BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION FOOD PROGRAM GRANT

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve the acceptance of a $50,000 grant from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA), to promote the summer and before/after school food service programs, subject to approval of the Mayor and City Council; and,

2. Authorize the General Manager to represent the City and execute the corresponding grant agreement, and any subsequent amendments thereto, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 14.6 et seq. as may be amended, on behalf of the City, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

SUMMARY:

The NRPA has selected the Department to receive $50,000 to support summer and before/after school food service programs. The grant is made possible through a major gift from the Walmart Foundation. The objective of the grant is to increase the number of children fed by 20% in two years across 15 park and recreation agencies across the country.
The funding begins in June 2010 and runs through May 2011, and will be spent to expand the summer and our after school snack programs. Through this funding, the Department will have resources to conduct outreach and attract additional children to our sites for lunch and snacks.

The Department’s “Summer Lunch Program” provides free nutritious lunches to youth ages 1 through 18 at 106 recreation centers citywide for nine weeks this summer, as well as an afternoon snack. Currently, we serve an average of 5,000 lunches daily in the summer and 4,500 daily snacks. The goal of the program is to ensure that children receive at least one nutritious and balanced meal per day when school is not in session. The program also offers after-school snacks in partnership with the Community Development Block Grant Funded “LA Kids” at 99 sites citywide for the remainder of the year.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

This grant does not require a match and would provide funds to increase youth participation in the Summer Lunch Program. By increasing participation, the Department will be extending its reach to children in need and would receive increased reimbursement from the State, which would be used to provide additional resources for staffing and administrative costs of the program.

This report was prepared Alexa Esparza, Senior Management Analyst, West Region.