



Agenda Report

TO: CITY COUNCIL

DATE: June 23, 2003

THROUGH: FINANCE COMMITTEE

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: APPROVE WASHINGTON SCHOOL FIELD AS THE SITE FOR THE REMAINING \$84,000 OF THE ORIGINAL \$437,000 CITY FUNDS IN THE PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SPORTS FIELD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND ADOPT THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND THE APPROPRIATE CEQA FINDINGS

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council:

- 1) Approve Washington School Field as the site for the remaining \$84,000 of the original \$437,000 City funds in the Pasadena Unified School District Sports Field Improvement Project;
- 2) Adopt the Negative Declaration and appropriate CEQA findings, and direct staff to file a Notice of Determination and California Department of Fish and Game Certificate of Fee Exemption with the Los Angeles County Clerk (These documents are contained in Attachment C);
- 3) Amend the list of approved projects at Washington School Field to include the design and construction of restroom facilities and the purchase of a central control unit for irrigation, and exclude completion of the lighting project (which will be completed by the PUSD).

BACKGROUND

On January 27, 2003, City Council authorized the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) to fund sports field improvements at eight PUSD sites: Audubon, Don Benito, Eliot, Field, Madison, Muir, Marshall and Washington Schools. A total of \$353,000 was allocated for these projects, with a balance of \$84,000 pending a recommendation from the PUSD Board of Education for a qualified school field improvement project. Attachment A outlines funding allocation per site and a brief project description.

On May 13, 2003, the Board of Education approved allocating the remaining \$84,000 to the Washington School K8 site. With the \$23,000 previously approved by Council on October 30, 2000, the new allocation total for Washington School is \$107,000. These funds will be utilized to construct restroom facilities adjacent to the soccer field and to purchase a central controller unit for an irrigation system. The installation of the four remaining light poles at Washington School will be completed through another funding source. The District has set aside \$150,000 from a California Department of Education grant sponsored by the former State Assemblyman Jack Scott for this lighting project.

As requested by City Council, a copy of the draft contract with the Pasadena Unified School District which outlines the terms of utilization of the \$437,000 is attached as Attachment B.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The City circulated a draft Negative Declaration/Initial Study (ND/IS) for the project for a 20-day review period between February 20 and March 11, 2003. Three comment letters on the ND/IS were received. All three residents received responses from the City, and the comments/concerns have been incorporated into the final ND/IS (see Attachment C). Primary concerns raised by those who submitted letters included existing traffic and parking, noise, aesthetics, and other issues relating to existing use of the multi-purpose field at Washington School. Comment also addressed concern about the existing portable toilets on the site, and the additional funding allocation requested for a permanent restroom facility directly responds to this issue. As indicated in the responses to comments received, PUSD and the City are committed to ongoing efforts to respond to these issues.

FISCAL IMPACT

The approval of this recommendation will utilize the remaining \$84,000 of the \$437,000 already allocated and reserved for field improvements, as approved by City Council on October 30, 2000. This includes \$173,000 from the settlement of litigation with the Bank of American and \$264,000 from Proposition 12 Safe Parks Act of 2000 per capita allocation.

Respectfully submitted,



CYNTHIA J. KURTZ
City Manager

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Approved by:



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Attachments A, B, C