

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

APPROVED
MAY 7 2008

NO. 08-121

DATE May 7, 2008

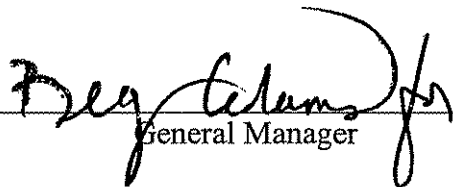
C.D. Various

**BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS**

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS AND THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE JUVENILE JUSTICE CRIME PREVENTION ACT AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT AND SUPERVISION PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| R. Adams _____ | J. Kolb _____ |
| H. Fujita _____ | F. Mok _____ |
| S. Huntley _____ | K. Regan _____ |
| *V. Israel <u>W</u> | M. Shull _____ |



General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, subject to approval of the Mayor, City Council, and the City Attorney as to form, between the Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) and the Los Angeles County Probation Department (County) for continued Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) (formerly known as the Schiff-Cardenas Crime Prevention Act) grant funding up to \$548,535 and to provide youth services during specified hours of peak juvenile criminal occurrences for an eighth fiscal year (2008-2009) at selected recreation facilities, the John Anson Ford Theater and a variety of Animal Services facilities, for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009;
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. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to expeditiously execute the proposed MOU, subsequent to the necessary approvals.

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SUMMARY:

The County awards and administers funding for the State's JJCPA grant funding and the Department has received over \$4.6 million in JJCPA funding during the past seven years to continue programs designed to serve at-risk youths through the Clean and Safe Spaces (CLASS) Parks Youth Employment Internship Program (YEIP). This program provides participants with positive activities and alternatives for new learning experiences. The County has offered the Department an additional \$548,535 for Fiscal Year 2008-09.

In January 2002, the Department was initially awarded a \$750,000 grant to expand prevention services for at-risk youths within the City of Los Angeles (Report No. 02-45). Since then, the CLASS Parks program has continued to fulfill the expectations of the County through YEIP; which has provided training to over 2,938 youths since the program's inception in June of 2002, with opportunities for improving job and life skills, as well as enhanced community involvement. This has been accomplished due to the County's continued support of expanding learning opportunities within YEIP over the past seven years through offers of annual grant funding as referenced below.

In May 2002, a First Addendum (Board Report No. 02-210) was approved to enhance the JJCPA After-School Enrichment and Supervision Program by increasing funding from \$700,000 to \$950,000 to expand the program to a fourth City recreation facility. In May, 2003, a Second Addendum (Board Report No. 03-145) was approved to receive \$645,400 in JJCPA funding for continuation of the YEIP for Fiscal Year 2002-2003 and provide enhanced services for at-risk youths or youths on formal probation.

In August 2003, a Third Amendment (Board Report No. 03-271) was approved to receive \$655,510 in JJCPA funding for continuation of the YEIP for Fiscal Year 2003-2004 and to accept responsibility for providing youth services during specified hours of peak juvenile crime occurrences at five selected recreation facilities: Hubert H. Humphrey Memorial Park, Lincoln Park Recreation Center, Normandale Recreation Center, Panorama Recreation Center, and Rancho Cienega Sports Complex. In Fiscal Year 2003-2004, the Department added an introduction to personal finance to the YEIP curriculum to provide participants earning money from jobs acquired through YEIP job skills training with instruction in personal finance. Participants were taught money management skills as well as basic investment strategies.

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 Fiscal Year 2004-2005 to provide youth services during specified hours of peak juvenile crime occurrences. During that fiscal year, a film production class was added to the program. Professionals from the film industry instructed participants on the basics of camera operation, storyboarding, writing, sound, editing, directing, pre-production and post-production, location lighting, acting, scheduling, and critiquing a film.

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After completing the program, participants reached a level of proficiency which allowed them working with another participant to check out equipment in order to film and edit footage on CLASS Parks activities and eventually to document other YEIP program activities on film.

On May 3, 2006, a new MOU (Board Report No. 06-110) was approved to accept an offer of \$520,000 in JJCPA funding from the County for the continuation of the YEIP for Fiscal Year 2005-2006 and to provide youth services during specified hours of peak juvenile crime occurrences. On June 15, 2006, this MOU was amended (Board Report No. 06-165) to accept an additional \$190,000 from the County for the Department to expand its involvement in JJCPA funded programs by offering summer programs for high risk/high need youths at City parks by increasing youth activities, high risk/high need services, parental support workshops, and recognition, incentive and award opportunities.

Also on June 15, 2006, a MOU was approved (Board Report No. 06-166) to accept an offer of \$520,000 in JJCPA funding from the County for the continuation of the YEIP for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 and to provide youth services during specified hours of peak juvenile crime occurrences. This funding helped YEIP to expand the program by reaching out to young people at additional recreation centers for youths who could not previously access the program due to distance, transportation issues, and danger of crossing gang lines. YEIP also added a new Crime Scene Investigation, "CSI" Internship. This will further the Department's mission by providing youth at risk of joining gangs a chance for positive exposure to and interaction with law enforcement officers who will be present at some of the sessions, which may serve as a deterrent to them joining gangs in the future. To this end, Department staff plans to incorporate participation of Park Rangers and Public Safety Officers from the Department of General Services with the proposed internship program. In April 2007 the County informed the Department that it had identified an additional \$225,000 to further enhance YEIP services for 2006-07. As a result, at its May 2, 2007 meeting, the RAP Board approved amending its MOU with the County for 2006-07 to accept these funds to enhance YEIP programming (Board Report No.07-101).

On April 19, 2007, the RAP Board approved an MOU providing \$615,000 in funding for the seventh year of the YEIP for Fiscal Year 2007-2008 for continuation of its on-going and successful programming efforts (Board Report No. 07-94). In March 2008 the County informed the Department that it had identified unspent 2007-08 JJCPA funds which are available for expenditure in Fiscal Year 2008 to its JJCPA partners. The County has offered the Department the opportunity to allocate an additional \$105,000 to further enhance YEIP services by amending its current MOU. Therefore Department staff is requesting RAP Board approval to amend the MOU for Fiscal Year 2007-08 to accept this additional funding, and to extend the term of the current MOU to December 31, 2008 (Board Report No. 08-120), concurrent with this request for approval for an MOU with the County for upcoming fiscal year.

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The currently proposed MOU (attached) provides \$548,535 in funding for the eighth year of the YEIP, for Fiscal Year 2008-2009. This amount reflects an 11% reduction to all available JJCPA funding as mandated by the State for the upcoming Fiscal Year. In addition to the established internship programs, YEIP may add an Animal Care Internship in partnership with the Department of Animal Services (Animal Services). Participants will receive hands-on training in animal care at a variety of Animal Services facilities, learning the responsibilities and skills necessary for a career in this field. This will further the Department's mission by providing youth at risk of joining gangs the opportunity to use their newly acquired skills to engage in community service at their local dog park, recreation center or animal shelter. After completing the program, participants may be able to assist in some of the many dog related programs offered at our recreation centers and family dog parks, such as dog training and obedience classes, dog walking, and dog shows.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

This MOU will allow the Department to advance funds to provide the negotiated services, and then submit requests for reimbursement from the County. The Department must obligate these funds by executing this MOU no later than June 30, 2008, to ensure future reimbursement. There is no fiscal impact to the Department's General Fund.

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