REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE April 15, 2015

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: NORMANDIE AND CORDOVA PARK – ACCEPTANCE OF LANDSCAPE AND RECREATIONAL IMPROVEMENTS INSTALLED BY LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD INITIATIVE

R. Adams
*R. Barajas
H. Fujita

V. Israel
K. Regan
N. Williams

Approved

Disapproved

Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Adopt a resolution, substantially in the form on file in Board Office, and accept landscape and recreational improvements installed at 1903 West Cordova Street pursuant to the Donation Agreement between the City of Los Angeles (City), and the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI) for the acquisition, development, and construction of new parks in Los Angeles as a gift from LANI;

2. Direct the Board Secretary to furnish LANI with a letter of acceptance; and;

3. Authorize the installation of appropriate park signage and acknowledgement signage consistent with Department policy.

SUMMARY:

On March 2, 2011, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) approved a proposed Donation Agreement (Agreement), between the City and LANI for the development and construction of new parks in the City of Los Angeles (Report No. 11-071).
As detailed in the Agreement, City and LANI are to collaborate on the preparation and submittal of grant applications and conceptual plans for the prospective park projects identified in Exhibit A of the Agreement. Once funding is successfully identified and awarded to those prospective park projects, LANI is responsible to coordinate the acquisition (where necessary), development, and construction of each park project. LANI is required to develop plans for each park project and present those plans to Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) for review and approval. Upon completion of construction of each prospective park by LANI, RAP staff will submit the completed project to the Board for final approval and acceptance. If accepted by the Board, RAP will be responsible for long-term maintenance and operation of each park developed and constructed under the terms of the Agreement.

One of the prospective park projects identified in Exhibit A of the Agreement is the Normandie and Cordova Park Project, which proposed the development of a new 0.09 acre public park at 1903 West Cordova Street in the West Adams area of the City. The project scope of work included the construction of a children’s play area, outdoor fitness equipment, and site amenities such as landscaping, trees, and a decorative gate. It should be noted that Normandie and Cordova Park is also referred to and known as “West Adams Heights Park”; although no formal naming of the park site has yet been approved by the Board.

The total cost of the project was approximately $760,000.00. Project funding was secured by LANI made available from the Proposition 84 Statewide Park Program.

The project is now complete, and LANI has furnished the RAP with the required permits, drawings, operation and maintenance manuals, warranties and guarantees.

Staff has determined that the subject project was previously evaluated for environmental impacts (Report No. 11-071) in accordance with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and was determined to be exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 3(6), Class 4(1, 3), Class 11(3) of the City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15325(t) of the State CEQA Guidelines. A Notice of Exemption (NOE) was filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk on March 25, 2011. The scope of the project and environmental setting has not changed substantially since the NOE was filed, and therefore, no additional CEQA documentation is required.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The annual maintenance cost of the park is estimated at $15,000.00. Maintenance funds for the new park will be requested as part of the annual City budget process.

This report was prepared by Darryl Ford, Principal Project Coordinator, Planning, Construction, and Maintenance Branch.