

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

697



FROM: Economic Development Agency
SUBJECT: Thermal Pocket Park Project

SUBMITTAL DATE:
July 14, 2011

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Make the following findings in accordance with Health & Safety Code Section 33445:
 - a. The construction of the proposed park is a benefit to the Thermal Sub Area of the Desert Communities Project Area (DCPA) by helping to eliminate blight within the project area by expanding recreational opportunities and removing the current blighting condition of the property;
 - b. Due to the current economic crisis, there is limited funding for new capital improvements, and there are no other reasonable means of financing available to the community for this project;

(Continued)

REVIEWED BY CIP

Christopher Hans
Christopher Hans

Robert Field
Robert Field
Assistant County Executive Officer/EDA

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	Yes
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	2011/12

COMPANION ITEM ON BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA: Yes

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Redevelopment Agency Capital Improvement Funds-Desert Communities Project Area	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: APPROVE
By Jennifer L. Sargent
County Executive Office Signature

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
DATE 8-2-11
ANITA C. WILLIS
Environmental Concurrence

Dep't Recomm.: Consent Policy
Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

RECOMMENDED MOTION: (Continued)

- c. The payment of funds for the proposed project is consistent with the implementation plan adopted for the DCPA which includes the development and construction of parks for the improvement of and benefit to the project area; and
2. Consent to the payments of Redevelopment funds for the project.

BACKGROUND:

On April 22, 2008, the Board of Supervisors consented to the purchase of real property, known as Assessor Parcel Numbers (APN) 757-052-001 thru 757-052-005, located in the Desert Communities Project Area. The proposed Thermal Pocket Park forms a triangular lot located on the corners of Date Street, Church Street and Main Street in the center of the unincorporated community of Thermal.

The above mentioned parcels are presently vacant parcels. The proposed park will help to eliminate blight by preventing further illegal dumping activities and will help in the revitalization of the substandard physical and economic conditions that exist within the community.

The proposed park has been identified as a community development need; there are very limited recreational facilities in or near the community. A recreational field for seasonal sports at a local school site is currently used by the residents for recreational purposes. The proposed park will provide added recreational opportunities and will benefit and enhance the quality of life of the residents.

The total cost to construct the new park will not be known until project is bid, but the estimated project cost for the pocket park is approximately \$600,000. Section 33445 of the Health and Safety Code provides that a Redevelopment Agency may assist in the design or development of public improvements that are of benefit to the project area of immediate neighborhood in which the project is located. *The project will be brought back before the Board of Directors once plans and specifications have been completed for approval.*

EDA staff recommends that the Board of Supervisors make the findings in accordance with Health & Safety Code Section 33445 and consent to the payments by the Redevelopment Agency.