REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE February 4, 2009

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: FREMONT HIGH SCHOOL POOL – ACCEPTANCE OF MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE FREMONT HIGH SCHOOL POOL

Approved Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Accept $750,000 from the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) for the purpose of rehabilitating Fremont High School Pool; and,

2. Direct the Department’s Chief Accounting Employee to deposit these matching funds upon receipt from LAUSD into Fund 205 Department 88 Accounts EM04 and to allow disbursements from this designated account for purposes of rehabilitating the Fremont High School Pool as described in the body of this report.

SUMMARY:

The Fremont High School Pool (Pool) located at 7630 Towne Avenue in South Los Angeles was constructed by the City of Los Angeles in 1978 on Los Angeles Unified School District (District) property, through a Construction Agreement between the City and District executed in December, 1972. Pool Operations have been provided by the Department of Recreation and Parks through a thirty-three (33) year Operating Agreement executed in 1972 and expiring in 2005. In June of 2008 the City and District entered into a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) entitled: Youth and Community Aquatic Development and Infrastructure Program. This MOU represents an on-going master planning effort to improve the infrastructure of fifteen (15) high school pool sites citywide, which include both existing and new schools, and provide much needed aquatics programming citywide. As part of this master planning effort, the
MOU has paved the way for the negotiation and preparation of a Master Aquatics Joint Use Agreement between the City and District (Agreement), which will focus on four major goals:

1. Rehabilitate existing joint-use pools;
2. Develop new joint-use pool sites;
3. Increase access to swim and lifeguard training opportunities; and,
4. Standardize joint-use agreements and operations.

The existing Fremont High School pool is one of the initial fifteen (15) high school pools selected for improvements. Over the years through much wear and tear, the Fremont High School pool became so dilapidated that it had to be shut down completely in early 2007 for repairs. Department staff performed and completed the following rehabilitative work and improvements to the Pool in late 2007 at an expense of $750,000.

A. Repair of a portion of the pool return plumbing lines.
B. Lead paint and mold abatement.
C. Installation of a New Roof.
D. Replacement of Heating and Mechanical Ventilation System (HVAC).
E. Painting of the entire facility.
F. Electrical Upgrades and Repairs – Replacement of pool lights and hand dryers; Upgrade of electrical system to handle HVAC Equipment; Upgrade of lighting in dressing room, showers, restroom, and clerk’s areas.
G. Installation of stainless steel spectator guardrail.
H. Installation of fiberglass doors and jambs.
I. Carpentry repairs to rebuild mechanical equipment deck and installation of roof hatches.
J. Plumbing repairs in restrooms.

Upon completion of this work, the facility was reopened but was closed again shortly thereafter. It was discovered that additional pool recirculation piping was leaking and would require more extensive work to repair the leaks as well as bring the pool tank up to current Health Code Standards. As part of the Department’s and LAUSD efforts to rehabilitate existing joint-use pools, LAUSD has agreed to match the Department’s previous rehabilitation investment into this facility. The work will be performed with the Department’s in-house pool crew which will include replacement of the drains and pool recirculation line piping to meet current Health Department Standards. This work involves removal of much of the pool deck to replace the pool recirculation piping and relocating those lines to the bottom of the pool.
Staff has determined that the proposed funds from LAUSD will be used for additional rehabilitation work and improvements at Fremont High School Pool involving the repair, maintenance, and minor alterations to existing pool facilities that would result in negligible or no expansion of use. Therefore, the project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Staff has discussed this reimbursement from LAUSD with the Assistant General Manager of Operations East, the Superintendent of the Pacific Region, and each concurs with staff’s recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no fiscal impact to the Department’s General Fund associated with this project, as the funds are being provided entirely by the LAUSD.

This report was prepared by Michael Shull, Superintendent of the Planning and Development Section.