

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 02-298

DATE: August 14, 2002

C.D. _____

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: TOBACCO CONTROL ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM/GRANT

* J. Combs _____
T. Coroalles _____
J. Duggan _____
H. Fujita _____

J. Kolb _____
R. Fawcett _____
M. Matthews _____



General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Authorize the General Manager to request authority from the Mayor and City Council to accept the Tobacco Control Enforcement Program Grant in the amount of \$185,000 for the development of a field program that promotes and facilitates enforcement of local tobacco control laws within specified park areas; in accordance with Executive Directive No. 26; and,
2. Authorize the General Manager to execute the grant agreement, and any subsequent amendments thereto not requiring further Mayor and Council approval pursuant to Administrative Code Section 14.8, on behalf of the City, subject to approval as to form and legality by the City Attorney.

SUMMARY:

On May 9, 2002, the State of California Department of Health Services published Request for Application (RFA) #TCS-02-101, Local Enforcement of Tobacco Control Laws, seeking potential grant award applicants from qualified California law enforcement agencies or other organizations with code enforcement authority to enforce state and local tobacco control laws.

On June 26, 2002, the Department submitted a FY 02/03 grant for funding in the amount of \$300,000 for the development of a field program that promotes and facilitates enforcement of local tobacco control laws within specified park areas. The Department was awarded \$185,000.

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Applicable law includes California Health and Safety Code Section 104495 prohibiting smoking around playgrounds and tot lot sandboxes; LAMC 57.25.14 prohibiting smoking in mountain fire districts; and LAMC 41.50 prohibiting smoking inside recreation facilities and all other public buildings. This grant will fund additional staff and materials resources that will enable the Park Rangers to implement and sustain a directed tobacco control enforcement program that would enhance public health and safety, reduce property destruction by fire, and improve the quality of life at impacted park locations.

The Park Rangers are currently evaluating and identifying which of the citywide park properties are most in need of additional tobacco control enforcement, i.e. Griffith and Elysian Parks, Hansen Dam Recreation Area, Chatsworth Park South, and Harbor Regional Park, and are developing method and strategy that would best serve existing need. It is anticipated that additional revenue will also be generated from citing violators and court collection of applicable fines.

This report was prepared and submitted by:

Gary Newton, Chief Park Ranger
Vicki Israel, Community Services