REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE August 20, 2008

C.D. 4

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: NORTH HOLLYWOOD PARK AND RECREATION CENTER – ALLOCATION OF SUBDIVISION/QUIMBY FEES FOR OUTDOOR SECURITY LIGHTING IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

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RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the allocation of $34,000 in Subdivision/Quimby Fees from the North Hollywood Park and Recreation Center Account 460K-NO for outdoor security lighting improvements at North Hollywood Park and Recreation Center, as described in the Summary of this report.

SUMMARY:

North Hollywood Park and Recreation Center is a large community park in the south San Fernando Valley area of the City. On the northern portion of the site are a gym, senior center, pool, fields and park open space. Due to the facilities, features, programs and services it provides, North Hollywood Park and Recreation Center meets the standards for a Community Park, as defined in the City’s Public Recreation Plan.

On the southern portion of the site are walking/jogging paths. There is some outdoor park lighting in the northern area of the site, but little lighting for the southern area, where the jogging paths are located. This area of the park is bounded by the freeway on one side, and a wide street, Tujunga Boulevard on the other. There is only street lighting along Tujunga Boulevard, which is not adequate for the park uses.
Based on the recommendations of the Los Angeles Police Department, the Council Office and Department staff, Commission approval of funding to purchase and install outdoor security lighting on the southern part of the park site along the jogging paths to improve park patron safety is requested. Four (4) light poles will be installed, each 18 feet in height and adjacent to the existing paths. These lights are solar-powered and will serve a pilot installation in solar-powered lighting for the park system. Such lighting has been installed successfully in other Southern California municipalities and army bases. In addition, the installation of solar-powered lights will also contribute to the Department of Water and Power’s Green LA program goal of increasing energy efficiency in the City by conserving a resource and using renewable energy to improve the environment.

It is estimated that this outdoor security lighting improvement project will cost approximately $34,000. Upon approval of this report, $34,000 in Subdivision/Quimby Fees, currently available in the North Hollywood Park and Recreation Center Account 460K-NO, can be allocated to fund the outdoor security lighting improvement project at North Hollywood Park and Recreation Center. These Subdivision/Quimby Fees were collected within two miles of North Hollywood Park and Recreation Center, which is the standard distance for the allocation of Quimby fees for community parks.

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), staff has determined that the proposed lighting improvement project consists of the operation, repair, maintenance or minor alteration of an existing public facility involving a negligible or no expansion of use, and, therefore, is exempt from the provisions of CEQA, pursuant to Article III, Section 1 (a), Class 1 (12) of the City’s CEQA Guidelines.

Council District Four and Valley Region staff support the recommendations as set forth in this Report.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Upon Board approval of the allocation of Subdivision/Quimby Fees in the amount of $34,000, there will be sufficient funds to complete this project and no impact to the Department’s General Fund. There will be no immediate maintenance costs for these improvements. The North Hollywood Park and Recreation Center Outdoor Security Lighting Project may have a minor effect on future maintenance costs at the facility which would be requested through the Department’s regular budget process, but this will be offset by substantial energy cost savings in eliminating traditional power consumption costs.

This report was prepared by Planning and Development staff, Camille Walls, City Planner, Planning and Development and Vivien Quintos, Management Analyst II.