s office on May 10, 2006, and posted by the County Clerk’s office on May 10, 2006.

The re-bid package has been approved by the City Attorney’s Office.

Prepared by Marcelo Martinez, Project Manager, and reviewed by Neil Drucker, Program Manager, Recreational and Cultural Facilities Program; and by Bradley M. Smith, P.E., Chief Deputy City Engineer, Bureau of Engineering.