

APPROVED
MAR 04 2009

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 09-053

DATE March 4, 2009

BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS

C.D. Various

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN RECREATION AND
PARKS AND THE CALIFORNIA CONSERVATION CORPS FOR PARK
MAINTENANCE AND MINOR DEVELOPMENT WORK

R. Adams _____	J. Kolb _____
H. Fujita _____	F. Mok _____
S. Huntley _____	K. Regan _____
*V. Israel  _____	M. Shull _____



General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, between the Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) and the California Conservation Corps (CCC) for a term of three (3) years and in an amount not to exceed \$300,000, subject to the approval of the Mayor, and of the City Attorney as to form;
2. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit forthwith the proposed MOU to the Mayor in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3 and to the City Attorney for review as to form;
3. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the proposed MOU, subsequent to the receipt of the necessary approvals; and,
4. Authorize the Chief Accounting Employee to encumber \$58,500 by the authority of this Board Report subject to the release of the Proposition 40 Per Capita (\$10,000) and Proposition 40 RZH (\$48,500) grant funds from the State for the labor outlined in the Summary of this Board Report for the proposed work in Griffith Park.

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SUMMARY:

The California Conservation Corps (CCC) is a state agency which offers a workforce development program that provides educational and work opportunities to young adults between the ages of 18 and 25 on an annual basis. The CCC's mission is to engage young men and women in meaningful work, public service and educational activities that assist them in becoming more responsible citizens, while protecting and enhancing California's environment, human resources and communities. The CCC program assists its members in developing employable skills and a positive work ethic through hands-on experience in projects involving environmental conservation, fire protection, and emergency response and recovery in the aftermath of fires, floods or earthquakes.

To accomplish its mandate, the California Public Resources Code (Section 14000 et seq.) specifically authorizes CCC to provide crew labor for public works projects sponsored by local, state and federal agencies as well as non-profit organizations, who may hire the CCC on an hourly basis or per-project basis, depending on the nature of the work. CCC provides project coordinators who work with interested parties or "sponsors" to define project scope and to develop a project cost estimate. Sponsors provide plans/specifications, materials, and any special tools needed, as well as technical supervision. The CCC provides its own vehicles and basic tool complement, along with a CCC staff crew supervisor. Upon project completion, sponsors reimburse the CCC for labor costs incurred hourly at the minimum wage.

The Department's vision to build healthy communities and foster youth development in safe, attractive and well-maintained facilities provides a direct complement to the CCC's mission. This has led to a successful collaboration on a variety of environmental conservation projects on City parkland over the years. On August 9, 2006, the Board approved an MOU between the Department and the CCC, which expired on December 31, 2007 (Board Report No. 06-220). Under the terms of that MOU, the following types of projects were completed:

- Vegetation management
- Trail clearing and construction
- Tree planting
- Irrigation system installation
- Erosion control
- Removal of aquatic vegetation from Lake Machado

This important work could not have been completed without the assistance of the CCC due to budget constraints and the lack of sufficient grounds maintenance staff within RAP's workforce to take on non-routine maintenance projects. The Department wishes to continue enlisting the aid of the CCC for park maintenance and minor development work. Department staff has

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identified several locations, within three Regions that possess varying degrees of work appropriate for the CCC.

In the Pacific Region, Angels Gate Park, White Point Nature Preserve, Peck Park, Bandini Canyon Park and Cabrillo Beach will require a variety of maintenance and minor development work. Activities will include but are not limited to walking trails and bike path maintenance, removal of invasive plants, tree trimming and minor road maintenance. The Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park requires management of vegetation at Lake Machado. The aquatic vegetation along the shores of the lake requires management to assist Los Angeles County Vector Control with mosquito population control.

In the Valley Region, Hansen Dam and the Sepulveda Basin both have a variety of maintenance and minor development work required. Work will include but is not limited to walking trails and bike path maintenance, removal of invasive plants, tree trimming and minor road maintenance.

In the Griffith-Metro Region, Griffith Park requires extensive fire recovery work in the form of invasive plant control and minor development activities. Department staff will continuously review and identify appropriate work projects for the CCC, in an effort to maximize effective usage of Departmental grounds maintenance staff.

CCC assistance will aid on-going fire recovery efforts in Griffith Park that exceed the expertise and stamina of our dedicated force of fire recovery volunteers. For example, assistance of a CCC crew is required to assist in rehabilitation efforts at Griffith Park's Captain's Roost and Dante's View sites. A CCC crew is needed to install 2,100 linear feet of new perimeter fencing in these areas with a new recycled potash post railing product, perform general landscaping and site grading, and removal of and installation of new steps and retaining walls. Similar work may also be required in the Bird Sanctuary area.

The CCC may also assist the Department in expediting the removal of the overgrowth of invasive plants in specific burn areas in Griffith Park. This will support the on-going efforts of fire recovery volunteers. The Department does not have available staff to complete this work in a timely manner, and the spread of such vegetation prevents the re-growth of native plants by competing for light, water, and nutrients. Ultimately, invasive plants have a negative impact on the survival of native wildlife in Griffith Park which is dependent upon the supply of native plants for food and shelter.

For the first year of the Agreement, the Pacific Region and Valley Region have identified Contractual Services 3040 Account funds for the work described in this Board Report. Pacific Region anticipates using approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000 from Contractual Services 3040 Account. Griffith-Metro Region has identified \$58,500 of Proposition 40 funds for the first year

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of the Agreement. Funding for the two remaining years of the Agreement will be determined annually. CCC services will be utilized subject to funding availability.

The Proposition 40 funding for the two (2) projects in Griffith Park are as follows:

Griffith Park	Funding Source	Fund/Dept/Account	Grant Amount Encumbered
Captain's Roost Restoration	Prop 40 PC	47T/89/TBD	\$10,000
	Prop 40 RZH	47W/89/EZ01	\$13,400
Dante's View	Prop 40 RZH	47W/89/EZ02	\$35,100
TOTAL:			\$58,500

The proposed MOU would allow the Department to utilize CCC services on an as-needed basis during a three (3) year term, with tasks assigned by means of a work order system and then compensated upon completion of each assignment, at a cost agreed upon prior to the project initiation. The costs would be based on estimates provided by CCC on a task-by-task basis.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Proposition 40 funds were available until the State froze all grant funds. If grant funds are not available from Proposition 40, the projects in Griffith Park will be delayed. Use of Proposition 40 funds will provide no impact on the Department's General Fund. Contractual Services 3040 Account funds are available and there will be an impact on the Department's General Fund.

This Board Report was prepared by Jason Kitahara, Senior Recreation Director II, Griffith-Metro Region.