

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 02-377

DATE: November 6, 2002

C.D. _____

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$117,500 TO FUND "LEARNING CENTERS" AT FIVE NEW CHILD CARE CENTERS.

L. Barth _____
A. Coroalles _____
H. Fujita _____
M. Matthews _____

*J. Combs _____
J. Duggan _____
J. Kolb _____


General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Authorize the General Manager to submit a grant application to the California Community Foundation in the amount of \$117,500 to fund "Learning Centers" at five new child care centers; and,
2. Authorize the General Manager to request authority from the Mayor and City Council to accept the resulting grant award, in accordance with Executive Directive No. 26; and,
3. Authorize the General Manager to execute the grant agreement, and any subsequent amendments thereto, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 14.6 et seq. as may be amended, on behalf of the City, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

SUMMARY:

The California Community Foundation is one of the 13 largest community foundations in the United States with assets of more than \$500 million. The foundation has a five-year, \$25 million "Nurturing Neighborhoods/Building Community" grants making initiative. The initiative's priorities include improving early academic achievement focusing on preschool through eighth grade. Guidelines indicate that grants will be made to programs that stimulate children to learn

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and participate in education, with additional emphasis on those programs that include and strengthen parent participation.”

Staff review of the CCF's grant initiative concluded it would be an opportunity to fund "Learning Centers" for the Department's five new child care centers (Algin Sutton, Branford, Glassell Park, Rancho Cienega and Winnetka). The Learning Centers would follow the guidelines set by a California Department of Education grant that currently subsidizes fees at eight of the Department's child care centers for children of low-income families on a matching one-to-one basis. While no more grant funds from CDE are available, the CCF grant would enable the Department's new child care centers, all located in at-risk areas, to keep enrollment fees low and still offer an enriching program. Funds for community outreach will be used to inform families of the quality educational program offered at the new centers.

The California Community Foundation, which administers the Los Angeles Parks Trust Fund for the Department, will not require a 501(c)(3) status for this grant application.

The Foundation's grant process is competitive. Its board meets quarterly to award grants. There is no set amount of funding that it awards. The last quarter the grants ranged from \$30,000 to \$170,640. There is no match requirement.

This Board Report was prepared by Vicki Israel, Community Services Branch.