

APPROVED
FEB 19 2014

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 14-038

DATE February 19, 2014

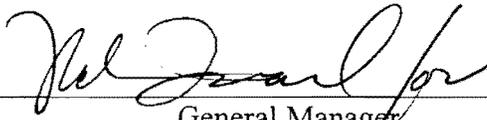
**BOARD OF RECREATION
& PARK COMMISSIONERS**

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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: PERSHING SQUARE – EXPENDITURE TO RENOVATE EXISTING INTERIOR SPACE INTO COMMUNITY ROOMS

R. Adams _____	V. Israel _____
R. Barajas _____	K. Regan _____
H. Fujita _____	*N. Williams <u>NDW</u>



General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the expenditure of up to \$350,000.00 from Fund 302, Department 89, Account 812M - Pershing Square Capital Improvements to renovate existing interior space into community rooms.

SUMMARY:

Pershing Square Park (Pershing Square) is one of the City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks' (RAP) oldest parks. This outdoor concert, event center and public park is located in the heart of downtown Los Angeles at 532 South Olive Street.

The Park sits above the Pershing Square Parking Garage (Garage). The Garage is a three-story underground public parking facility, located directly under Pershing Square Park. The Garage, constructed in 1950, was leased for fifty (50) years to a private operator. In September 2000, at the end of the long-term lease, RAP assumed self-operation of the parking garage. The Department of General Services (GSD), under a Memorandum of Understanding with RAP, carries out daily garage management and operations.

In addition to funding garage operations, Garage revenues (Revenues) provide funding for park maintenance, park programs (such as the summer concert series, Downtown on Ice, etc.), other special events, and capital improvements (at Pershing Square). Revenues also provide funding for mobile youth programming for youth and families within a five (5) mile radius of the park in small pocket parks that serve economically disadvantaged neighborhoods.

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Unlike many parks which have a physical building in which to conduct programming, Pershing Square has no indoor dedicated space for this purpose. However, there are two (2) existing interior rooms with a bathroom facility at park level which could be renovated to provide indoor space for programming purposes. Staff is recommending that the Board approve the expenditure of up to \$350,000.00 from Fund 302, Department 89, Account 812M - Pershing Square Capital Improvements to renovate existing interior space into community rooms. The Pershing Square Capital Improvements Account has sufficient funds to support the project's anticipated costs.

The community rooms will be used for small classes such as Mommy and Me, Yoga, Zumba and arts and crafts. The rooms will also be available for meetings such as the Park Advisory Board, the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council and the Downtown Los Angeles Arts Council. In summer months and special events, the rooms will double as a hospitality area for performing artists.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There is no fiscal impact on the Department's General Fund since funds for the project are available from Pershing Square Garage accounts as identified in the recommendation of this report.

This report was prepared by Noel Williams, Chief Management Analyst, Finance Division – Budget Section.