

Council Meeting of
May 15, 2012

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council:

**SUBJECT: Community Services – Adoption of a Resolution for Los Angeles
County Open Space Grant Funds**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that the City Council adopt a Resolution approving a grant application for improvements at Pueblo Park through a grant from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District.

Funding

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND

Pueblo Park consists of two park parcels that are separated by five residential lots. One parcel is located at 2252 Del Amo Blvd. which includes play equipment, picnic tables, and the Pueblo Community Meeting Center. The other park parcel is located at 2314 Del Amo Blvd. which includes the basketball court, play equipment, a picnic shelter, and the empty lot that was formerly church property. Both parcels are in need of renovation, but the staff priority is to renovate the parcel with the empty lot, in order to develop an active recreational space for the community.

In an effort to secure funding to renovate the Pueblo park parcel with the empty lot, the City of Torrance submitted grant applications for the Pueblo Park Renovation Project in 2010 and 2011 under both rounds of Proposition 84 Request for Grant Proposals. Unfortunately, the City of Torrance was not awarded a Proposition 84 grant under Round One, and recently received notice from the State of California--Department of Parks and Recreation informing us that our proposal for Round Two Proposition 84 funding was not selected. Even though Pueblo Park received a site visit by State staff, the City's application was not funded due heavy competition of funds. Round Two alone received a \$1.3 billion in funding requests with over 400 applications, and as the State only had \$184 million available for Round Two they were not able to fund many of the applications.

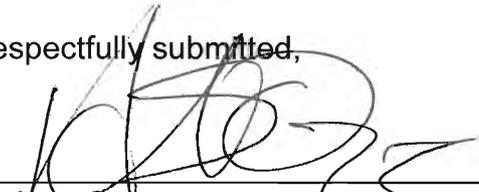
ANALYSIS

Though the City of Torrance did not receive Prop 84 funds, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor Don Knabe awarded a grant of \$150,000 to the City of Torrance for use in park recreation, open space, or improvement projects in July 2011 (Attachment A). Now that Proposition 84 will not be available, the Community Services Department is seeking Your Honorable Body's approval to apply the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District grant to improve select amenities on the Pueblo Park parcel with the basketball court, play equipment, a picnic shelter, and the empty lot in order to develop this into active recreational space. The Community Services Department believes this to be a good use of the funds and will benefit the children who play at Pueblo Park.

The grant is part of a larger renovation effort that brings together several different capital projects to develop this parcel. Staff have already identified FEAP 772 to provide improvements to the basketball court, and are continuing discussions with Exxon Mobil for a partnership in order to develop the empty lot into a grass area. Staff are suggesting to use the LA County grant to provide new play equipment and a pre-fabricated permanent bathroom to replace the existing port-a-potty. It is anticipated that the play equipment and the bathroom will be funded using the entire amount of the grant. If there are residual grant funds left over after the installation of these two major park elements, additional amenities such as drinking fountains, benches, tables may be installed using grant funds.

The grant requires that along with the project application, a resolution (Attachment B), project timeline, maps, land deeds and cost estimates be submitted.

Respectfully submitted,


 Andrew Orpe
 Senior Administrative Analyst

CONCUR:


 JOHN JONES
 Community Services Director

NOTED:


 LeROY J. JACKSON

Attachments: A. Los Angeles County Grant Award Letter (\$150,000)
 B. Resolution Authorizing Pueblo Park Application



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

OFFICE OF THE
 CITY MANAGER

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 Telephone (213) 974-4444 / FAX (213) 626-6941

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DON KNABE
 SUPERVISOR, FOURTH DISTRICT

July 14, 2011

The Honorable Frank A. Scotto
 Mayor
 City of Torrance
 3031 Torrance Boulevard
 Torrance, California 90503

Dear Mayor Scotto:

It is my pleasure to inform you that on Tuesday, July 12, 2011, the Board of Supervisors, acting in its capacity as governing body of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOS), approved the allocation of \$150,000 for your City to use for park recreation, open space, or improvement projects.

Staff of the RPOS will be contacting your staff to execute a grant for your project under the guidelines approved by the Board of Supervisors for Proposition A grant projects. The Program Manager is Perlita Flores, and she can be reached at (213) 738-4251.

As your chosen project nears completion, my office would appreciate being informed and possibly participating in commemorating the occasion with the City. Additionally, we would welcome any status updates to include on our website.

Please contact Erin Stibal, my Parks Deputy, if you have any further questions. She can be reached at (562) 804-8208 or ESTibal@lacbos.org.

I look forward to hearing from you and partnering together on this project to enhance the parks and open space in your City and throughout the Fourth District.

Sincerely,

DON KNABE
 Supervisor, Fourth District
 County of Los Angeles

DK:co

c: City Manager

cc
 James
 Stibal

RESOLUTION NO. 2012-____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
APPROVING THE APPLICATION FOR EXCESS GRANT FUNDS FROM THE LOS
ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT FOR A PRE-
FABRICATED RESTROOM AND THE REPLACEMENT OF PLAY EQUIPMENT AT
PUEBLO PARK.**

WHEREAS, the people of the County of Los Angeles on November 3, 1992, and on November 5, 1996, enacted Los Angeles County Proposition A, Safe Neighborhood Parks, Gang Prevention, Tree-Planting, Senior and Youth Recreation, Beaches and Wildlife Protection (the Propositions), which, among other uses, provides funds to public agencies and nonprofit organizations in the County for the purposes of acquiring and/or developing facilities and open space for public recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Propositions also created the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (the District) to administer said funds; and

WHEREAS, the District has set forth the necessary procedures governing applications for grant funds under the Propositions; and

WHEREAS, the District's procedures require the Applicant to certify, by resolution, the approval of the application(s) before submission of said application(s) to the District; and

WHEREAS, the application form contains assurances that the Applicant must comply with; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant certifies, through this resolution, that the application is approved for submission to the District; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant will enter into a Project Agreement with the District for the performance of the Project as described in the application.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY:

1. Approves the filing of an application with the District for Excess Funds allocated pursuant to the 1996 Proposition for the above named Project; and
2. Certifies that said Applicant understands the assurances and certifications in the application form; and

- 3. Certifies that said Applicant understands its obligation to operate and maintain the property(s) in perpetuity; and
- 4. Certifies that said Applicant will sign and return, within 30 days, both copies of the project agreement sent by the District for authorizing signature; and
- 5. Authorizes LeRoy J. Jackson, City Manager, or designee, as agent of the City of Torrance to conduct all negotiations, and to execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, payment requests, and so forth, which may be necessary for the completion of the Project as described in the application.

Introduced, approved and adopted this day of 2012.

Mayor Frank Scotto

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
JOHN L. FELLOWS III, City Attorney

ATTEST:

By: _____
Patrick Q. Sullivan, Assistant City Attorney

Sue Herbers, City Clerk