

**APPROVED**  
NOV 01 2006

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 06-329

DATE November 1, 2006

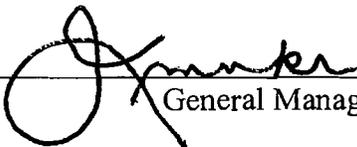
**BOARD OF RECREATION  
and PARK COMMISSIONERS**

C.D. 13

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: **BARNSDALL PARK - DONATION FROM THE LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HOLLYHOCK HOUSE - GREAT LAWN RESTORATION PROJECT**

J. Combs	_____	J. Kolb	_____
H. Fujita	_____	F. Mok	_____
S. Huntley	_____	K. Regan	_____
B. Jensen	_____	*M/Shull	<i>for M.S.</i>

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Manager

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_ Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDATION

That the Board:

1. Accept with gratitude, a donation of \$100,000 from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) for landscape improvements at the Department of Recreation and Parks' Hollyhock House as part of the Great Lawn Restoration Project at Barnsdall Park and give proper recognition to LADWP (General Manager Ronald Deaton; Director of Budget, Rates and Efficiency Jeff Peltola; and Water Conservation Manager Thomas Gackstetter);
2. Approve the proposed Letter of Agreement, substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, subject to the approval of the Mayor and of the City Attorney as to form;
3. Direct the Department's Chief Accounting Employee to deposit the donation (\$100,000) upon receipt into Fund/Department/Accounts 205/88/AD03 (\$75,000) and 205/88/AD04 (\$25,000);
4. Direct the Board Secretary to forward the Letter of Agreement to the Mayor for review and approval pursuant to Executive Directive No. 3 and to City Attorney for approval as to form; and

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5. Authorize the Superintendent of Planning and Development to execute the Letter of Agreement upon receipt of the necessary approvals.

SUMMARY:

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) has offered to provide the Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) \$100,000 (Donation) for landscape improvements at the Hollyhock House within Barnsdall Park, located at 4800 Hollywood Boulevard in the Thirteenth Council District (CD 13). In March 2005, at the request of Councilmember Eric Garcetti, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) submitted a proposal for Metropolitan Water District's "2005 City Makeover Program" for the Great Lawn area at Barnsdall Park. A grant of \$75,000 was awarded to LADWP for the proposed project. This program provides funding for high-visibility, public landscapes featuring native and drought tolerant plants and state-of-the-art irrigation, including educational components. This competitive grant project was one of twenty-one chosen from a field of seventy-five applicants.

LADWP is augmenting this grant with \$25,000 in funds from their Technical Assistance Program (TAP) that promotes the use of "smart" irrigation techniques. As an acknowledged leader in water conservation, LADWP recognizes the educational value that this project represents in promoting proper ('smart') irrigation techniques and the selection of appropriate plant materials to achieve significant savings in outdoor water use while demonstrating the beauty of a drought tolerant plant palette. The plant palette selected for this historic site uses a combination of drought tolerant and native plants to re-create the aesthetics of the Great Lawn area at Hollyhock House as originally developed by Mrs. Barnsdall and Frank Lloyd Wright.

Staff has determined that the subject project will consist of the replacement of the existing irrigation system and landscaping, and will be in compliance the Secretary of Interior Standards for this historic resource. Therefore, the project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1b, Class 2 (5), Section 1d, Class 4(3), and of the City CEQA Guidelines and Class 31 of the State CEQA Guidelines (Pub. Res. Code. Sec.15331).

Staff has discussed this Donation with the Assistant General Manager of Operations East, the Superintendent of the Metro Region, and the Office of Councilmember Eric Garcetti, and each concurs with staff's recommendations.

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FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be no fiscal impact associated with this project as the proposed landscape improvements will be funded through the LADWP Donation and previously approved Quimby Funds (\$45,000). Installation of this project will result in a water savings that is difficult to quantify at this time.

Report prepared by Tom Gibson and Joel Alvarez of the Department's Advanced Planning Section and Real Estate and Asset Management Section, respectively.