BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: OPERATIONS BRANCH VALLEY REGION – SIXTH EVENT TO SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – WINNETKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL OKTOBERFEST AT WINNETKA PARK

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve a sixth event serving alcohol in the Valley Region, for the Winnetka Chamber of Commerce’s 15th Annual Oktoberfest fundraiser at Winnetka Park.

SUMMARY:

The three-day Oktoberfest is a successful and well-attended annual community event. The Board’s Alcohol Beverage Policy requires that any community event with alcoholic beverages, beyond the five public open-area events per region, per year, obtain approval from the Board. Due to the Department’s reorganization combining the West and Valley Regions, the number of requests for alcohol-related special events, this year, has exceeded the established policy. The annual Oktoberfest has in previous years had a beer garden, and has been one of the Valley Region’s five alcohol events. There has never been a report of any alcohol-related problems. The Winnetka Chamber of Commerce is aware of the Department’s alcohol policy and has agreed to abide by all its requirements.

Oktoberfest at Winnetka Park includes a carnival, music, food, arts and crafts, and a beer garden. This year, the 15th Annual Oktoberfest is scheduled to take place on the weekend of October 14, 15 and 16, 2011. This event is an annual fundraiser for the Winnetka Chamber of Commerce. In the past, they have supported programs and events at the Winnetka Recreation Center through various donations. Council District 12 is in support of the event.
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There is no fiscal impact to the Department’s General Fund.

This report was prepared by Louis Loomis, Management Analyst II, Valley Region.