

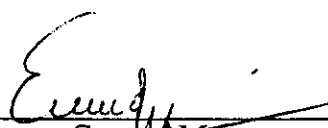
DATE: September 19, 2001

C.D. 15

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: WHITE POINT NATURE PRESERVE—REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT, MASTER PLAN, AND OPERATING AGREEMENT

J. Combs	<u> </u>	J. Kolb	<u> </u>
*T. Coroalles	<u> </u>	M. Tamuri	<u> </u>
J. Duggan	<u> </u>	M. Matthews	<u> </u>
H. Fujita	<u> </u>		



 General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Receive the following documents for review and formal consideration:
 - Final Environmental Impact Report,
 - Proposed Master Plan for the White Point Nature Preserve,
 - Proposed 25-Year Operating Agreement between the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy and the Department, and

2. That the Board continue consideration of this agenda item for Board action on the Master Plan, Operating Agreement, and Final Environmental Impact Report to the regular meeting of the Board on October 3, 2001.

SUMMARY:

During the past year, the Department has been working to develop a framework for the creation of a nature preserve at White Point Park that was formally dedicated in May 2001. The proposed White Point Nature Preserve would restore and preserve the wildlife and vegetation native to this area. The Preserve is currently being developed through a partnership between the Department and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC) that was selected and recommended by the White Point Advisory Committee and approved by the Board in December 2000.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

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NO. 01-359

The scope of the project involves the restoration of 90 acres of the 102-acre White Point Park with native vegetation, including coastal sage scrub, native grassland, and other indigenous plants. The restoration of native vegetation will have beneficial effects to endangered species reliant on the plant habitats. Interpretive exhibits and educational programs will greatly enhance appreciation of these species by local and visiting school children, families, and other visitors.

A proposed Master Plan has been developed for the preserve by the Department and PVPLC, in cooperation with the community-based White Point Nature Preserve Steering Committee. The Plan describes the scope of the project and delineates the goals and objectives of the preserve. The Plan also provides the methodology for habitat restoration and management and the development of the other elements of the project including maintenance requirements. Also included in the Plan is the projected budget necessary to accomplish the whole effort and the schedule for implementation.

The Department entered into an interim agreement with the PVPLC under a temporary conditional use permit to allow access to the property for preliminary investigation in conjunction with the preparation of the Master Plan. A proposed 25-year Operating Agreement with the PVPLC has been developed.

In compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Department has prepared an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to assess the potential environmental impacts of the proposed implementation of the White Point Nature Preserve Master Plan and the associated 25-year operating agreement and Wildlife Conservation grant. The Draft EIR was circulated for public review and comment from June 28 to August 13, 2001. The Final EIR reflects the results of the review, including all the comments received, the response to the comments, and the amendments to the draft document.

The projected funding requirement for total Master Plan Development is approximately \$1,846,000. Currently, approximately \$1,816,000 is requested through various grants, including a \$810,000 State Wildlife Conservation Board grant to cover habitat restoration of 90 acres and establishment of a temporary nursery and irrigation. The City is required to sign the proposed grant agreement as landowner. The proposed grant agreement requires that the City preserve the subject property as a nature preserve for twenty-five years beginning at the execution of the proposed agreement. The proposed agreement also requires the City to assume responsibility for the project operation and maintenance if the Grantee ceases to exist or is unable to perform the project management duties.

Given the extensive nature of the documentation for the White Point Nature Preserve project and the interrelatedness of the documents, staff is forwarding the documentation early to allow ample time for review and consideration by the Board prior to any formal actions on the project. Transmittal of the key documents through this Board Report will signal to the State Wildlife Conservation Board the Department is moving expeditiously towards completion and approval of the project that was required as a condition of the grant for the preserve. Staff recommends a continuance of this agenda item to the regular meeting of the Board on October 3, 2001 to allow sufficient time to review the project related documents submitted herewith.

Prepared by Linda Clifford, Management Analyst II.

SPECIAL AGENDA
BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Wednesday, September 19, 2001 - 3:00 p.m.
David M. Gonzales/Pacoima Recreation Center
10943 Herrick Avenue
Pacoima, CA 91331

PURSUANT TO COMMISSION POLICY, COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS WILL BE HEARD ONLY AT THE TIME THE RESPECTIVE ITEM IS CONSIDERED. COMMENTS BY THE PUBLIC ON ALL OTHER MATTERS WITHIN THE SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION OF THE BOARD WILL BE HEARD DURING THE "PUBLIC COMMENTS" PERIOD DESIGNATED AT THE END OF THE SPECIAL MEETING. EACH SPEAKER WILL BE GRANTED TWO MINUTES.

1. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS:

- 01-356 Authorization to Pursue Designated State Funds for Vista Del Mar Park Improvements
- 01-357 Authorization to Pursue Designated State Funds for David M. Gonzales Recreation Center Boxing Ring
- 01-358 Westwood Tennis - Expenditure from Pay Tennis Surcharge
- 01-359 White Point Nature Preserve - Review of Environmental Impact Report, Master Plan, and Operating Agreement

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 01-223 Barnsdall Park - Agreement with Kaiser Foundation Hospitals for Proposed Park Improvements

3. NEXT MEETING:

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners will be held on Wednesday, October 3, 2001 at 9:30 a.m., City Hall, 200 North Main Street, Room 1325, Los Angeles, California 90012.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Any comments which require a response or report by staff will be automatically referred to staff for a report at some subsequent meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

Under the California State Ralph M. Brown Act, those wishing to make audio recordings of the Commission Meetings are allowed to bring tape recorders or camcorders in the Meeting.

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or any auxiliary aides and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. For additional information, please contact the Commission Office at (213) 473-5888.

Finalization of Commission Actions: In accordance with City Charter Section 32.3, actions of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners shall become final at the expiration of the next five meeting days of the Los Angeles City Council during which the Council has convened in regular session.