RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Retroactively authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to submit a two-year grant application to Kaiser Permanente for the Operation Splash Program for 2017 and 2018, in the amount of Four Hundred Eight Thousand Dollars ($408,000.00) for RAP aquatics programming, subject to Mayor and City Council consideration;

2. Direct RAP staff to transmit a copy of the grant renewal application documents to the Mayor, Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA), and 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 or Designee to accept and receive the Operation Splash Program grant renewal for 2017 and 2018, if awarded, in the amount of Four Hundred Eight Thousand Dollars ($408,000.00), from Kaiser Permanente for aquatics programming and the "Rethink Your Drink" campaign, subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council;

4. Designate RAP's General Manager, Chief Financial 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 requests, which may be necessary for the implementation and completion of the project(s);

5. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee to establish the necessary account and/or to appropriate funding received within "Recreation and Parks Grant" Fund 205 to accept the Operation Splash Program renewal grant for 2017 and 2018, if awarded, in the amount of Four Hundred Eight Thousand Dollars ($408,000.00) for aquatics programming; and,
6. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee to make any technical changes, as may be necessary to effectuate the intent of these funds.

SUMMARY

Kaiser Permanente is a long-standing valued supporter of the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), whose annual grants have allowed RAP to enhance aquatic services throughout the City over the last ten years. For the summers of 2015 and 2016, Kaiser Permanente awarded RAP Four Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars ($480,000.00) under their Operation Splash Program. As in past years, this Kaiser grant funded free swimming lessons and subsidized Junior Lifeguard program participation for thousands of youth from low-income areas of the City, and provided an extra week of public swim operation for several seasonal pools. In anticipation of the 2017 and 2018 summer seasons, Kaiser recently approached RAP Management on September 12, 2016, and invited RAP to submit an application for a 2017 and 2018, two-year grant in the amount of Four Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars ($408,000.00). The application and associated documents were due to Kaiser Permanente on October 10, 2016, and were timely submitted by RAP staff.

As in past years, the objectives for the 2017 and 2018 Operation Splash grant program include: 1) increasing opportunities for safe physical activities for youth from low-income neighborhoods where health disparities are greatest and opportunities for safe physical activity are often scarce; 2) teaching children and adults basic water safety and swimming skills in order to prevent drowning; 3) promoting life-long physical activity; and 4) promoting healthy beverage choices.

In 2017 and 2018, the renewed grant will be used again to supplement funding for RAP Aquatics programs and related activities at approximately forty-nine (49) RAP pool sites located within disadvantaged areas of the City. Such programs and activities consist of RAP's Learn-to-Swim Program, Junior Lifeguard Program, and the "Rethink Your Drink" campaign which encourages healthy beverage choices. These aquatic programs teach youth swimming fundamentals, water safety, emergency response, teamwork, and goal setting, with an emphasis on healthy choices. Approximately Seven Thousand (7,000) youth and adults are projected to be served through these programs.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:
Acceptance of this grant does not require RAP to provide matching funds, and therefore would not impact the RAP General Fund. The grant provides essential funding that augments aquatic services to youth.

This Report was prepared by Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst II, and Edneisha Lee, Management Assistant, Partnership Division.