REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

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NO. 10-090

DATE___April_21, 2010

BOARD OF RECREATION and PARK COMMISSIONERS

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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: VENICE BEACH RECREATION CENTER - LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT SUBSTATION - PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS

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			General Manager
Approved		Disapproved	Withdrawn
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RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

- 1. Authorize the transfer of funds from Council District Eleven (CD 11), consisting of funding in the amount of \$25,000, for the replacement of the front windows, plumbing improvements, and removal of a concrete bench at the Venice Beach Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) Substation, subject to the approval by the Mayor and City Council; and,
- 2. Authorize the Chief Accounting Employee to transfer subject funds into Fund 205, Department 88, Account FM03 for use on the proposed improvements as mentioned in the Summary of this report.

SUMMARY:

The Council Office would like the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to make some improvements to the Venice Beach LAPD substation, located at 1800 Ocean Front Walk, Venice, CA 90291, consisting of the replacement of the front windows, to be contracted by RAP to a Cityapproved vendor, and the plumbing improvements and removal of a concrete bench, to be performed by City forces. CD 11 will pay for these proposed improvements through a fund transfer to RAP Venice Beach Police Substation account, Fund 205, Department 88, Account FM03. Cost for this project is estimated to be \$25,000.

The renovation project at Venice Beach Ocean Front Walk was completed about 9 years ago, which included a building that houses the recreation offices on one side and an LAPD substation on the

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other. RAP has been maintaining this building, as it is on RAP property. The original design included a holding cell, which is not needed and is not being utilized for that purpose. The LAPD utilizes the substation on a daily basis. During the summer months, there are almost 60 personnel utilizing the facility.

The large windows in the front of the building were vandalized years ago and have never been replaced. The windows face north, so the majority of the visitors who come to the Venice Beach Recreation Center and stop by the substation are greeted by these windows that are full of etching/taggings. This is a poor reflection on our Department and the City as well. The LAPD, along with RAP and the Council Office, feel this is not appropriate for City personnel. The original metal plumbing fixtures that were installed were the type used for inmates, wherein no parts can be removed. The building includes a small jail cell, with a large cement bench in the center. However, due to state law, LAPD cannot detain suspects in the substation. The area is used for the storage of emergency equipment and for the officers' use. Removal of the block would allow LAPD to properly store emergency equipment and provide additional options for better utilizing the room.

Staff has determined that the subject improvements, which consist of the replacement of tagged/etched windows and plumbing fixtures, and the removal of a concrete bench constitute renovations to an existing facility, and, therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1 (1) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Staff has discussed the proposed improvements with the Assistant General Manager of Operations East, the Superintendent of the West Region, and the Office of Councilmember Bill Rosendahl of the Eleventh Council District, and each supports the project and concurs with staff's recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There will be no fiscal impact to the Department's General Fund associated with this project as the project will be funded entirely through the CD 11 funds transfer. Maintenance for the building will be performed and funded through the RAP's annual maintenance budget.

This report was prepared by Gino Ogtong, Management Analyst II, Contract and Administration Section.