

FOR COUNCIL MEETING

March 6, 2007

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

Members of the City Council

**SUBJECT: Community Services – Recommendation to authorize the sole-source purchase and installation of playground equipment and rubberized play surfacing at El Retiro Park. Expenditure: \$70,476.91.**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Community Services Director recommends that City Council authorize a sole-source purchase order with Miracle Playground Sales of Southern California, Placentia, CA, for an amount not to exceed \$70,476.91 for the purchase and installation of playground equipment and rubberized play surfacing at El Retiro.

### **Funding**

Funding is available in FEAP-618.

### **BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS**

In 1998 the City Council established a standard for the sole-source purchase of Miracle playground equipment. It is the opinion of staff that the purchase of this playground equipment falls within the Sole-Source Purchase Exception of TMC § 22.3.17 (b) that states:

“For purposes of this Section, “sole-source purchases” means those purchases where it would be undesirable or impossible for the City to advertise for bids for particular work or for patented items, or experimental or unique services or products, or where competitive purchases would be unavailable or would not prove advantageous for the City. No sole-source purchases may be made where to do so would show favoritism, improvidence, extravagance, fraud or corruption, or result in the waste of public funds, but may be used only to obtain the best economic result for the public.”

The action has proven to be both cost effective and efficient. Staff is able to stock hardware used in maintaining the equipment and, when necessary, swap parts from one park play area to another. In addition, public acceptance of the Miracle playground equipment has been favorable and widespread.

The playground equipment at El Retiro Park was installed in 1987. The life expectancy of this equipment is typically ten to fifteen years; the set is antiquated and in need of replacement. After your Honorable Body approves this purchase, the equipment should be delivered in four to six weeks and installed within four weeks thereafter. Children should be able to enjoy the new playground area by the beginning of May.

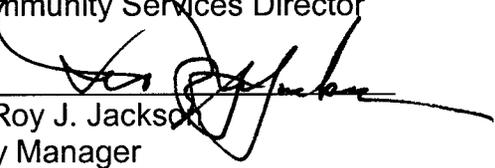
Respectfully submitted,

GENE BARNETT  
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

By   
Mike Wilson  
Park Services Administrator

CONCUR:

  
Gene Barnett  
Community Services Director

  
LeRoy J. Jackson  
City Manager

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