

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

APPROVED

NO. 06-359

DATE December 13, 2006

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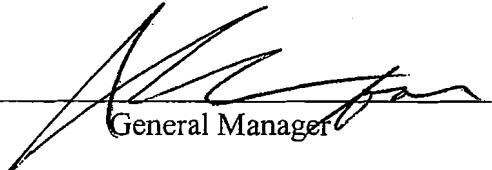
C.D. 3

BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS

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SUBJECT: MECCA AVENUE PARK - ACQUISITION OF A VACANT, TRIANGULAR
PARCEL AT 5250 NORTH MECCA AVENUE IN TARZANA

J. Combs	_____	J. Kolb	_____
H. Fujita	_____	F. Mok	_____
S. Huntley	_____	K. Regan	_____
B. Jensen	_____	*M. Shull	<u>MS</u>


General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Adopt the Resolution, on file in the Board Office, authorizing staff to assist the Department of General Services in obtaining fee title to a donated vacant parcel with the address of 5250 North Mecca Avenue (APN 2161-017-020), said acquisition to depend upon the satisfactory results of a Phase I site assessment;
2. Authorize the Board Secretary to accept the grant deed to the parcel if there is no environmental impediment to the acquisition, the parcel to be set apart and dedicated as park property in perpetuity;
3. Direct staff to thank the trustees of the Pondella Family Trust for the generous donation of the parcel to the City; and,
4. Authorize staff to develop said parcel into a pocket park, to be named Mecca Avenue Park, when funds become available.

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PG. 2

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SUMMARY:

Daniel and Patricia Pondella, trustees of the Pondella Family Trust, informed the Office of Council District Three that they wish to donate to the City a vacant, landscaped parcel in Tarzana in order for the site to become a neighborhood pocket park. The parcel totals 4,120 square feet or 0.09 acre. It is located one block south of Ventura Boulevard at the end of a triangular block where North Mecca Avenue and Reseda Boulevard intersect. The area around the proposed new Mecca Avenue Park is primarily residential. Region staff visited the site and consider it suited for park purposes.

Environmental staff determined that the acquisition and future development of the site for passive recreational use are exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) under Article III, Section I, Class 3 (6) and Class 16 of the City CEQA Guidelines. The donors request that the transfer of title be completed by December 20, 2006, by which date the results of the Phase I site assessment will be reviewed.

The Assistant General Manager of Operations West, the Superintendent of the Valley Region, and the Office of Council District Three concur with staff's recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

As currently landscaped, the annual maintenance cost of the new pocket park is estimated at \$12,000; an initial \$2,000 will be needed for supplies and equipment. Funds will be requested through the budgetary process. The Superintendent of the Valley Region has approved the expenditure of \$2,202 in budgeted funds for the Phase I site assessment.

Report prepared by Joan Reitzel, Senior Management Analyst in Real Estate and Asset Management.