

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

APPROVED

NO. 07-300

DATE: December 12, 2007

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BOARD OF RECREATION
and Park Commissioners

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: WATTS CARE - SIX SITES COMPREHENSIVE ANTI-GANG INITIATIVE - GRANT OF \$80,000 FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

R. Adams _____
H. Fujita _____
S. Huntley _____
*V. Israel VP

J. Kolb _____
F. Mok _____
K. Regan _____
M. Shull _____

[Handwritten Signature]
General Manager

Approved

Disapproved

Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Accept from the State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services a grant in the amount of \$80,000 for the Watts Care - Six Sites Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative subject to approval of the City Council and the Mayor;
2. Direct staff to transmit the grant award documentation to the Mayor and City Council for approval pursuant to Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.7; and,
3. Authorize the General Manager, subsequent to necessary approvals, to execute the resulting grant agreement and any subsequent amendments thereto, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 14.8 et seq. as may be amended, on behalf of the City, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

SUMMARY:

The Department is requesting permission to accept a grant from the State of California, Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) in the amount of \$80,000 for the Watts Care - Six Sites Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative. The Department was chosen to receive this funding from the Department of Justice which is administered through the State of California OES. The original six city sites identified as those in need of such resources for youth development were (1) Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas; (2) the 222 Corridor in Pennsylvania (encompassing seven smaller cities -- York, Lancaster, Reading, Allentown, Bethlehem,

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Easton, and Harrisburg); (3) Milwaukee, Wisconsin; (4) Cleveland, Ohio; (5) Tampa/Hillsborough County, Florida; and (6) Los Angeles, California. These sites were selected based on criteria including gang crime rates, existing infrastructure to support prevention and intervention efforts, and existing law enforcement/community partnerships addressing gang problems.

OES staff held meetings with community leaders, residents, and parents in the Watts community which has a very high rate of gang related criminal activity. The Department was identified as a group that could help to provide youth with alternatives to gang involvement. During the planning meetings, Department staff indicated that since existing programs that targeted youth development for at-risk populations were already in place, the money that had originally been set aside to expand programs could be better utilized to purchase two vans to 1) transport youth outside the area on field trips designed to expose them to alternatives to gang involvement; and 2) to transport youth across gang territory boundaries to and from Recreation and Parks facilities as a means of increasing involvement in existing programs.

The proposed grant funds budget, which includes the purchase of the two passenger vans is described as follows:

<u>EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>COST</u>
Two 12-passenger vans	\$66,000
Equipment and supplies	12,000
One or more field trips to the Museum of Tolerance	<u>2,000</u>
Total	\$80,000

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The preliminary assessment of annual maintenance costs for which the Department may be required to pay totals \$1,706.36 annually. Although, a request for Equipment List Deviation (Rule 11) will be submitted to gain acceptance into the Department of General Services' Maintenance and Replacement Program for vehicles which are purchased with grant funds.

This report was prepared by Olujimi A. Hawes, Management Analyst II, Pacific Region.