

APPROVED
AUG 12 2015

BOARD OF RECREATION
& PARK COMMISSIONERS

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 15-175

DATE August 12, 2015

C.D. 4

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: RUNYON CANYON ACQUISITION PROJECT – ENVIRONMENTAL
ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION PROGRAM – RETROACTIVE
AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION; CITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION; ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT

R. Barajas _____ K. Regan _____
H. Fujita _____ *N. Williams NDW
V. Israel _____

Nail Williams for.

General Manager

Approved

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Retroactively authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks' (RAP) submission of a Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program grant application for the Runyon Canyon Acquisition Project, which consists of the acquisition of an approximately 3.81-acre parcel (APN 5571-026-007), located at 2450 Solar Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90046, for recreational purposes, subject to City Council review and approval;
2. Designate 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 applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for the completion of the Runyon Canyon Acquisition Project;
3. Recommend to the City Council the adoption of the accompanying Resolution, which authorizes the submission of a grant application for the EEM Program grant in the approximate amount of \$500,000.00 for the Runyon Canyon Acquisition Project;
4. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee to establish the necessary account and/or to appropriate funding received within "Recreation and Parks Grant" Fund 205 to accept

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the EEM Program grant in the approximate amount of \$500,000.00 for the Runyon Canyon Acquisition Project; and

5. Direct staff to transmit a copy of the Resolution to the City Clerk for committee and City Council approval, in accordance with EEM Program grant guidelines.

SUMMARY:

At its meeting of October 3, 2007, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners approved the preliminary authorization to expand Runyon Canyon Park by acquiring the property located at 2450 Solar Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90046, in the Hollywood Hills area of Los Angeles, adjacent to Runyon Canyon Park, at the request of Former Councilmember Tom LaBonge, Fourth District (Board Report No. 07-230). At the time of the approved Report, Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff had determined that the approved Proposition K funding was not sufficient to complete the acquisition and began working with other City entities and outside partners to seek additional funding for the project. At its meeting of January 7, 2015, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners and the City Council, at its meeting of March 3, 2015, approved the submission of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant application for Runyon Canyon in the amount of \$1,500,000.00, which the State has since recommended for funding to the National Park Service (Board Report No. 15-004 and Council File No. 15-0177).

In April 2015, the California Natural Resources Agency announced a funding opportunity through the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program. Subsequently, The Trust for Public Land (TPL), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, whose mission is to create parks and protect land for people, contacted RAP to continue its efforts in helping to secure funding for the Runyon Canyon Acquisition Project through this grant program. The grant application was due by July 13, 2015; however, EEM Program funding eligibility was not determined until after the deadline for advance Board consideration.

Over the years, TPL has partnered with RAP in the acquisition and development of various capital projects. Currently, TPL is working with the City of Los Angeles (City) to preserve approximately 14 acres in the area of the City's popular Runyon Canyon Park, which is classified as a Regional Park, by helping RAP to acquire the proposed project parcel, also known as the "Knoll." This EEM Program grant will be used to supplement current funding for the proposed Runyon Canyon Acquisition Project, which is estimated to cost approximately \$3,500,000.00. The total anticipated funding for the project will include the secured \$1,500,000.00 in Proposition K Specified funds, pending \$1,500,000.00 award from LWCF, and \$500,000.00 in EEM Program funds, if awarded. The acquisition is anticipated to be completed by December 2015.

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Upon completion of the Runyon Canyon Park acquisition, this heavily used regional park will serve an estimated 2.9 million residents, as shown in Attachment No. 2. The parcel is intended for general, open space, recreational use as the site is widely popular with hikers, joggers, and dog walkers as an expansion of the Runyon Canyon Park. The proposed parcels are privately owned and under the constant threat of further development and being closed to the public altogether. By acquiring this property for open space conservation, RAP will ensure that it will remain open to the public for recreational purposes.

With regards to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination, RAP's Environmental Management Section has determined that the proposed acquisition and minimal development of the site for use as recreational open space are exempt from the provisions of the CEQA, pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 25, of the City CEQA Guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

At this time, there is no anticipated fiscal impact to RAP's General Fund; however, future maintenance costs have yet to be determined.

This Report was prepared by Isophine Atkinson, Senior Management Analyst, Grants Administration.

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES
APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS FOR
THE ENVIRONMENTAL ENHANCEMENT AND MITIGATION (EEM) PROGRAM
RUNYON CANYON ACQUISITION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Legislature and Governor of the State of California have enacted Section 164.56 of the California Streets And Highways Code, which is intended to provide grant funds to local, state and federal agencies and nonprofit entities for projects to enhance and mitigate the environmental impacts of modified or new public transportation facilities; and

WHEREAS, the California Natural Resources Agency has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this grant program, establishing necessary procedures and criteria, and is required to submit to the California Transportation Commission a list of recommended projects from which the grant recipients will be selected; and

WHEREAS, said procedures established by the California Natural Resources Agency require a resolution certifying the approval of an application by the Applicants governing board before submission of said application to the State; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant, if selected, will enter into an agreement with the State of California to carry out the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES HEREBY:

1. Approves the filing of an application for the Runyon Canyon Acquisition Project; and
2. Certifies that Applicant understands the requirements in the Program Guidelines; and
3. Certifies that Applicant or title holder will have sufficient funds to operate and maintain the project consistent with the land tenure requirements; or will secure the resources to do so; and
4. Certifies that Applicant will record a document against the real property that defines the State's interest in the property whether the Grantee owns the property or not; and
5. Certifies that Applicant will comply with the provisions of Section 1771.5 of the State Labor Code regarding payment of prevailing wages on Projects awarded EEM Program Funds; and
6. If applicable, certifies that the project will comply with any laws and regulations including, but not limited to, legal requirements for building codes, health and safety codes, disabled access laws, environmental laws and, that prior to commencement of construction, all applicable licenses and permits will have been obtained; and
7. Certifies that Applicant will work towards the Governor's State Planning Priorities intended to promote equity, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and

promote public health and safety as included in Government Code Section 65041.1;
and

8. Appoints the General Manager, Executive Officer, or Assistant General Manager, of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, as agent to conduct all negotiations, execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to applications, agreements, payment requests etc., which may be necessary for the completion of the aforementioned project.

I, the undersigned, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Los Angeles at its meeting of _____.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ Day of _____, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES: _____ NAYS: _____ ABSTAIN: _____ ABSENT: _____

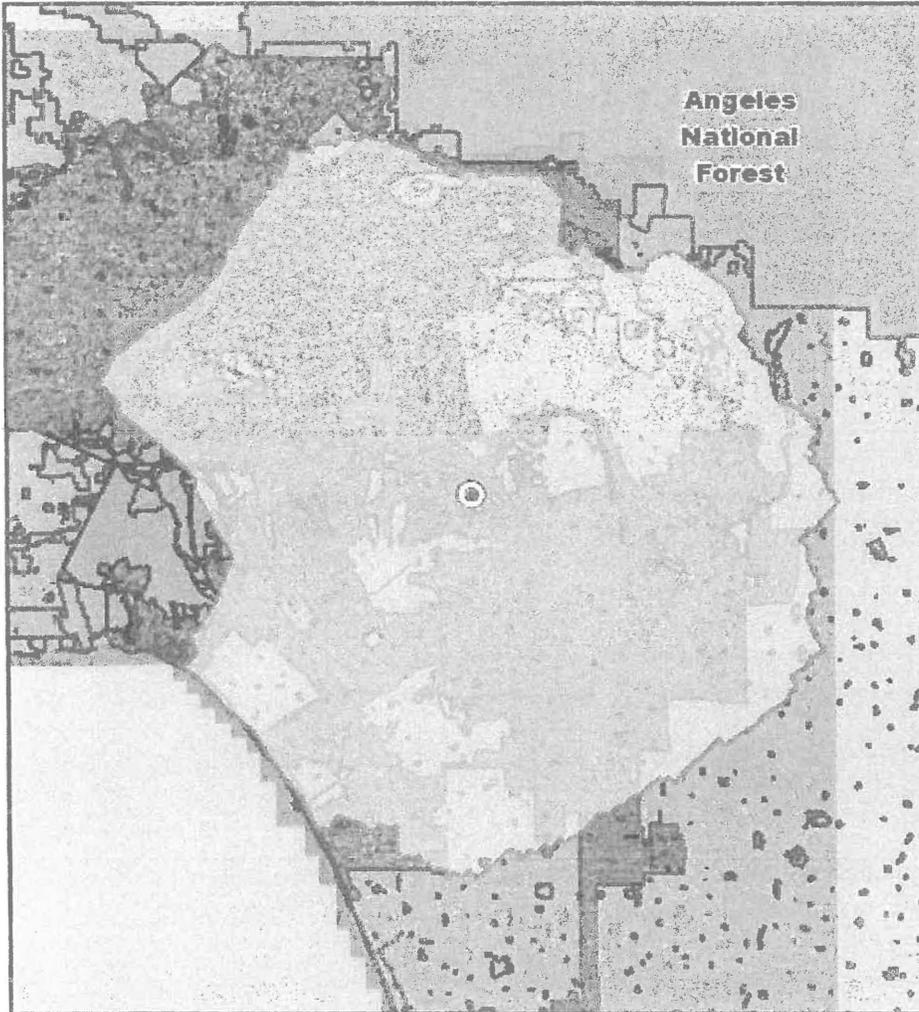
HOLLY L. WOLCOTT, City Clerk

By: _____



**EQUITABLE PARKS & AMENITIES
DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEM**

Park Analysis Report



Scenario Information

Scenario Name:

Runyon Canyon - Knoll Acquisition

Description:

acquisition of an approximately 3.81-acre parcel (APN 5571-026-007), located at 2450 Solar Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90046

Scenario Type:

New Park

Park Class:

Regional

Baseline Dataset*:

All Parks (RAP and Non-RAP)

**The baseline dataset is the existing parks dataset whose service areas are used to calculate the currently non-served metrics given below in blue. These residents and households, which would be served by the proposed park, are not currently served by any existing park in the baseline dataset.*

Population and Age Breakdown

	Total Residents Served:	Currently Non-Served Residents Served:
Residents Served:	2,900,737	0
<i>Residents Served by Age</i>		
Under Age 5:	189,969	0
Age 5 to 9:	170,582	0
Age 10 to 14:	173,710	0
Age 15 to 17:	112,645	0
Age 18 to 64:	1,958,067	0
Age 65 and Over:	295,764	0

Household and Income Breakdown

	Total Households Served:	Currently Non-Served Households Served:
Households Served:	1,034,148	0
<i>Households Served by Annual Income</i>		
Under \$25,000:	292,867	0
\$25,000 to \$34,999:	112,814	0
\$35,000 to \$49,999:	139,489	0
\$50,000 to \$74,999:	170,148	0
\$75,000 and Over:	318,830	0

Source: Census/ACS 2010