

Agenda Report

DATE: MAY 10, 1999

TO: CITY COUNCIL

FROM: CITY MANAGER

SUBJECT: REHABILITATE THE OUTFIELD AREA OF SOFTBALL DIAMONDS 2 AND 3 IN BROOKSIDE PARK TO BE UTILIZED AS A PRACTICE LOCATION FOR GALAXY MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Acknowledge the rehabilitation of Brookside Park softball diamonds 2 and 3 categorically exempt under Section 15303 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, New Construction or conversion of Small Structures, in accordance with Article 19 of these guidelines, direct staff to prepare a Notice of Exemption and the City Clerk to file this notice with the County of Los Angeles Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.
2. Authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with Anschutz L.A. Soccer, L.L.C. with respect to construction and maintenance of the soccer practice field and to address insurance and indemnity issues arising from use of the field.
3. Approve a journal voucher recognizing and appropriating \$150,000 from Los Angeles Galaxy to Budget Account 78805, renovation of outfield areas of ball diamonds number 2 and 3 in Brookside Park.

BACKGROUND:

During the first three years of the Galaxy's contract with the City of Pasadena, the professional soccer team has had a difficult time locating a quality practice site. Galaxy is interested in identifying a location that is in close proximity to the Rose Bowl so that they can incorporate the Bowl's locker room and exercise facilities. The Staffs from Galaxy, Rose Bowl Operating Company and the City have met and reviewed various alternative practice field areas City-wide. Based upon estimated cost to rehabilitate other areas in the City, the outfield areas of ball diamonds 2 and 3 appear to be the most suitable. This recommended project will not impact current utilization of the playing fields that are currently used by recreation programs and activities such as youth and adult softball games, summer day camp programs, picnic related activities, special events, etcetera.

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MEETING OF 5/10/99

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7.B.5.

In addition to the renovation of the outfield area, two existing light standards will be removed and relocated adjacent to the west edge of the outfield area (See Attachment A). Removing the existing poles from their present location will also eliminate an existing safety concern of poles located in the areas of play in the outfield areas.

Galaxy is ready to proceed with the payment of funds to renovate a portion of the outfield areas of ball diamonds 2 and 3 and has committed to pay for the entire capital project including the payment for the maintenance of the renovated areas. Galaxy will develop a Memorandum of Understanding with the Rose Bowl Operating Company for the maintenance of the field in cooperation with the City's Parks and Natural Resources. The project construction consists of renovating the outfield area by replacing up to 86,848 square feet of turf with sod, relocation of two light poles, upgrading the electrical vault, purchasing of an edger, all City related inspection of work, potential irrigation replacement, and project coordination. The project does not call for any type of fencing, as it would restrict the area from ongoing multi use programs. This facility will be available for public recreational use when not permitted for Galaxy practice sessions.

Based upon past and current history of practice and game schedulings, Galaxy will secure the use of the field with a City permit and provide the necessary liability insurance for the use of City property as authorized by the City. The Galaxy season runs from February through October, and they will require the use of the practice field for two to three days during the week between the hours of 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. This year's Galaxy final regular season game is October 9, 1999. The following groups have been permitted to utilize softball diamonds 2 and/or 3 during the morning hours: Pasadena Senior Center League utilizes Diamond 2, April through September from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Thursdays and Fuller Seminary utilizes Diamond 3, April through June on Friday mornings from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon. Both of these groups have been advised of this possible action and City staff has made arrangements for alternative field locations based on Galaxy's need for field uses. The current citywide park permit system will continue to coordinate and schedule the use of these facilities during renovation and maintenance.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

The Environmental Administrator has determined the project to be categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under section 15303, New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures, of the CEQA Guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Approval of a journal voucher recognizing and appropriating \$150,000 from Los Angeles Galaxy to Budget Account 78805 which will allow for the rehabilitation of the outfield areas of ball diamonds number 2 and 3 in Brookside Park.

Respectfully submitted;



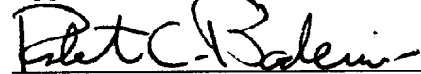
CYNTHIA J. KURTZ,
City Manager

Prepared by:



LISA FOWLER,
Management Analyst IV

Approved by:



ROBERT C. BADERIAN, Director
Parks and Natural Resources

Attachment