

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 04-300

DATE October 6, 2004


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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: LINCOLN PARK MERRY-GO-ROUND – REQUEST THAT THE GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT REISSUE PURCHASE REQUISITION FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A PROTECTIVE CANOPY STRUCTURE

K. Chan _____
H. Fujita _____
F. Mok _____

J. Combs _____
J. Kolb _____
*G. Stigile _____



General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Direct staff to request that the General Services Department (GSD) re-issue Purchase Requisition # 0003011153 or issue a new requisition with Poligon Park Architecture in order to purchase a canopy structure and its installation for a proposed merry-go-round for Lincoln Park; and,
2. Find that this purchase of a canopy structure and its installation is in accordance with Charter Section 1022, inasmuch as the Department does not have the personnel available in its employ with sufficient time and expertise to undertake this specialized professional task in a timely manner, and it is more feasible and economical to secure the services by contract.

SUMMARY:

At its meeting held on February 4, 2004, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners approved of the allocation of funds from the Concession Improvement Account (070K) to match with a Community Development Block Grant of \$50,000 to purchase and install a merry-go-round canopy structure in Lincoln Park. Once approved, Department staff prepared a requisition for a one-time purchase and installation of a canopy structure and submitted it to GSD without a Charter Section 1022 finding, since it was understood this vendor was a sole-source provider of proprietary material and therefore exempt from this provision. It has since come to the attention

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of Department staff that this purchase is not for proprietary material; therefore, installation by the vendor is optional. To include installation in this requisition requires review in compliance with Charter Section 1022.

Prior to completing the requisition through the City's Purchasing Agent, the Board must determine and make a finding that the Department does not have personnel available in its employ with sufficient time and expertise to undertake this specialized professional task in a timely manner, and it is more feasible and economical to secure the services by contract, which is in fact the case. Currently, Department construction forces are being utilized to their capacity, handling repairs and maintenance assignments of existing recreation facilities; a construction crew would not be available to dedicate time entirely to this project. Furthermore, it is a rare occurrence that Department construction forces are asked to assemble a prefabricated, portable structure, such as mobile trailers or temporary construction offices; this might occur once every five or ten years. The unique nature of the Poligon canopy structure; however, requires specific knowledge of this kind of welded structure, as well as a distinct breadth of skills needed to install the specialty tubular steel construction and decorative detail work. It would be more feasible on behalf of the City of Los Angeles to purchase these expert services with the requisition vendor, who has a specific understanding and working familiarity with constructing this particular structure, and all necessary tools on-hand. The professional quality of the final product will be especially appreciated, since this structure will be a protective housing for an operating merry-go-round ride with historic components and antique decorative features.

The restoration of a merry-go-round to Lincoln Park has the generous support of Councilmember Ed Reyes, representing the First Council District. The Councilmember is committed to this park improvement and has provided \$50,000 in CDBG funds to see this project to its successful completion.

Furthermore, during the February Board action (Board Report 04-33), the California Environmental Quality Act was considered, and the project was found to be categorically exempt. Staff has determined that the subject project consists of a minor structure that is accessory to the existing park facilities, and, therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1 Class 11(6) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Prepared by Thomas Breckner, Management Analyst II, Administrative Resources Division.