REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE: April 06, 2016

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: CABRILLO BEACH 2016 MONTROSE SETTLEMENTS RESTORATION PROGRAM FISHING OUTREACH MINI-GRANT — AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT PROPOSAL; ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS

R. Barajas
H. Fujita
V. Israel

K. Regan
N. Williams

Approved □ Disapproved □ Withdrawn □

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve the submission of a 2016 Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP) Fishing Outreach Mini-Grant proposal to augment funding for the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Cabrillo Beach Pier Fishing Program (CBPFP) in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00), 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 2016 MSRP Fishing Outreach Mini-Grant, if awarded, in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00) from the MSRP to conduct the CBPFP for the summer of 2016, 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,

5. Authorize RAP’s Chief Accounting Employee to establish the necessary account and to appropriate funding received to the necessary account within "Recreation and Parks
Grant Fund 205 to accept the MSRP grant in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00) for the CBPFP, if awarded.

SUMMARY:

RAP was invited once again to apply for the MSRP’s 2016 Fishing Outreach Mini-Grant. The MSRP is a multi-agency government program that was created in 2001 following the settlement of a lawsuit regarding impacts to the natural environment caused by the release of contaminants into the marine ecosystem in Southern California through a wastewater outfall pipe located offshore of the Palos Verdes peninsula. Releases of these chemicals led to impacts on marine life, and reduced fishing activities because of fish contamination, which continue to injure natural resources. Among various projects included in the MSRP’s 2005 Restoration Plan, MSRP established an educational mini-grant program to support youth fishing programs that teach children about local fish contamination and safe fishing practices.

In 2011, RAP applied for and was awarded a Five Thousand Dollar ($5,000) grant under MSRP’s mini-grant program which allowed an instructional fishing program for day campers for about two hundred fifty (250) participants.

RAP has received annual grants each summer, for escalating amounts. In 2014 and again in 2015, RAP applied for and received Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00) to increase participation to fifteen (15) buses bringing over Five Hundred (500) summer camp youth to the program. After a morning session learning to fish, how to identify fish that are safe to eat, and how to prepare fish for consumption, the day campers then enhance their day of learning with a tour of the Cabrillo Aquarium led by Park Rangers or other knowledgeable RAP staff.

The maximum grant of Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000.00) has been requested again for 2016. If awarded, the grant funds would be used to conduct at least Fifteen (15) four-hour sessions over the summer for an estimate five hundred twenty-five (525) youth from RAP summer day camps at recreation centers located within at-risk communities. Youth will be educated about the local coastal environment, RAP’s role and responsibilities in the ocean eco-system, and safe fishing practices, as well as, how to bait a hook, cast a fishing line, and catch and release fish. MSRP provides written materials for these sessions. The program will also feature a tour of the Cabrillo Aquarium. The Region Superintendents are in support of this program for 2016.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

RAP will provide in-kind support for this program for staff to administer the program and coordinate youth groups, and for some fishing equipment. The Montrose Settlements Restoration Program gives stronger consideration to proposals that provide matching funds or in-kind support.

This report was prepared by Vicki Israel, Assistant General Manager.