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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: ELYSIAN PARK RECREATION CENTER – AGREEMENT WITH LOS ANGELES THEATRE ACADEMY, INC., FOR THE SHARED USE OF ELYSIAN PARK RECREATION CENTER FOR THEATRE ARTS, AFTER SCHOOL CLUB AND SUMMER DAY CAMP PROGRAMS

H. Fujita M	. Regan I. Shull Williams	1
		(m)
Approved	Disapproved _	General Managel Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

- 1. Approve a proposed three (3) year agreement (Agreement), substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, between the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and Los Angeles Theatre Academy, Inc. (LATA), a California non-profit organization, setting forth the terms and conditions for the shared use of park property at Elysian Park Recreation Center, subject to the approval of the Mayor and of the City Attorney as to form;
- 2. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit the proposed Agreement, to the Mayor in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3, and concurrently, to the City Attorney for review and approval as to form;
- 3. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the Agreement upon receipt of the necessary approvals; and,
- 4. Direct the Department's Chief Accounting Employee to deposit fees for utility and other cost recovery reimbursements received from LATA in the accounts 302/89/89707H; General Recreation Activity Program, Sub-Account TBD established for such purposes,

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SUMMARY:

Elysian Park is one of the oldest parks in Los Angeles, consisting of 600 acres. Within Elysian Park is the Elysian Therapeutic Recreation Center now referred to as the Elysian Park Recreation Center located at 929 Academy Road, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Prior to July 2010, the Elysian Therapeutic Recreation Center was used to foster the development of independent, social and recreation skills of developmentally disabled youth. However, the challenging economic environment and resulting staff and service reductions led to the closure of the programs for developmentally disabled youth at Elysian Therapeutic Recreation Center in June 2010. With the availability of some space at the facility, Metro Region administration has allowed LATA to share the use of Elysian Park Recreation Center with RAP's LA KIDS program staff.

LATA, a non-profit community based organization, has been dedicated to providing theatre arts, after school, and summer day camp programs to the community surrounding Elysian Park since 2008. LATA currently offers theatre arts programs that include four (4) full stage productions, an annual children's theatre summer festival, arts in education programs, summer and winter camps supporting working parents, an after-school club and periodic visiting artist workshops. Program participants are subject to modest LATA program fees which are commensurate with other programs in the surrounding area and registration procedure. LATA serves approximately fifty to sixty (50-60) participants each year, with ages ranging from five to sixteen (5-16) years old.

Staff recommends approval of the proposed Agreement so that LATA may be allowed to continue using park property to provide youth programs which provide recreational benefits and is in the best interest of the Elysian Park community.

Should the proposed Agreement be approved, LATA's performance will be monitored through an annual performance review to ensure compliance with the Agreement. As part of the proposed Agreement, LATA will pay a Cost Recovery Fee in the amount of \$433.00 per month or \$5,196.00 a year plus any additional reimbursement for as-needed staff coverage costs to open or close the building during the hours RAP is not operating its programs. The Cost Recovery Fee will cover indirect costs associated with the impact of LATA's program to RAP.

ENVIROMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Staff has determined that the proposed Agreement with LATA will allow the Elysian Park Recreation Center facility to be used for recreational programs involving negligible or no expansion of use, and, therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(14) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

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The Superintendent of RAP's Metro Region and the Office of Councilmember Jose Huizar (Council District 14) are aware of the agreement and concur with staff's recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The proposed Agreement will have no adverse impact on RAP's General Fund as operations and program costs associated with LATA's use of park property will be paid for by LATA and any additional staff impact costs will be compensated through the collection of Board approved Cost Recovery Fees.

This report was prepared by Joel Alvarez, Senior Management Analyst, and Chinyere Stoneham, Senior Recreation Director, Partnership Division.