

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

**APPROVED**

NO. 12-018

DATE January 16, 2013

**JAN 18 2013**

C.D. 3

**BOARD OF RECREATION  
& PARK COMMISSIONERS**

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: RESEDA PARK NORTH – REQUEST FOR AMENDMENT TO THE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE TO CHANGE THE HOURS OF OPERATION

R. Adams \_\_\_\_\_  
H. Fujita \_\_\_\_\_  
V. Israel \_\_\_\_\_

\* K. Regan [Signature]  
M. Shull \_\_\_\_\_  
N. Williams \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]  
General Manager

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve the modification of operating hours for Reseda Park North, to open at Sunrise and to close at Sunset, seven days a week; and,
2. Request the City Attorney to prepare and forward to the City Council for approval, an ordinance amending Section 63.44 B.14(c) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to reflect the operating hours modification for Reseda Park North.

SUMMARY:

On December 11, 2012, the Los Angeles City Council adopted a motion (see attached Council File 12-1872), which, requested that the City Attorney prepare an ordinance that would add Reseda Park North to the list of parks that open at Sunrise, and close at Sunset every day of the year. This motion also requested that the Department of Recreation and Parks Board of Commissioners concur with the recommended operating hours change. The LAMC states in Section 63.44 B.14(a), that the standard operating hours for all public parks is 5:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. unless otherwise stated in subsequent sections of the code. This modification would change the current operating hours of Reseda Park North from the standard operating hours to opening at Sunrise and closing at Sunset every day throughout the year.

Reseda Park North is described as the portion of Reseda Park located between the flood control channel and Kittridge Street, and bordered by Reseda Boulevard to the west and Etiwanda Avenue to the east. Over the last several months the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and several local community members have expressed concerns about an increasing crime

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problem in this section of Reseda Park. The LAPD has informed Recreation and Parks staff, and City Council District Three that this area has become subject to several ongoing incidents of criminal activity including, public alcohol and drug use, drug sales, gang activity, weapons possessions, and vandalism.

In an effort to increase public safety and to assist in providing tools for the LAPD to engage in enforcement activities at this park, the request for a change to the operating hours was made by the LAPD and Council District 3.

Once the ordinance is approved by Council and becomes effective, the Department of Recreation and Parks will prominently post new signs throughout Reseda Park North displaying the new operating hours, and the LAPD will be requested to enforce the park's new closure hours seven days a week.

This proposed action of changing park operating hours is not considered a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines, and the Public Resources Code. This action constitutes only an administrative activity that will not result in either a direct or indirect physical change to the environment, and is not subject to CEQA review.

The request to change the operating hours of this park is supported by Councilmember Dennis Zine, as well as the Regional Superintendent, and the Assistant General Manager of Operations Branch.

### FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The approval of this report may have a small impact on the Department's General Fund due to the cost of installing new signs, and any necessary monitoring activities.

Report prepared by Kevin Regan, Assistant General Manager, Operations Branch.

DEC 4 2012

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TO CITY CLERK FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED  
**MOTION** #53

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) along with several members the community have expressed concerns about the increasing gang and drug activity taking place at the northern end of Reseda Park located at 18411 Victory Boulevard in the Reseda area of Council District Three.

The LAPD has informed the Department of Recreation and Parks of the intense criminal activity taking place at the park including vandalism, public alcohol and drug use, and weapons possessions. Furthermore, the majority of those congregating in the park are documented gang members on parole or probation for crimes involving narcotics and vandalism as well as assault and attempted murder.

The LAPD suggests that several measures be undertaken to decrease crime in this area of the park including changing the time that the park is closed. Currently, the park closes at 10:30 p.m. and reopens at 5:00 a.m. To increase safety in the area, the portion of Reseda Park north of the flood control channel on Kittridge between Reseda Blvd and Etiwanda should close at sunset and reopen at 5:00 a.m.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the hours of operation at Reseda Park north of the flood control channel on Kittridge Street between Reseda Blvd and Etiwanda Avenue be established as opening at 5:00 a.m. and closing at sunset.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of Recreation and Parks be instructed to prominently post the aforementioned hours at Reseda Park (north of the flood control channel on Kittridge Street between Reseda Blvd and Etiwanda Avenue).

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to prepare and present an Ordinance to add Reseda Park north of the flood control channel on Kittridge Street between Reseda Blvd and Etiwanda Avenue to the list of parks closed at various times as specified in the Los Angeles Municipal Code, Section 63.44.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners be requested to concur with the above recommendations and to instruct the Los Angeles Park Rangers to enforce the new park hours at Reseda Park north of the flood control channel on Kittridge Street between Reseda Blvd and Etiwanda Avenue seven days a week.

**ADOPTED**

DEC 11 2012

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

**FORTHWITH**

*[Signature]*  
DEC 4 2012

PRESENTED BY

*[Signature]*  
DENNIS ZINE  
Councilmember, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

SECONDED BY

*[Signature]*

ORIGINAL