

APPROVED

SEP 20 2017

BOARD REPORT

BOARD OF RECREATION
AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

NO. 17-204

DATE September 20, 2017

C.D. 4, 15

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FACILITIES GRANT
AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATIONS; CITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION; ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS

* AP Diaz	_____	V. Israel	_____
R. Barajas	_____	S. Piña-Cortez	_____
H. Fujita	_____	N. Williams	<u>NDW</u>



General Manager

Approved

Disapproved

Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Retro-actively authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to submit the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities grant application, consisting of two projects, to the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation's Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS), subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council;
2. Recommend to the City Council the adoption of the accompanying Resolutions, one for each project (Attachments No. 1 and No. 2), which authorizes the City of Los Angeles to apply for the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant funds and designates 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 grant applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests, and all other required documents necessary for the completion of the proposed projects;
3. Direct staff to transmit a copy of the grant Resolutions 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, pursuant to the Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6 *et seq.* as may be amended;
4. Direct staff to transmit a copy of the grant award 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 the Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 14.6 *et seq.* as may be amended;

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5. Authorize RAP's General Manager to accept and receive the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant funds, if awarded, subject to the approval of the Mayor and City Council and City Attorney approval, as to form, of the resulting agreement; and
6. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee to establish the necessary account(s), and/or to appropriate funding received within "Recreation and Parks Grant" Fund 205 to accept the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant fund, if awarded, from OGALS.

SUMMARY

In March 2002, Proposition 40 was passed by the California voters to fund a \$2.6 billion "California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002". The California Clean Water, Clean Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks, and Coastal Protection Act of 2002 is intended to acquire and develop properties of the state park system, to acquire and develop neighborhood, community, and regional parks and recreational areas, for land, air, and water conservation programs, including acquisition for those purposes, and to acquire, restore, preserve and interpret California's historical and cultural resources. Proposition 40 has several categories such as the Proposition 40 Specified Grant, Proposition 40 Youth Soccer, and others including the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Program.

On February 21st, 2017, the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Program Notice of Funding Availability was released by the OGALS. This is a competitive grant program and it will provide approximately \$10 million for the development of public outdoor structures and exhibits that facilitate Outdoor Environmental Education Learning. RAP learned of this grant opportunity on or about June 5, 2017. The grant application was due September 1st, 2017, and OGALS must receive the City Council-approved Resolution within sixty (60) days of the grant due date.

RAP staff were working to identify projects that meet the grant requirements of 1) providing focused learning in a natural outdoor setting, with native vegetation, 2) learning that is encompassed in a natural environment, and that inspires environmental stewardship and an appreciation of the natural world, and 3) learning that includes an understanding of how humans interact with, and are dependent on the natural ecosystems. The two projects meeting this criteria have been identified and are proposed as follows:

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Project Name	CD	Scope	Award Amount
Cabrillo Marine Aquarium – Marine Themed Interactive/Interpretative Structures and Exhibits	15	Construction of an interpretative statue of a large grunion statue at the aquarium entrance and an educational interactive structures and a series of exhibits located along beach with a walkway connection	\$420,000.00
Griffith Park Urban Environmental Center – Education and Demonstration Viewing Terrace	4	Construct an outdoor nature lab; a wide-stepped gathering area to view ongoing research and propagation; and a soils display area to offer hands-on learning experiences about the importance of biodiversity, water conservation, native plants, and healthy soils	\$435,000.00

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium - Marine Themed Interactive/Interpretative Structures and Exhibits

Cabrillo Beach is located at 3800 Stephen M. White Drive in the San Pedro area of the City (CD 15). This 40.07 acre park provides beach access, bathhouse, a children’s play area, picnic areas, a fishing pier for the surrounding community, and a home to the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is a public aquarium that engages visitors in education, recreation, and research of marine life in Southern California.

On May 7, 2014, the Recreation and Parks Board of Commissioners approved an Interpretative Master Plan for the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (Report No. 14-113). The Master Plan proposed to improve the visitor experience by:

1. Developing an Experience Hub as a dramatic and welcoming public entrance to the facility.
2. Redesigning and remodeling the Susanne Lawrenz-Miller Exhibit Hall.
3. Developing a strong presence in the Cabrillo Beach Coastal Park and on the Los Angeles waterfront
4. Developing a presence at AltaSea in the Port of Los Angeles.

Sufficient funding for the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium – Renovation and Expansion Project (PRJ21119) has not yet been identified.

The Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant offers RAP the funding opportunity for the third item of the Master Plan, which is to develop a strong presence in the Cabrillo Beach Park and on the Los Angeles waterfront by providing an interactive grunion statue in front of the

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Aquarium and marine themed interpretative educational exhibits located on the beach with a walkway connecting these two locations (Cabrillo Project).

Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, a non-profit organization, is committed to cover related cost such as non-construction and other non-grant cost as a match to the grant award.

Griffith Park Commonwealth Nursery – Griffith Park Urban Environmental Center

The existing nursery at the Griffith Park Commonwealth Nursery (Nursery), located at 2650 N. Commonwealth Avenue, Los Angeles (CD 4), was a fully operational nursery from the 1920's through the 1970's, when budget cuts led to the facility's decline. Until then, the Nursery served as a vital propagation center for both native and non-native trees and plants, with over twenty-five (25) gardeners working in six (6) greenhouses on seventeen (17) acres of land. The Nursery also functioned as a training site for the Department's grounds maintenance staff, as well as an educational facility at which school children learned about horticulture and native flora. The facility began to steadily deteriorate after the passage of Proposition 13 in the late 1970's, when staffing levels and resources dwindled. The facility has not been operational since that time and only three (3) partial greenhouses and dilapidated buildings remain.

RAP and the Los Angeles Parks Foundation (LAPF), a non-profit organization, have partnered to provide additional resources to restore the Nursery. RAP and LAPF were successful in obtaining Proposition K funds to fund Phase 1 of the Griffith Park Urban Environmental Center (GPU EC). LAPF has raised Seven Hundred, Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00) from private donors for this first phase of the project, which is the rehabilitation and renovation of the 2-acre terraced planting area. Phase 1 of this part of the project is expected to be completed by the end of 2018, and encompasses most of the two-acre parcel.

The Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant application, if awarded, would fund the remaining portion of the 2-acre terraced planting area. The grant would provide the construction of an outdoor nature lab where the public may participate in demonstration and/or view the research and propagation of the plants in the lower terrace planting area.

LAPF has committed to cover all non-construction costs as a match to the grant award.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

At this time, there is no anticipated fiscal impact to RAP's General Fund. The maintenance of the three (3) features of the Cabrillo Project will be covered with support from the Friends of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. No additional staffing is required for operations. The improvements made to GPU EC will be operate and maintain by LAPF under the "Donation Agreement for the Development and Construction of the Griffith Park Horticulture Learning Center" between RAP and LAPF.p

This Report was prepared by Kai Wong, Management Analyst, Grants Administration, Finance Division and reviewed by Bill Jones, Senior Management Analyst II, Grants Administration, Finance Division

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Resolution of the City Council of the City of Los Angeles – Cabrillo Marine Aquarium – Marine Themed Interactive/Interpretative Structures and Exhibits
- 2) Resolution of the City Council of the City of Los Angeles - Griffith Park Urban Environmental Center – Education and Demonstration Viewing Terrace

Resolution No: _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Approving the Application for

**OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FACILITIES GRANT FUNDS
Cabrillo Marine Aquarium – Marine Themed Interactive/Interpretative Structures and
Exhibits**

WHEREAS, the State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility by the Legislature of the State of California for the administration of the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant Program, setting up necessary procedures governing the application; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the Applicant to certify by resolution the approval of the application before submission of said application to the State; and

WHEREAS, successful Applicants will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete the Grant Scope project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES hereby:

Approves the filing of an application for the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium – Marine Themed Interactive/Interpretative Structures and Exhibits; and

1. Certifies that said Applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, the sufficient funds to complete the project; and
2. Certifies that if the project is awarded, the Applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project, and
3. Certifies that the Applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the General Provisions contained in the contract shown in the Grant Administration Guide; and
4. Delegates the authority to General Manager, Executive Officer, or Assistant General Manager to conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium – Marine Themed Play Structures and walkway; and
5. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines.

The undersigned City Clerk of the Applicant here before named does hereby attest and certify that the forgoing is a true and full copy of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Los Angeles adopted at a duly convened meeting on the date above-mentioned, which has not been altered, amended or repealed.

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT, City Clerk

By: _____

Resolution No: _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Approving the Application for

**OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION FACILITIES GRANT FUNDS
Griffith Park Urban Environmental Center – Education and Demonstration Viewing
Terrace**

WHEREAS, the State Department of Parks and Recreation has been delegated the responsibility by the Legislature of the State of California for the administration of the Outdoor Environmental Education Facilities Grant Program, setting up necessary procedures governing the application; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the State Department of Parks and Recreation require the Applicant to certify by resolution the approval of the application before submission of said application to the State; and

WHEREAS, successful Applicants will enter into a contract with the State of California to complete the Grant Scope project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES hereby:

Approves the filing of an application for the Griffith Park Urban Environmental Center – Education and Demonstration Viewing Terrace; and

1. Certifies that said Applicant has or will have available, prior to commencement of any work on the project included in this application, the sufficient funds to complete the project; and
2. Certifies that if the project is awarded, the Applicant has or will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project, and
3. Certifies that the Applicant has reviewed, understands, and agrees to the General Provisions contained in the contract shown in the Grant Administration Guide; and
4. Delegates the authority to General Manager, Executive Officer, or Assistant General Manager to conduct all negotiations, sign and submit all documents, including, but not limited to applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Griffith Park Urban Environmental Center and
5. Agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations and guidelines.

The undersigned City Clerk of the Applicant here before named does hereby attest and certify that the forgoing is a true and full copy of a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Los Angeles adopted at a duly convened meeting on the date above-mentioned, which has not been altered, amended or repealed.

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT, City Clerk

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