TO:

CITY COUNCIL

DATE:

**JUNE 5. 2006** 

FROM:

CITY MANAGER

**BOARD OF EDUCATION** 

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FOR THE JOINT USE OF MADISON

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND USE AND PARK

**IMPROVEMENTS** 

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council and the Board of Education authorize the City Manager and the Superintendent of Schools to execute an Agreement for the joint use of Madison School Playground Use and Park Improvements.

## BACKGROUND:

The City and PUSD have been working together to improve School District playgrounds and open them for community use during non school hours. In the past this approach has enhanced both the school and the surrounding community. The newest project is proposed for Madison Elementary School located at 515 Ashtabula Street in Northwest Pasadena.

The Madison Elementary School Park Project will include installation of playground equipment, picnic tables, additional trash receptacles and related improvements at Madison School, to expand play opportunities at this location as well as offer a neighborhood park use of the playground and adjacent turn area during non-school, daylight hours. On February 27, 2006, the City Council approved this Project. This Project was introduced in Phase I of the City/PUSD Joint Study of Services and Programs which included initiatives developed to reduce costs and improve efficiencies for the City and PUSD. Phase I Initiatives were approved by the City Council on February 27, 2006, and by the Board of Education on March 14, 2006.

Key point of the Memorandum of Understanding will include:

The Use Schedule including a mandate that the City and the School District shall review operational issues Sixty (60) days after

- implementation and consider an expansion of use beyond the daily 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. schedule.
- The City will be responsible for opening and closing gates according to the Use Schedule.
- The City will be responsible for providing security during park use hours similar to that of other City neighborhood parks, including a designated representative to open and close gates.
- The City shall be responsible for collection of trash and emptying of trash bins after park use hours. This task must be completed before the opening of the site to students of the following day (or by 7:00 a.m. on school days). The School District will provide access for a City vehicle at a designated gate for trash collection purposes.
- Madison Elementary School administrators shall have the right to schedule up to ten (10) events per year during the park use hours for selected school-related or neighborhood-related activities (e.g., school health fairs, Madison Neighborhood Partners, parent activities, scouting events, etc.).
- Ongoing field maintenance shall continue to be the responsibility of the School District. The City shall be responsible for any unusual damage or wear and tear that occurs during City park use hours.

The playground construction aspect of the project is scheduled to begin July 10, 2006, and is targeted for completion by early August, 2006. Opening of the playground (including the adjacent turf area) for public use during non-school daylight hours is targeted soon thereafter and no later than the start of the 2006-2007 School Year.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

The first phase cost of the Madison School Park Project totals \$99,000. The City and PUSD will share the purchase, installation, and rubber surfacing cost of \$77,000 on a 50/50 basis. The City will provide the additional \$22,000 for the purchase and installation of picnic tables, trash containers and related items. To help defray PUSD's portion of its cost for the Project, \$24,000 funds previously designated to improve the sports fields at Audubon School (as a portion of the \$437,000 allocation approved by City Council on August 28, 2003) have been reallocated to the Madison School Park Project. The PUSD new cost for the Madison Project will be \$14,500. City funds in the amount of \$84,500 have been appropriated in the FY07 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget. PUSD will appropriate \$14,500 from if its General Fund by June 30, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

ĆYNTHIA J. KURTZ

City Manager

PERCY CLARK JR., Ph.D.

Superintendent