

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 03-110

DATE April 2, 2003

C.D. \_\_\_\_\_

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS (LACC) (#1145C) - PAYMENT FOR SERVICES AT LATHAM POCKET PARK

*J. Combs _____	T. Corrales _____
J. Duggan _____	H. Fujita _____
J. Kolb _____	B. Lukehart _____
	L. Barth _____

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 General Manager

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board:

1. Approve payment of expenditures in the amount of \$29,342.00 for services provided at Latham Pocket Park by the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC), a non-profit organization; and,
2. Authorize the Chief Accounting Employee to encumber \$29,342.00 from Fund 205, Account H124, Latham Park Acquisition Greening, under the awarding authority of this Board Report.

SUMMARY:

Since the adoption of Proposition A in 1992, and Proposition A2 again in 1996, the Department has been tasked with the design and construction of over \$100 million in both competitive and specified grant projects. Proposition A created the Los Angeles Regional Park and Open Space District to administer these funds throughout the County. The District has set forth the necessary procedures governing application for the grant funds under this proposition. In addition, Proposition A specifies that priority shall be given to those projects which provide for the employment of youth, particularly at-risk youth, which would include local community conservation corps.

The LACC is a non-profit corporation which provides training in job skills and educational opportunities to young men and women throughout Los Angeles through public service work. LACC has over ten years of demonstrated effectiveness in recruiting youth, ages 18-24 to perform conservation and community improvement work and, in doing so, it has provided extensive training, counseling, leadership development, educational and placement programs for

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these youth. LACC has performed these services on a number of Proposition A competitive grant projects awarded to this Department as well as to other governmental agencies. In addition, the Mayor, through City Agreement No. 66132, executed on March 13, 1987, with LACC, has encouraged all City Departments to utilize these types of services by contacting LACC for their respective projects.

The Latham Pocket Park project met the requirements for hiring youth as a Proposition A funded project. The project included the acquisition of property in South Central Los Angeles (CD 9) for the development of a pocket park. Once the property was acquired, the Department was charged with the installation of an irrigation system, playground equipment, and the planting of sod. The project was completed in March, 2001 and is providing this neighborhood with badly needed parkland. When the invoice was being processed for payment, it was discovered that the existing contract between the City and the LACC only authorized such work if the LACC had been designated in the grant application as an agency that would perform on the project. In the case of the Latham Pocket Park project, the LACC was not included in the original grant application, therefore, the work performed at Latham Pocket Park, by LACC was not authorized by the existing City contract.

The Department's Chief Accountant has advised that the only option available to authorize payment of the invoice would be by Board approval. Payment could then be made through Fund 205, Account H124, Latham Park Acquisition Greening. The LACC has submitted an invoice for costs incurred on this project in the amount of \$29,342.00. The invoice has been reviewed by the project manager and all costs have been verified and are eligible for payment under Proposition A guidelines and therefore would be reimbursed by the County.

This report was prepared by Anthony Gonzalez, Management Analyst II.