

City of Culver City, California
City Council Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: 06/11/07		Item Number: <u>A-5</u>	
AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of the Parks and Recreation Commission's Recommendation to the City Council Regarding the Allocation of Park Enhancement Program (PEP) Grants.			
Contact Person/Dept.: William La Pointe, PRCS Director		Phone Number: (310) 253-6655	
Fiscal Impact: Yes ☒ No ☐		General Fund: Yes ☒ No ☐	
Public Hearing: ☐		Action Item: ☒ Attachments: ☐	
Public Notification: PRCS Master Notification List (06/06/07); Parks and Recreation Commission (06/06/07); Parks and Service Foundation (06/06/07).			
Department Approval: Bill La Pointe, PRCS Director (05/18/07)		City Attorney Approval: Carol Schwab (by H. Iker) (06/06/07)	
City Controller Approval: Marlee Chang (06/06/07)		City Manager Approval: Jerry B. Fulwood (06/06/07)	

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the City Council consider the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendations: (1) not to allocate up to two (2) Culver City Park Enhancement Program (PEP) grants specifically for projects on Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) property and that the ten (10) PEP grants of up to \$500 per project remain earmarked specifically for park improvement projects in fiscal year 2006-07; and, (2) in fiscal year 2008-09, the City Council create two (2) new Culver City Park Enhancement Program (PEP) grants (not to exceed \$500 each) that may be used specifically for projects on Culver City Unified School District property.

BACKGROUND:

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 Park Enhancement Program (PEP) was designed to meet the City's need for such a program. The program awards grants of up to \$500 per project (to a maximum of \$5,000 per fiscal year) for neighborhood park improvements such as painting, maintenance, repair and minor landscaping, etc. that are developed in collaboration with, and approved by, the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCS). The goal of the PEP is to provide an avenue whereby 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.

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At the January 2, 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission issued a statement of unanimous support to the City Council for the establishment of the Park Enhancement Program with the request that the Commission would somehow be involved in the process. At the January 8, 2007 City Council meeting, Parks and Recreation Commission Chair Vicki Daly Redholtz addressed the Council during the public comment portion of the meeting and communicated the Commission's position on the PEP to the City Council. The Commission's position was also stated by PRCS Director William La Pointe in his staff report to the City Council. Following discussion, the following motion was made at the January 8, 2007 meeting:

MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER GROSS, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MALSIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

1. AUTHORIZE AND FUND THE CULVER CITY PARK ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (PEP);
2. ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM THROUGH THE COUNCIL DISCRETIONARY FUND THROUGH THE END OF FISCAL YEAR 2006-07. UP TO TEN (10) GRANTS AT UP TO \$500 A PIECE ARE ABLE TO BE FUNDED FOR A MAXIMUM OF \$5,000 IN FISCAL YEAR 2006-07; AND
3. DIRECT THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF THE PROGRAM.

At the February 26, 2007 City Council meeting, Councilmember Scott Malsin requested Council support up to two (2) of the \$500 PEP grants for projects that would be on Culver City Unified School District property. By consensus, the item came back to the City Council on March 5, 2005. After a brief discussion, Council voted unanimously to refer the item to the Parks and Recreation Commission for discussion and recommendation.

DISCUSSION:

At the May 1, 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission, the Commission discussed the idea of recommending that the City Council allocate two (2) Culver City Park Enhancement Program (PEP) Grants (not to exceed \$500 each) specifically for projects that would be on Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) property, if any are presented before the available funds are allocated to other projects (Attachment A). Subsequent to the discussion, a vote of the Commission was taken on two separate motions:

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(1) MOVED BY COMMISSIONER COOPER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SHAPIRO, THAT THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL NOT TO ALLOCATE UP TO TWO (2) CULVER CITY PARK ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (PEP) GRANTS SPECIFICALLY FOR PROJECTS ON CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (CCUSD) PROPERTY; AND THAT THE TEN (10) PEP GRANTS OF UP TO \$500 PER PROJECT REMAIN EARMARKED SPECIFICALLY FOR PARK IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2006-07.

Ayes: Commissioners Cooper, Daly Redholtz, James, Shapiro
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Dean

AND

(2) MOVED BY COMMISSIONER COOPER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER JAMES, THAT THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION RECOMMEND TO THE CITY COUNCIL TO CREATE TWO (2) NEW CULVER CITY PARK ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (PEP) GRANTS (NOT TO EXCEED \$500 EACH) TO BE USED SPECIFICALLY FOR PROJECTS ON CULVER CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY IN FISCAL YEAR 2008-09.

Ayes: Commissioners Cooper, Daly Redholtz, James
Noes: Commissioner Shapiro
Abstain: None
Absent: Commissioner Dean

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

If action is taken by City Council to create two (2) Culver City Park Enhancement Program (PEP) grants specifically for projects on Culver City Unified School District property in fiscal year 2007-08, in addition to the approved grant amount, there would be additional City Attorney staff costs for the purpose of drafting agreements and/or Memorandums of Understanding (MOU's) with the CCUSD regarding the use of City funds for projects on their land and the rights and responsibilities to maintain any said projects that are so funded by the City.

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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Excerpt of the draft minutes of the May 1, 2007 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

MOTION:

That the City Council:

1. Consider the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendation not to allocate up to two (2) Culver City Park Enhancement Program (PEP) grants specifically for projects on Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) property; and that the ten (10) PEP grants of up to \$500 per project remain earmarked specifically for park improvement projects in fiscal year 2006-07;

and

2. Consider and take appropriate action on the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendation that the City Council create two (2) new Culver City Park Enhancement Program (PEP) grants (not to exceed \$500 each) to be used specifically for projects on Culver City Unified School District property in fiscal year 2008-09.

or

3. Discuss the item and provide further direction to staff.