

Agenda Report

TO: City Council February 14, 2000
FROM: City Manager
SUBJECT: Proposition 12 - *The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000* - City Strategy of Funding

RECOMMENDATION

For Information Only

BACKGROUND

On September 22, 1999, Governor Davis signed AB 18 - *The Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000*, which became Proposition 12 for the March ballot. If adopted by the voters, Proposition 12 would provide \$2.1 billion of bond money for the acquisition, development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, and protection of parks, recreational cultural, historical, fish and wildlife, lake, riparian, reservoir, river and coastal resources.

Even though Proposition 12 would provide \$2.1 billion of bond money, a large majority of those funds have been earmarked for the State's Department of Parks and Recreation, specific projects, or regions of the state as a part of the adopted legislation. Proposition 12 does contain \$338 million in per capita grants to cities, counties and park districts. Based on Pasadena's population, the city could receive approximately \$1.7 million in per capita allocations. In addition, the bill contains other funding categories in which the City of Pasadena could compete for grants. These include:

- \$200 million to the State's Department of Parks and Recreation for grants to cities, counties, and districts for the acquisition, development, rehabilitation and restoration of park and recreation areas;

- \$10 million for grants to develop, improve, rehabilitate, restore, or enhance nonmotorized trails that increase public access to public areas of increased recreational opportunities;
- \$100 million in grants to public agencies and nonprofit organizations for park, youth center, and environmental enhancement projects that benefit youth in areas that lack safe neighborhood parks, open space and natural areas, and that have significant poverty;
- \$15 million for grants for regional youth soccer and baseball facilities operated by nonprofit organizations;
- \$7 million to the California Integrated Waste Management Board for grants to local agencies to assist them in meeting state and federal accessibility standards relating to public playgrounds; and
- \$35 million to the Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy for the Mountain Resource Program for capital outlay and grants for the acquisition from a willing seller, enhancement, and restoration of natural lands, improvement of public recreation facilities, and for grants to local agencies and nonprofit organizations to increase access to parks and recreational opportunities for underserved urban communities.

Once Master Plans at Robinson Park, Eaton Wash Park, Memorial Park, and various other parks have been approved and are ready to be implemented, staff can apply for some of the above grants to fund various projects.

Currently, the City lacks an adequate dedicated funding source for our park projects. Residential Development Fees go towards our parks, but this funding source generates less than \$25,000 per year. Past County park bond measures have also gone into our parks, however, these allocations have been expended. As a result, there are 49 partially or completely unfunded park projects in the FY 2000 - 2004 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget totaling approximately \$22.4 million. Due to lack of funding, our City parks have been sorely neglected. Many maintenance and safety needs have been deferred. Basic needs have not been met including such items as: resurfacing of sports courts; proper management of sports fields; maintaining and/or replacing deteriorating picnic areas, walkways, bathrooms, security lighting, and playground equipment. In addition, the City of Pasadena has not been able to bring our parks up to the regulatory standards of the Americans With Disability Act (ADA).

Also, additional multi-purpose athletic fields are needed throughout the city. While a variety of organized sports including baseball, softball and soccer are played throughout the city, soccer by far has the greatest number of participants and also has the longest playing season. City staff has worked with youth soccer representatives from the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO) Region 13 and Villa Park City Youth Soccer Program to determine the current needs of the community. These organizations indicated that over half of the children playing soccer today are under 10 years of age.

The other 50% of the children are a mix of middle school and high school aged youth. Both soccer programs indicated the greatest need for fields is for the under age ten soccer population, since interest in the game decreases as the youth become older.

Besides deferred maintenance and safety needs, the sport fields and high use turf areas are in poor condition. Most of the existing fields are regularly over-scheduled for sporting or other high use events. With adequate funding, the City could provide the much needed turf management of these areas to rehabilitate the existing fields to basic safety standards. Turf management includes overseeding, reseeding, aerification, fertilizing, top dressing and leveling, weed control and fencing.

If Proposition 12 passes, the City could receive \$1.7 million in per capita funding to address our parks and recreation needs. Suggested use of these funds could be as follows:

NEW MULTI-PURPOSE ATHLETIC FIELDS

\$ 800,000

Staff would identify locations where new multi-purpose athletic fields could be created. The exact locations are to be determined. However, the following is a list of potential sites: Washington Park, Audubon School, Cleveland School, Don Benito School, Edison School, Field School, Hamilton School, Jackson School, Jefferson School, Linda Vista School, or Madison School. The cost per field would range from \$180,000 to \$400,000 depending on the condition of the site including: removal of asphalt paving, installation of an irrigation system; and inclusion of a softball field backstop, fourline fences and infield.

TURF MANAGEMENT: SPORTS FIELDS AND HIGH USE FIELDS

\$ 400,000

This is an existing CIP project that would rehabilitate the City's existing sports fields and high use areas. Parks with the greatest need are Victory Park, Robinson Park, Jefferson Park, and Allendale Park.

DEFERRED MAINTENANCE, BASIC SAFETY AND REGULATORY NEEDS \$ 500,000

This would consist of the resurfacing of sports courts at McDonald Park, Washington Park, Eaton-Blanche Park, Hamilton Park, Allendale Park, Robinson Park, La Pintoresca Park, Jefferson Park, Villa-Parke Center, Brenner Park, and Grant Park. In addition, this would provide for the replacement of the walkways at Central Park, and finally, park improvements to meet ADA compliance.

FISCAL IMPACT

Passage of Proposition 12 could provide the City with approximately \$1.7 million in per capita funding. In addition, the city would have the opportunity to apply for matching and competing grants totaling \$332 million.

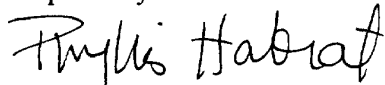
Respectfully submitted,



CYNTHIA J. KURTZ

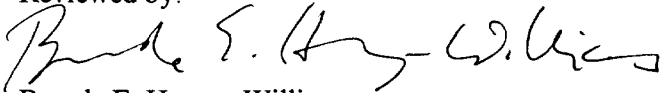
City Manager

Prepared by:



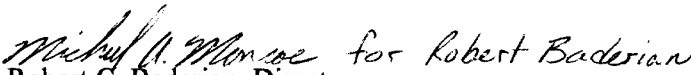
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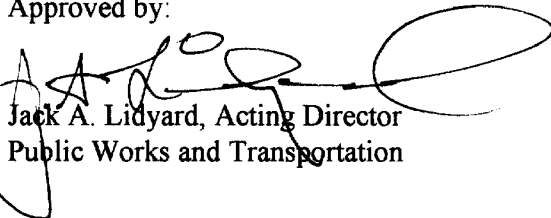
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