

BACKGROUND

In mid-August the City was notified that it has been awarded an Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR) grant in the amount of \$130,357 to rehabilitate play equipment at Villa-Parke and Robinson Park. Since these two projects were fully funded in the FY 2002 CIP, award of this grant “frees up” City funds for other uses. The type and amount of funds now available are:

Residential Development Fees	\$ 12,023
Proposition 12	\$ 15,901
General Fund	<u>\$102,433</u>
Total	\$130,357

Staff recommends the \$102,433 in freed up General Fund revenue be transferred to two items. First, staff recommends \$60,000 be transferred to the Planning and Development operating budget to fund a study of undeveloped hillside areas in the western portion of Pasadena. This study will produce a report to be used by public and private agencies for the purchase, preservation and protection of environmentally sensitive hillside lands. The report will inventory the lands that could be potentially developed, including, but not limited to: size, historical development on site (if any), zoning, General Plan designation, and ownership. It will include an analysis of the lands in terms of: geological characteristics, topography, hydrology, transportation access, biological resources, utilities, natural views and potential for recreation. The report will provide a potential cost of land assembly and a prioritized list of undeveloped land. The results of this study will be shown on maps utilizing digital orthographic photographs and current parcel boundaries.

Second, staff recommends appropriating \$42,433 to the next highest priority park project in the adopted CIP that requires funding – *Park Improvements to Meet ADA Compliance – Phase V, West District*. This project has a total project cost of \$151,866 and includes projects in San Rafael, Brenner, and Singer Parks. All park projects have been prioritized and supported by the Recreation and Parks Commission.

The \$15,901 of Proposition 12 revenue and the \$12,023 of Residential Development Fee revenue will be returned to their respective fund balances to be reappropriated to other park projects as part of the FY 2003 CIP. Residential Development Fees are specific to the district from which they originate and Proposition 12 funding guidelines are defined in the bond act.

Staff also recommends \$80,000 be appropriated from the unappropriated General Fund balance to the Planning and Development operating budget to fund a vacant land inventory. Within Pasadena, the need exists for more neighborhood recreational opportunities. Objective 2 (Open Space) of the Land Use Element of the City’s General Plan states: *Preserve and acquire open space in targeted development areas and residential areas of the City in order to enhance the quality of Pasadena life*. In support, Policy 2.1 (Neighborhood Parks) calls for the preservation, enhancement, and acquisition

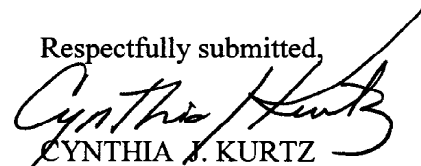
of parks in neighborhood areas. A very preliminary inventory of vacant properties citywide has shown that there are many possible sites for pocket parks, however, an in-depth inventory and analysis is necessary to create a list of properties for potential park development. This list will assist decision-makers when considering sites for purchase and park development. The report will include:

- An **inventory** of vacant properties that could be potentially developed as “pocket” parks, including, but not limited to, size, historical development on site (if any), zoning, General Plan designation, and ownership;
- An **analysis** of these vacant properties based on city-defined criteria such as minimum size, recreational potential, possible combination with other parcels, accessibility, and areas of greatest need;
- The **potential cost** of land purchase;
- **Maps** displaying the properties utilizing digital orthographic photographs and current parcel boundaries;


FISCAL IMPACT

Appropriation of the awarded \$130,357 UPARR grant frees up a like amount of City funds (\$102,433 in General Fund, \$12,023 of Residential Development Fees and \$15,901 of Proposition 12). Approval of this agenda report will increase the FY 2002 CIP budget by \$42,433 and the FY 2002 Operating Budget by \$140,000 (\$60,000 for the sensitive hillside lands survey and \$80,000 for the vacant land inventory). The Residential Development Fees and Proposition 12 funding will become available for reappropriation.

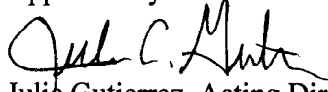
Respectfully submitted,


CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

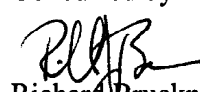
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