REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE May 3, 2006

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN RECREATION AND PARKS AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE JUVENILE JUSTICE CRIME PREVENTION ACT AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT AND SUPERVISION PROGRAM

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

J. Kolb F. Mok *K. Ragan M. Shull

Approved Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, and subject to approval of the Mayor, City Council, and City Attorney as to form, between the Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) and the County of Los Angeles (County) for continued Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (formerly known as the Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act) grant funding up to $520,000 and to accept responsibility for providing youth services during specified hours of peak juvenile criminal occurrences for a fifth fiscal year (2005 to 2006) at selected recreation facilities and the John Anson Ford Theater, for the period ending June 30, 2006;

2. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit forthwith the proposed MOU to the Mayor in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3 and to the City Attorney for review as to form; and;

3. Upon receipt of the necessary approvals, authorize the General Manager to expeditiously execute the MOU.
REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2            NO. 06-110

SUMMARY:

After four years of successful operation and over $2.7 million in Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funding received by the Department via the County, the Department has been offered additional funding to continue programs designed to serve at-risk youth through the Clean and Safe Spaces (CLASS) Parks Youth Employment Internship Program (YEIP).

In January 2002, the Department was initially awarded a grant to expand prevention and intervention services for at-risk youth within Los Angeles City (Report No. 02-45). The CLASS Parks Program is fulfilling expectations of the County of Los Angeles through YEIP which has provided training to over 1,700 youth from the inception of the program in June 2002, to June 30, 2005, with improved job skills, life skills, and enhanced community involvement opportunities. This program provides participants with positive activities and alternatives.

In May 2002, a First Addendum (Report No. 02-210) was approved to enhance the JJCPA After-School Enrichment and Supervision Program.

In May 2003, a Second Addendum (Report No. 03-145) was approved to receive $645,400 in JJCPA funding for continuation of the YEIP for the fiscal year term 2002-2003 and provide enhanced services for at-risk youth or youth on formal probation.

In August 2003, a Third Amendment (Report No. 03-271) was approved to receive $655,510 in JJCPA funding for continuation of the YEIP for the fiscal year term 2003-2004 and to accept responsibility for providing youth services during specified hours of peak juvenile crime occurrences at five selected recreation facilities: Hubert Humphrey Memorial Park, Lincoln Park, Normandale Recreation Center, Panorama Recreation Center, and Rancho Cienega Sports Complex.

With young people earning money from jobs acquired through the Recreation and Parks YEIP job skills training, instruction in personal finance was found to be necessary. Young people needed to learn what to do with their paychecks and how to use their money creatively to earn more money. In fiscal year 2003-2004, some personal finance instruction was added to the YEIP curriculum.

In March 2005, a Fourth Amendment (Report No. 05-69) was approved to receive $520,000 in JJCPA funding for continuation of the YEIP for the fiscal year term 2004-2005 and provide youth service during specified hours of peak juvenile crime occurrences. In fiscal year 2004-2005, a film production class was added to the program. Professionals from the film industry instruct participants on the basics of camera operation, story boarding, writing, sound, editing, directing, pre- and post-production, location lighting, acting, scheduling, and critiquing a film. After completing the program, youth will have reached a level of proficiency to be able to check out equipment, then film and edit, in pairs, footage on CLASS Parks activities and eventually be able to document on film, other program activities.
REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 3 NO. 06-110

This new MOU, prepared by the County, provides $520,000 in funding for the fifth year of the YEIP. In fiscal year 2005-2006, the YEIP has been providing young people with improved job skills, enhanced community involvement, and the exciting film production classes. The fifth year of the YEIP will conclude June 30, 2006. Approval of the MOU will allow the Department to submit requests for reimbursement for services already provided and for related expenditures. The awarded funds must be expended by June 30, 2006, or they will revert to the State.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The Department has already advanced the funds to operate the 2005-2006 program, as required by the County of Los Angeles, pursuant to this MOU. Approval of this MOU will allow the Department to submit requests for reimbursement for services heretofore provided. If the MOU is not executed by June 30, 2006, the Department will not be reimbursed.

This report was prepared by Ann Vollmer, Principal Recreation Supervisor, CLASS Parks