REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE July 10, 2013

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: HANSEN DAM RECREATION AREA, PENMAR GOLF COURSE AND RECREATION CENTER, TEMESCAL CANYON PARK, AND WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PARK – PROPOSITION “O” BOND PROGRAM – REVOCABLE RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Retroactively, approve four (4) Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering (BOE) Citywide Proposition “O” Bond Program (Program) projects at Hansen Dam Recreation Area, Penmar Golf Course and Recreation Center, Temescal Canyon Park, and Westside Neighborhood Park, as described in the Summary of this Report; and,

2. Direct Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff to issue a new Right-of-Entry (ROE) Permit (No. 687) to BOE for the two (2) unfinished Program projects at the Penmar Golf Course and Recreation Center, and Temescal Canyon Park.

SUMMARY:

The Program was approved by voters in November of 2004. The Program is intended to increase the City’s compliance with regulatory requirements of the Federal Clean Water Act.

On September 10, 2009, the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) received a request from BOE for a ROE permit to perform Program approved construction activity at: A) Hansen Dam Recreation Area, B) Penmar Golf Course and Recreation Center, C) Temescal Canyon Park, and D) Westside Neighborhood Park. The four (4) Program Projects (Projects), together and individually,
improve stormwater quality by reducing, to the maximum extent practicable, the introduction of pollutants such as heavy sediments, oil, grease and trash.

The detailed descriptions of the Projects are as follows:

A. Hansen Dam Recreation Area

The primary goal of this Project is to reduce polluted stormwater from entering the Hansen Dam riparian wetlands, which provides habitat for the endangered Least Bell’s Vireo (Vireo bellii pusillus), a North American songbird; the budget was $2,517,702. The Project consisted of Best Management Practices (BMP’s) to provide treatment of stormwater runoff. A BMP inlet structure was placed in two (2) existing watercourses to direct flow through new vegetative swales, filter strips, trash racks and into two (2) infiltration/detention basins. An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was adopted by the City Council on June 8, 2010 for project approval in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This Project has been completed.

B. Penmar Golf Course and Recreation Center

The Penmar Water Quality Improvement Project – Phase I is designed to direct some of the area’s dry weather, urban runoff and wet weather stormwater to the Hyperion Treatment Plant for pollutant removal. As a result, up to nearly three million gallons (per storm event) of stormwater from this watershed that is currently untreated will be kept out of the drain that flows into Santa Monica Bay; the Project budget is $20,764,800. The Project consists of constructing a 2.75 million gallon storage tank underneath the baseball field with an associated stormwater diversion structure, pumps and pipelines. As part of the work, drainage and irrigation at the site will be improved. An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was adopted by the City Council on August 4, 2009 for project approval in compliance with the CEQA. This Project was estimated to be completed by March, 2012. The landscaping and baseball field restoration was not completed by March, 2012 and BOE requested additional time in order to complete the Project. They anticipate that the Project will be completed by December 31, 2013.

C. Temescal Canyon Park

The Temescal Canyon Park Stormwater BMP Project – Phase I is to achieve compliance with the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Wet Weather Bacteria Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL); the Project budget is $14,947,435. The Project will divert stormwater from an existing storm drain for treatment through a hydrodynamic separator and underground detention tank to be constructed at Temescal Canyon Park. The water will then be diverted to a sanitary sewer for
delivery to the Hyperion Treatment Plant. An Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) was adopted by the City Council on March 19, 2010 for project approval in compliance with the CEQA. This Project was estimated to be completed by March, 2012. The installation of the underground water detention tank was not completed by March, 2012 and BOE requested additional time in order to complete the Project. They anticipate that the Project will be completed by December 31, 2013.

D. Westside Neighborhood Park

The Westside Park Rainwater Irrigation Project will assist the City of Los Angeles to comply with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board’s TMDL for the Ballona Creek Watershed; the Project will also enhance the usefulness of the park to the community; the Project budget was $6,904,589. The Project consists of temporarily diverting stormwater from the underground storm drain system, pre-treating the flow by a floatable screening well and lift station (pump well), conserving some flow with a subsurface irrigation system, treating stormwater passing through the dry creek bed and then releasing stormwater back into the Citywide system. This project was determined to be Categorically Exempt pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 3, Category 4 of the City CEQA Guidelines, and a Notice of Exemption was filed for this project on February 10, 2010. This Project has been completed.

On November 2, 2009, RAP staff, at the request of BOE issued Permit No. 636 which had a three (3) year term. This Permit expired on December 31, 2012. At that time the Projects at Hansen Dam Recreation Area and Westside Neighborhood Park had been completed and the Projects at Penmar Golf Course and Recreation Center and Temescal Canyon Park had not been completed.

BOE has requested additional time for the completion of two of the Projects, the Penmar Golf Course and Recreation Center, and the Temescal Canyon Park. BOE indicated that the Penmar Golf Course and Recreation Center, and the Temescal Canyon Park Proposition “O” Projects are scheduled to be completed by December 31, 2013. Staff recommends that since two (2) of the Proposition “O” Projects, Hansen Dam Recreation Area and Westside Neighborhood Park permitted under Permit No. 636 have been completed it is advisable to issue a new permit to BOE which will allow for the completion of the Penmar Golf Course and Recreation Center, and the Temescal Canyon Park Projects. Staff further recommends that the term of the new ROE Permit (Permit No. 687) shall be March 31, 2014.
Environmental:

Staff has determined that the subject Project will consist of the renewal of a permit to use an existing facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use, and the four (4) associated projects have been previously evaluated for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Therefore, the action before the Board to issue a new a ROE Permit is exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to Article II, Section 2(i) and Article III, Section 1, Class 1 (14) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There is no fiscal impact to RAP’s General Fund by the issuance of new ROE Permit No. 687. Once this project is completed, operational maintenance cost will be determined. Upon project completion, a request for funding will be submitted in future RAP annual budget requests.

This report was prepared by Gregory Clark, Management Analyst II in Real Estate and Asset Management, Planning and Construction Branch.