REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE: October 20, 2010

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: HOLLYWOOD RECREATION CENTER – GYM, POOL AND BATHHOUSE (#1402B) (W.O. #E170344) – INITIAL STUDY/NEGATIVE DECLARATION

R. Adams F. Mok
H. Fujita K. Regan
S. Huntley *M.Shull
V. Israel

Approved Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Review and consider the Initial Study/Negative Declaration (IS/ND), on file in the Board Office, prepared by the City’s Bureau of Engineering for the Hollywood Recreation Center, finding that all potentially significant environmental effects of the project have been properly disclosed and evaluated in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the State and City CEQA Guidelines, and that the IS/ND reflects the Board’s independent judgment and analysis;

2. Recommend that the City Council review, consider and adopt the IS/ND, with the City Council making the same findings as the Board;

3. Direct the Bureau of Engineering to file a Notice of Determination with the Los Angeles City Clerk and the Los Angeles County Clerk within five (5) days of Council’s adoption of the IS/ND; and,

4. Authorize the Chief Accounting Employee to make a payment in the amount of $2,085.25, payable to the Los Angeles County Clerk, for the Notice of Determination (NOD) filing fee ($75) and the California Department of Fish and Game Fee ($2,010.25).
SUMMARY:

The proposed Hollywood Recreation Center (#1402B)(W.O. #E170344) project, which is currently under design, involves demolishing and reconstructing a pool, bathhouse (pool building), and refurbishing and relocating the water slide. The Recreation Center is located at 1122 Cole Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038. The existing facility is obsolete and does not meet the requirements of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). The new pool will be enlarged and made ADA accessible, with a separate landing area from the water slide, and will conform with the new code requirements. The bathhouse upgrades will include providing a bathing facility according to the latest public health codes; improved natural lighting and ventilation; a new family changing area; and building upgrades to conform to new seismic standards. The old pool equipment will be replaced with more energy efficient units. Six existing trees will have to be removed to allow demolition and reconstruction of the new pool and bathhouse. These types of trees are not considered to be heritage or protected species and will be replaced in accordance with the City’s Tree Replacement policy. Funding for this project will be from the Proposition K and Quimby Fees.

In accordance with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), a Negative Declaration (ND) was prepared for the entire project based on the Initial Study (IS) dated November 2, 2009, which determined that all potentially significant environmental impacts are less than significant. The ND was circulated to all interested parties and responsible agencies with a 20-day review and comment period from November 5, 2009 to November 24, 2009. During this public review period, one phone call and four emails were received expressing support and requesting ample parking and adequate security measures for the Recreation Center.

Upon adoption by the City Council of the Initial Study/Negative Declaration, staff will proceed with the completion of the construction documents. The completed construction documents will then be presented to the Board for approval and call for bids.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There is no immediate fiscal impact to the Department; however, future operations and maintenance costs will be assessed upon completion of the project.

This report was prepared by Catalina Hernandez, Environmental Specialist, BOE Environmental Management Group and Shashi Bhakta, Project Manager, BOE Recreational and Cultural Facilities Program. Reviewed by Neil Drucker, Program Manager, BOE Recreational and Cultural Facilities Program; Deborah Weintraub, Chief Deputy City Engineer, Bureau of Engineering and Michael A. Shull, Superintendent, Planning and Construction Division, Department of Recreation and Parks.

The mitigation measures included in the IS/MND and Mitigation Monitoring Program would be implemented prior to and during construction, as applicable, to mitigate impacts to a less than significant level.