

DATE: January 22, 2003

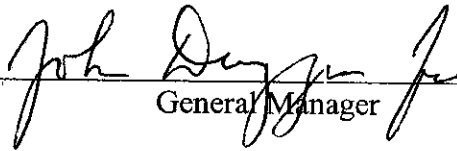
C. D. 7

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: TOBIAS AVENUE PARK - ACCEPTANCE OF \$100,000.00 CASH DONATION FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

J. Combs _____
A. Coroalles _____
J. Duggan _____
J. Kolb _____

H. Fujita _____
*S. Huntley SK _____
B. Lukehart _____
L. Barth _____


General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners accept, with thanks, the very generous donation of One-Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) from Stanislava Mihich to be utilized for park development and improvements at Tobias Avenue Park.

SUMMARY:

On December 31, 2001, the Department of Recreation and Parks completed the purchase and took possession of 1.61 acres of property located at 9122-9132 Tobias Avenue in Panorama City. The site was purchased from a willing seller, Stanislava Mihich, who is a widow. She and her husband owned the property and for many years wished to build a restaurant on the site. Although they never accomplished that dream, the Mihich family wanted to see the site used for something that would benefit the community.

Council President Alex Padilla and his staff had many conversations with Ms. Mihich and her family members. She was interested in the concept of converting this vacant property into a park, and was interested in selling the property to the City. She was, however, concerned that the City improve the property and develop it in such a manner as to discourage gang activity and loitering on the site.

Our Planning and Construction staff have met with Ms. Mihich and her daughter, Senka, to review the Department's plans for site development. The Mihich family is very pleased with our plans and, as a consequence, Stanislava Mihich has donated \$100,000 to the Department to be used for site improvements at the Tobias Avenue Park.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2

NO. 03-29

On December 27, 2002, a bank check in the amount of \$100,000 was delivered to the Department of Recreation and Parks from Stanislava Mihich which has been deposited to a special account specifically established for this and any future donations for Tobias Avenue Park. The special account is called Donation - Tobias Park Enhancement/Improvement (Fund 205; Dept. 88; Account No. 5540).

Staff recommends that this generous donation be accepted with gratitude and that a letter of thanks be prepared and forwarded to the donor.

This report was prepared by L. Eugene Dudley, Senior Management Analyst II, Real Estate and Asset Management, Planning and Construction Division.