SUBJECT:    WELLNESS CENTER PARK – ASSIGNMENT OF THE RIGHT TO APPLY FOR PROPOSITION A CITIES EXCESS FUNDS; CITY COUNCIL GRANT RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Recommend to the City Council the adoption of the attached Resolution, which assigns to Amigos De Los Rios a right to apply for Proposition A Cities Excess Funds in the amount of $1,900,000, which are available from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District for the First Supervisorial District of the County of Los Angeles, on condition that the funds are used for the completion of the Wellness Center Park Project, located within the City of Los Angeles; and,

2. Direct staff to transmit a copy of the Resolution to the City Clerk for committee and City Council approval, in accordance with Proposition A guidelines.

SUMMARY:

As the designated grant administrator of Proposition A funds for the City of Los Angeles, the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) was contacted by the County of Los Angeles (County) Department of Parks and Recreation to secure the adoption of a City Council resolution assigning to Amigos De Los Rios the City’s right to apply for available Proposition A Cities Excess Funds.

Amigos De Los Rios, a qualified nonprofit organization, as part of their Wellness Center project is proposing to repurpose approximately two acres of space at the historic former County General Hospital site, now known as the Los Angeles County-University of Southern California
Medical Center. The project consists of: 1) improvements to a ¾ acre lower courtyard at State Street at the former main hospital entrance; 2) improvements to a ¼ acre on the front terrace at the top of the main entrance stairway; and 3) improvements to approximately 1 acre comprised of the formal courtyards at the northwest and southwest corners of the main entrance building, the small courtyard in the southeast corner of the main entrance building, and a linear path/fire lane south of the main building connecting the former County General Hospital with the new Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center. Project amenities will include landscaping; replacement of certain trees; installation of benches, tables, exercise equipment, shade structures and lighting; Americans with Disability Act improvements to existing restrooms and access paths; installation of playground equipment and refurbishment of a tot lot; installation of a water feature; installation of decomposed granite and rubber surfacing; installation of large movable planter boxes for healthy eating demonstrations; and interpretive signage.

Amigos De Los Rios is requesting the City’s assistance in securing a Proposition A Cities Excess Funds grant in the First Supervisorial District for this project by assigning the City’s right to apply for these funds, pursuant to the Proposition A guidelines. With approval from City Council, the Proposition A Cities Excess Funds will be allocated to Amigos De Los Rios by the County to be used for this project. The project is estimated to cost approximately $3,700,000. In addition to the $1,900,000 in Proposition A Cities Excess Funds, $1,800,000 in Proposition 84 Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant funding will be used for this project.

City Council action adopting the attached resolution will assign the City’s right to apply for these grant funds to Amigos De Los Rios. Once the City’s resolution is approved and a copy is submitted to the County, the County’s Department of Parks and Recreation will recommend that its Board of Supervisors accept the assignment and allocate Proposition A Cities Excess Funds for a grant to be awarded to Amigos De Los Rios for the Wellness Center Park Project. Once the County awards the grant to Amigos De Los Rios, Amigos De Los Rios will administer the funds and assume responsibility for the completion of the project.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact to RAP’s General Fund as funding for the completion of the project will be the responsibility of Amigos De Los Rios.

This report was prepared by Charlie Maranan, Management Analyst II, Grants Administration.
RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
ASSIGNING THE RIGHT TO APPLY FOR GRANT FUNDS FROM THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FOR FIRST SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT CITIES EXCESS FUNDS TO AMIGOS DE LOS RIOS FOR THE WELLNESS CENTER PARK PROJECT AT THE FORMER SITE OF THE COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL NOW KNOWN AS THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY-UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MEDICAL CENTER IN LOS ANGELES

WHEREAS, the people of the County of Los Angeles on November 3, 1992, and on November 5, 1996, enacted the Los Angeles County Proposition A, Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions (collectively the Propositions), which among other uses, provide funds to public agencies and nonprofit organizations in the County to be used for the acquisition, development and/or rehabilitation of facilities and open space for public recreation;

WHEREAS, the Propositions also created the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (the District) to administer said funds;

WHEREAS, Amigos De Los Rios is requesting that the City of Los Angeles assign the right to apply for Proposition A Cities Excess Funds in the amount of $1,900,000, in the First Supervisorial District, to Amigos De Los Rios for use in completing the Wellness Center Park Project; and

WHEREAS, the project will re-purpose approximately two acres of space at the historic former County General Hospital site, now known as the Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center in Los Angeles. The project consists of: 1) improvements to a ¼ acre lower courtyard at State Street at the former main hospital entrance; 2) improvements to a ¼ acre on the front terrace at the top of the main entrance stairway; and 3) improvements to approximately 1 acre comprised of the formal courtyards at the northwest and southwest corners of the main entrance building, the small courtyard in the southeast corner of the old hospital main entrance building and a linear path/fire lane south of the main building connecting the former County General Hospital with the new Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center. Project amenities will include landscaping; replacement of certain trees; installation of benches, tables, exercise equipment, shade structures and lighting; Americans with Disability Act improvements to existing restrooms and access paths; installation of playground equipment and refurbishment of a tot lot; installation of a water feature; installation of decomposed granite and rubber surfacing; installation of large movable planter boxes for healthy eating demonstrations; and interpretive signage. The overall project cost is estimated at $3,700,000;

WHEREAS, the historic County General Hospital site, owned and operated by the County of Los Angeles, is located in the City of Los Angeles, and the Wellness Center Park Project will enhance safe, accessible, and wellness-themed recreational opportunities in the City of Los Angeles, at the old County General Hospital site and benefit other County residents in the First Supervisorial District.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council hereby:

1. Assigns to Amigos De Los Rios the right to apply for Proposition A Cities Excess Funds in the amount of $1,900,000, in the First Supervisorial District, for use in completing the Wellness Center Park Project.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Angeles at its meeting of _________________.

June Lagmay, City Clerk

By: ______________________________