

APPROVED

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 14-292

DATE: December 10, 2014

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BOARD OF RECREATION
& PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: LA84 FOUNDATION SPRING 2015 GIRLS SOFTBALL GRANT-AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT PROPOSAL; ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS IF AWARDED

R. Adams _____

*V. Israel [Signature]

R. Barajas _____

K. Regan _____

H. Fujita _____

N. Williams _____

[Signature]
General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve retroactively the submission of an application for a grant from the LA84 Foundation to augment funding for the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Spring 2015 Girls Softball League, at twelve recreation centers in the Metro and Valley regions, as described in the summary of this Report, in the amount of \$81,041.00, subject to the approval of the Mayor and the City Council;
2. Direct staff to transmit a copy of the grant proposal to the Mayor, Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA) and to the City Clerk for committee and City Council approval before accepting and receiving the grant award, pursuant to Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6 et seq. as may be amended;
3. Authorize RAP's General Manager to accept and receive the LA84 Foundation's Spring 2015 Girls Softball Grant, if awarded, in an amount up to \$81,041.00, to supplement girls' softball programming in 2015, subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council;
4. Designate RAP's General Manager, Executive Officer, or Assistant General Manager, as the agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment request, which may be necessary for the completion of the project; and,

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2 NO. 14-292

5. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee to establish the necessary account and to appropriate funding received within "Recreation and Parks Grant" Fund 205 to accept the LA84 Foundation grant in an amount up to \$81,041.00, if awarded.

SUMMARY:

In August of 2014, the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) received encouragement from the LA84 Foundation to apply for funds which would promote and increase female youth involvement in girls' softball in the RAP Valley and Metro Regions. The grant had a quick turnaround stipulation, as we became aware of the opportunity at late notice. With only two weeks away, the application was submitted on September 2, 2014. The LA84 Foundation has offered similar small- and mid-sized grants supplementing RAP youth programs in past years, with RAP most recently receiving an award of \$85,000.00 for the 2014 Summer Swim program, which was used to augment funding for RAP aquatics programming. The LA84 Foundation is a long-standing supporter of RAP in both programming and infrastructure improvements. Since the beginning of this calendar year we have received two additional grants for capital improvements: \$25,000.00 for baseball field enhancements at Leland Park [project received additional funding from collaborating organizations: the Los Angeles Dodger Foundation (\$14,630.00) and Security Benefit Life Insurance Company (\$50,000.00)]; and \$41,480.00 for the installation of fitness zone equipment, playground equipment and the refurbishment of the existing outdoor basketball courts at Algin Sutton Recreation Center [project received additional funding from collaborating organization: the Los Angeles Clippers Foundation, Inc. (\$84,254.03)].

This grant from the LA84 Foundation, if awarded, will subsidize a spring 2015 girls softball league providing young females the opportunities to play affordable softball at twelve (12) of RAP's recreation centers that are located in low to moderate income, at-risk areas throughout East Los Angeles and the San Fernando Valley. Facilities projected to be involved would include Evergreen, El Sereno, Hazard, Highland Park, Lincoln Park, Yosemite, State Street, Wabash, Eagle Rock, Hubert H. Humphrey Memorial Park, Ritchie Valens, and Sylmar recreation centers. This program will serve six-hundred (600) girls for a total of forty (40) teams. The target age for the league is 11-13 years old. The program will operate beginning in February and March for recruitment and practices with league play beginning in April and running through June 2015.

This grant from the LA84 Foundation will enhance RAP's girls RAISE THE BAR sports programs in two main ways. First, the grant will allow RAP to reach out and serve more females in Los Angeles by assisting in offering affordable sports options. Participants' registration fees would be reduced to only \$20.00 for the season which would include a uniform (jersey, short, visor, and socks), equipment, services of officials at games, and the awards and banquet. This grant would also provide for transportation costs aiding those youth at centers with a limited number of teams to play

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 3

NO. 14-292

teams at other facilities. Secondly, this grant will support female youth development in sports by providing a more accessible girls-only league in the Valley and Metro Regions. Facilities that normally do not have enough teams to support this age division could now have the financial backing required to engage and involve more female youth living in low to moderate income areas.

RAP will conduct all administrative functions related to the program, such as promoting the league, recruiting and registering players, recruiting and registering volunteer coaches, providing players with transportation to and from games (as needed), facilitating the league games, and hosting the culminating activities. The minimal registration fees collected from the participating players will be used to off-set the costs of both the program publicity and culminating event at each center.

If awarded, the LA84 Foundation grant will influence youth female involvement in sports and support the Department's RAISE THE BAR program: *A Continuous Commitment to Girls and Women in Sports*.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Acceptance of this donation results in no impact to the RAP's General Fund, as it will supplement the costs of league related expenses and lower the out of pocket costs to our patrons, providing more opportunities for participation.

This report was prepared by Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst, Cassandra Reyes, Senior Recreation Director II, and Chinyere Stoneham, Senior Recreation Director II, Partnership Division.