

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

**APPROVED**  
MAY 7 2008

NO. 08-125

DATE: May 7, 2008

C.D. Various

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS  
and PARK SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS WITHIN RECREATION AND PARKS FOR THE AQUATICS SECTION

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General Manager

Approved                     

Disapproved                     

Withdrawn                     

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Authorize the Chief Accounting Employee to establish Account 841M Citywide Aquatics in Fund 302, Department 89; and
2. Authorize the Chief Accounting Employee to transfer \$200,000 to Account 841M from Fund 301, Department 88, Account 053M for the purchase of lifeguard towers at Hansen Dam and of shade structures at various facilities.

To:	Fund 302, Department 89	\$200,000
	Account 841M – Citywide Aquatics	

SUMMARY:

The Aquatics Section provides lifesaving staff for Hansen Dam, where the zero depth design of the Swim Lake makes it impractical to use the lifeguard towers which are designed for use at a conventional pool. During an emergency rescue situation, lifeguards must climb down and run to the water, losing valuable time as well as visual contact with the victim in the water. As a result, there have been "near misses" of drowning due to these conditions and line of sight obstructions. To remedy this dangerous situation, staff recommends purchasing beach lifeguard towers where lifeguards will have access to the swim lake by ramp that will allow a rapid response while maintaining visual contact with the rescue victim and site.

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Additionally, shade structures are needed at Lake Balboa, Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Pool, and Peck Park Pool to protect patrons and staff from exposure to direct sunlight during the day. Our conditions of employment documents require employees to employ sun protection measures, but the facility design does not provide inherent sun protection. Patrons spend long periods of time without proper sun protection during events and programs. Portable structures (EZ Ups) are not sufficiently large to cover the areas, necessitating the moving of those structures throughout the day to be effective. They are also structurally weak and require frequent replacement. Temporary structures have proven effective in providing shade, but they have not fared well against the elements, particularly the wind, which periodically lifts them off the ground.

A fund transfer of \$200,000 for the Aquatic Section will provide for the purchase of the lifeguard towers and shade structures. The cost estimate for the five lifeguard towers is \$123,000 (\$24,600 each). The cost estimate for the shade structures are as follows:

Lake Balboa	\$31,500
Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Pool	\$27,000
Peck Park Pool	\$18,500

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The transfer of funds will have a zero net impact to the Department's General Fund and will allow for the necessary purchases to provide safety services at Hansen Dam and protective sun shade at Lake Balboa, Van Nuys Sherman Oaks Pool, and Peck Park Pool.

This report prepared by Sophia Piña-Cortez, West Region Superintendent.