REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE __ J_u_n_e_2_6_, 2_0_1_4

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: PROPOSITION 84 STATEWIDE PARK PROGRAM – PATTON STREET POCKET PARK PROJECT – APPROVAL OF FINAL PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS; ISSUANCE OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT TO TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND TO DEVELOP PARK

Approved Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve the final plans and specifications for the Patton Street Pocket Park Project, substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, as described in the Summary of this Report; and,

2. Authorize staff to issue the necessary Right-of-Entry (ROE) permit to Trust for Public Land (TPL) for the development of Patton Street Pocket Park.

SUMMARY:

In September 2009, the State of California (State) released a Request for Proposal for the first round of competitive grants for the State Proposition 84 Statewide Park Grant Program. The $5.4 billion Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal protection Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 84) was passed by the voters on November 7, 2006. These funds are used for a number of programs, one of which is the Statewide Park Grant Program. A total of $368 million has been dedicated to this program. This Grant Program awards grants for the creation of new parks, expansion and/or improvements to existing parks, and the creation/renovation of recreation features with an emphasis on new parks to be located in areas that either lack park space or have significant poverty.
The Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff, the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), the Trust for Public Land (TPL), a non-profit organization, and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI), a non-profit organization, joined together in a partnership and worked with various Council Offices to submit Proposition 84 grant applications.

On May 17, 2010, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) approved a Donation Agreement (Agreement) between RAP and TPL for the acquisition, development, and construction of new parks that would be funded, in whole or in part, through grant funding from the Proposition 84 Statewide Park Grant Program (Board Report No. 10-121). As detailed in the Agreement, TPL is to coordinate the design and construction of the park projects with RAP, prepare detailed final plans and specifications for Board’s review and approval, and when construction is completed, to submit each completed project to the Board for final approval and acceptance.

On February 2, 2011, the Board approved the conceptual plans for the park projects to be developed and constructed by TPL (Board Report No. 11-043) namely, Patton Street Pocket Park, Carlton Way Pocket Park and Monitor Avenue Park. Each conceptual plan was developed using the results of outreach and public workshops performed by TPL in partnership with RAP and local community organizations.

The State has awarded grant funding for the development and construction of these parks and it is anticipated that the awarded grant funding is sufficient to meet the project scope for each park project. The State awarded TPL a total of $2,719,650.00 for Patton Street Pocket Park.

The proposed Patton Street Pocket Park will provide a new park, playground and other small-scale recreational facilities suitable for children of all ages for a community with extremely limited opportunities for safe and pleasant outdoor recreational activities. The proposed Patton Street Pocket Park includes the construction of a community garden, children’s play area, fitness equipment, safety lighting, a landscaped open space area, and site amenities such as trees, picnic tables, benches, decorative fencing, and a drinking fountain.

TPL has now prepared detailed final plans and specifications for the development and construction of Patton Street Pocket Park for the Board’s approval. Upon approval, staff will issue a ROE permit to TPL for the development and construction of Patton Street Pocket Park.

Staff has determined that the subject project is a continuation of the existing project approved on February 2, 2011 (Board Report No. 11-043) that was exempted from CEQA [Class 3 (6, 9), 4 (1, 3), 11(3, 6), and 25]. A Notice of Exemption for this project was filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk on March 15, 2011. The approval of the final plans and specifications by the current Board action will not result in any additional environmental impacts, and therefore, are covered by the existing CEQA exemption. No additional CEQA documentation is required.
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The approval of this report will have no impact on RAP’s General Fund. The development and construction of this park project is anticipated to be funded by the awarded grant funds or funding sources other than RAP’s General Fund.

At this time, there is no fiscal impact to RAP for the maintenance of the subject project. Once the 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 Gino Ogtong, Management Analyst II, Planning, Construction, and Maintenance Branch.