

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 01/08/07		Item Number: <u>A-1</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Discussion of Authorization and Funding of the Culver City Park Enhancement Program (PEP).			
Contact Person/Dept.: William La Pointe		Phone Number: (310) 253-6655	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☒	
Public Notification: Master Notification List (01/03/07); Parks and Recreation Commission (01/03/07); Parks and Service Foundation and Culver City Neighborhood Associations (postcard mailing on 12/21/06).			
Department Approval: William La Pointe (12/18/06)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (01/03/07)	
City Controller Approval: Marlee Chang (01/02/07)		City Attorney Approval Heather Iker (01/03/07)	
<u>RECOMMENDATION:</u> Staff recommends the City Council discuss the authorization and funding of the Culver City Park Enhancement Program (PEP). <u>BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:</u> At the November 27, 2006 City Council meeting, there was a consensus of Council to agendize the discussion of the creation of a small grant program for the enhancement of neighborhood parks within Culver City. The program, if authorized, would award between five (5) to ten (10) \$500 grants for neighborhood park improvement projects such as painting, maintenance, repair and minor landscaping projects, etc. The goal of the grant program is to assist neighborhood and civic groups including Homeowner's Associations, Scout Troops and other community volunteers in carrying out their vision for the beautification of parks and open space within Culver City. Grant projects will be developed in collaboration with, and approved by, the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department. The Park Enhancement Program (PEP) was designed to meet the unique needs of Culver City (Attachment 1). Since the main focus of the program is to engender community participation in park beautification and enhancement, the application has been designed to be brief and straightforward (Attachment 2). A list of potential projects has been developed to stimulate ideas and to encourage collaboration with the Parks Division of the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (Attachment 3). This list, along with the PEP information and application can be			

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posted on the City's website for easy public access and to inform the public about the new program.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Park Enhancement Program grants are proposed to be awarded in the amount of up to \$500 per project. These funds could also be used as leverage for other potential non-city funding sources in order to increase the size or magnitude of the community project. If between five (5) and ten (10) grant projects are funded each fiscal year, the cost to the City will be \$2,500 to \$5,000 annually. As mentioned at the City Council meeting of November 27, 2006, one potential source of funding for the PEP is the City Council's Discretionary Fund. The City Council's Discretionary Fund was allocated from the General Fund Appropriated Reserve (Account # 10116100.910200: Non-Departmental – Appropriated Reserve in General Fund). The Council's Discretionary Fund for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 was \$20,000. The future funding for this program should be reviewed and approved during the budget adoption.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Park Enhancement Program Information and Criteria Sheet
2. Park Enhancement Program Grant Application
3. Sample Park Projects Suitable for PEP Grants

MOTION:

That the City Council:

1. Authorize and fund the Culver City Park Enhancement Program (PEP)

or

2. Discuss the issue and provide further direction to staff.