

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Community Services – Approve and Appropriate funds to purchase pool covers

Expenditure: \$8,698.87

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Community Services Director that City Council approve and appropriate \$8,698.87 from the Parks and Recreation Donation Account to fund the purchase of pool covers for the Victor E. Benstead Plunge.

FUNDING

Funding is available in the Parks and Recreation Miscellaneous Donation Account. The current balance is \$64,987.72. If approved, the new balance will be \$56,288.85.

BACKGROUND

In 2000, the Community Services Department began operating the Victor E. Benstead Plunge on a year round basis. Currently, the Plunge has over 100,000 users entering the pool each year. In efforts to reduce expenses, staff began using pool covers in 2009 and the Department instantly noticed a 50% savings (approximately \$50,000) in annual heating costs. Over the last three years, the pool covers have deteriorated and are no longer safe to use.

ANALYSIS

Staff feel that the purchase of the covers for the pool will significantly reduce the cost of operating the pool at the Victor E. Benstead Plunge for many years to come. This purchase also meets community expectations for the City of Torrance to implement effective cost saving measures to operate city facilities efficiently. In order to purchase pool covers with donation account money, the Community Services Department is requesting Council approval to use funds from the Parks and Recreation Donation Account.

To help offset the cost of pool covers, staff applied for and received a grant from the Southern California Gas Company through their "Calculated Incentive Program". This matching type grant will pay 50% of the expenditure for pool covers. Three quotes were received and Sea Clear Pools came in as the low bidder at \$17,397.74. The Community Services Department will be responsible for \$8,698.87 and Sea Clear Pools will bill the Southern California Gas Company for the balance of \$8,698.87. In addition to saving money on heating, the pool covers will reduce the amount of chemicals used and keep dirt and debris from blowing into the pool overnight.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN JONES
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

By

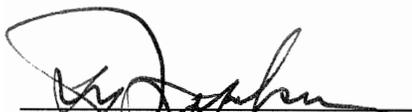


Richard Brunette
Recreation Services Manager

CONCUR:



John Jones
Community Services Director



LeRoy W. Jackson
City Manager