REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE: October 16, 2013

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: CHEVIOT HILLS RECREATION CENTER—AGREEMENT WITH LOS ANGELES PÉTANQUE CLUB, INC., FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A PÉTANQUE PROGRAM ON PARK PROPERTY

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve a proposed agreement (Agreement), substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, between the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and Los Angeles Pétanque Club, Inc. (LAPC), a California non-profit organization, setting forth the terms and conditions for LAPC's use of park property at the Cheviot Hills Recreation Center in accordance with RAP's Partnership Policy, to provide a Pétanque Program to the surrounding community, subject to the approval of the Mayor, the City Council, and of the City Attorney as to form;

2. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit the proposed Agreement, to the Mayor in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3, and concurrently to the City Attorney for review and approval as to form;

3. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the Agreement upon receipt of the necessary approvals;

4. Direct the Department's Chief Accounting Employee to deposit in Fund 302 Department 89 Account 89707H the utility and other cost recovery reimbursements received from LAPC under this Agreement; and

5. Find that the proposed Agreement is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act.
SUMMARY:

Pétanque is an outdoor bowling game of French origin – related to English lawn bowling and Italian bocce. Presently, over 40 million people around the world follow the game of Pétanque. Recognizing a unique potential in the introduction of a cultural recreational activity, RAP developed and built the only Pétanque Courts in the City within the grounds of Cheviot Hills Recreation Center, located at 2551 Motor Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064.

Established in 1983, LAPC is one of the oldest Pétanque clubs in California as well as in the United States. Incorporated in 1990, LAPC, a California 501(c)(7) non-profit corporation, promotes the sport of Pétanque to the Los Angeles community and provides free weekly Pétanque instruction at the Pétanque Courts to participants with varying skill levels and to all those that are interested in this cultural activity. LAPC is committed to helping new players learn the proper skills as Pétanque is both a leisure recreational activity and a competitive professional sport. Affiliated with the Federation of Pétanque USA and the Fédération Internationale de Pétanque et Jeu Provençal, LAPC is able to participate in competitions at the local, regional, national, and international levels. LAPC presently operates through Right-of-Entry Permit 9014 (ROE) expiring December 1, 2013, which has allowed time for the Partnership Division to formalize an Agreement between LAPC and RAP, in accordance with RAP policies.

The Pétanque Courts are composed of eleven (11) playing areas - approximately 12,700 square feet in total and can accommodate 44 players in doubles and 66 players in triples. Under the proposed Agreement, LAPC will operate and maintain the Pétanque Courts throughout the year, weather permitting, on Monday and Thursday evenings, 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Free weekly Pétanque instruction and free use of equipment will be available to community patrons on Saturday mornings during a period of four (4) hours pending instructor availability. Additionally, LAPC may operate tournaments one (1) Sunday per month between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Presently, LAPC shares an outdoor space for a portable toilet maintained at their expense adjacent to the RAP portable restroom area. In the future with RAP construction of permanent restrooms, LAPC will conclude the rental of their portable toilet and the portable restroom area will subsequently no longer be a shared use area.

The yearly value of LAPC’s program services to the public has been determined to be $13,600 based on their annual operating budget, which is principally in the maintenance of the courts. Staff recommends approval of the proposed ten (10) year Agreement, so LAPC may be allowed to continue using park property to operate and maintain the Pétanque Courts which provides recreational opportunities for the community and exposure to a unique cultural activity which is in the best interest of the surrounding community.
Should the proposed Agreement be approved, LAPC’s performance will be monitored through an annual performance review conducted by the RAP Partnership Division to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement. As part of the proposed Agreement, LAPC will be responsible for court repairs when RAP is unable to fulfill repair requests due to limited resources. In all cases, LAPC accepts full liability for their operations at the location and will provide insurance protecting the City. Additionally, LAPC will be responsible for the Cost Recovery Reimbursement Fees to RAP in the amount of $89 per month ($1,068 per year), covering utilities, solid waste disposal, and staff impact fees.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

Staff has determined that the execution of the proposed Agreement consists of the operation and programming of an existing park facility involving negligible or no expansion of use and, therefore, is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1 (14) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Staff has discussed the proposed agreement with the Principal Recreation Supervisor and the Superintendent of the Valley Region and the Senior Park Maintenance Supervisor of the Pacific-West Region. Each supports the agreement and concurs with staff’s recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The proposed Agreement will have no adverse impact on RAP’s General Fund as operations and program costs associated with LAPC’s use of park property will be paid for by LAPC at no cost to the City, and costs impacting RAP shall be compensated through the collection of Board approved Cost Recovery Reimbursement Fees.

This report was prepared by Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst and Leslie Richter, Senior Recreation Director I, Partnership Division.