REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE: January 21, 2015

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: SOLANO CANYON COMMUNITY GARDEN - AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT NO. 3370

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board;

1. Approve a proposed Amendment to Agreement No. 3370, substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, between the City of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles Community Garden Council, subject to approval of the Mayor and the City Attorney as to form;

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

3. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the Amendment subsequent to all necessary approvals.
SUMMARY:
On December 14, 2011, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) approved Agreement No. 3370 ("Agreement") between the City of Los Angeles ("City") and the Los Angeles Community Garden Council ("Organization"), to authorize the operation and maintenance of a community garden with multiple, individual garden plots at 545 Solano Avenue in Elysian Park (Report No. 11-323). The Agreement, which was executed on February 20, 2013, carries a three (3) year term, due to expire on February 19, 2016. The Agreement authorizes the Organization to operate and maintain a specified portion of the Solano Canyon Community Garden property, and make arrangements to be reimbursed for water and other utilities used at the community garden property by Farm Works Los Angeles ("Farm Works"), who shared the property with the Organization.

Farm Works previously used their portion of the property to operate and maintain an urban farm as a youth development site under a separate agreement (Agreement No. 3392) between the City and Farm Works. Through written correspondence received from Farm Works in December 2013, the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and the Organization were notified that Farm Works had been dissolved as a legal entity and would no longer be operating or maintaining the urban farm at Solano Canyon Community Garden. Consequently, on February 19, 2014, the Board terminated Agreement 3392 with Farm Works (Report No. 14-044). After unsuccessful attempts to identify another organization to use the Farm Works portion of the property on a shard basis, the Organization requested that RAP authorize the Organization to use the area previously vacated by Farm Works.

This proposed Amendment to the Agreement with the Organization, grants permission to the Organization to operate and maintain the entire garden property, including that portion of land previously used by Farm Works. Pursuant to the RAP Community Garden and Open space Policy, the increased allocation of space to the Organization results in an increase in the
Community Garden Fee that the Organization pays to the City annually. The Organization has agreed to the increased fees.

The proposed Amendment to Agreement No. 3370, includes the following changes in accordance with said Policy:

(1) Annual Community Garden Fee increase from $100.00 to $500.00;
(2) Payment of Cost Recovery Reimbursement Fees to RAP for utilities, now to be paid solely by the Organization;
(3) Section 22 - Notices: Changed to include only the Organization; and,
(4) Exhibit-A - Site Map: Allocates entire garden property to the Organization.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Amending Agreement No. 3370 with the Organization will have no adverse impact on the RAP General Fund, as Organization shall be solely responsible for costs and expenses associated with the operation and maintenance of the community garden.

This report was prepared by Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst, Partnership Division.