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DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS AND RECREATION

**CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA**

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR



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September 30, 2001

City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Support Applications for the Construction of Shade Structures at Various Swimming Pool Sites

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT: Council Districts 2, 3, 4 & 6

RECOMMENDATION:

This report recommends that the City Council approve the Department of Parks and Recreation's grant request of \$117,000 to various private foundations to fund the construction of shade structures at pool sites throughout the City.

CONTACT PERSON: Jonathan Rewers, Director's Office, 264-0150

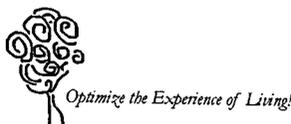
FOR COUNCIL MEETING OF: October 30, 2001

SUMMARY

As part of an overall sun protection program at the City's pools the Department of Parks and Recreation would like to prepare proposals to various private foundations including: the California Wellness Foundation, the California Endowment, the Union Bank of California Foundation and the Draper Foundation for the addition of shade structures at *several* of the City's swimming pools. The foundations were targeted based on their stated goals and past funding practices.

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE ACTION

The Parks and Recreation Citizen's Advisory Committee supported and approved the grant applications request at its meeting on October 11, 2001.



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BACKGROUND

Sunburns in childhood often lead to skin cancers in adults. No matter how hard adults work at protecting their skin, the sun damage received in childhood can not be undone. The harmful effects of ultraviolet radiation accumulate—year after year.

The Department of Parks and Recreation in addressing sun safety, is beginning a program to educate and make our facilities more “sun safe.” The majority of the City’s pools have no access to shade. In many cases the only access to shade is along the pool building for a short time each day. There are no trees within most of city swimming pool facilities, and few along the perimeter of these facilities.

Experts suggest that outdoor activities occur before 10 AM and after 4 PM as sixty percent of the day’s harmful Ultraviolet (UV) rays are present during this period. Currently, swimming pools operate public swim between the hours of 1 PM and 5 PM ,during peak sun hours, swim team to addresses public demand as it is the hottest period of the day and many residents want to head for a “cool spot.” Therefore, the majority of the City’s public swimmers, the majority being children, swim during the highest period of UV exposure. Secondly, the pool facilities nearly double the average person’s exposure to UV as the rays are reflected off the surface of the pool and the deck. Such high levels of exposure can lead to serious sun burns, premature aging of the skin and skin cancer. One American gets skin cancer every 30 seconds. Over one million Americans develop skin cancer annually. Skin cancer kills one American every hour.

To make our pool facilities more “sun safe” and comfortable for pool users, the Department of Parks and Recreation would like to request \$117,000 from a variety of private foundations to fund the installation of shade structures at six of the City’s pool facilities including:

- ▶ Glen Hall Pool;
- ▶ George Sim Pool;
- ▶ Johnston Pool;
- ▶ Mangan Pool;
- ▶ Southside Pool and
- ▶ Cabrillo Pool

These pools are recommended by staff based on lack of available shade, cost, design and feasibility of adding a shade structure. The Department would like to generate proposals for:

- ▶ The California Wellness Foundation;
- ▶ The Union Bank of California Foundation;
- ▶ The Draper Foundation and
- ▶ The California Endowment

The missions and funding goals of these foundations best match the program the City is proposing.

The addition of shade structures to these pools will have various benefits. Shade is one of the easiest and most effective ways to be protected from the sun. The proposed shade structures would create shade and protect pool visitors from 90% of harmful UV rays. The addition of these shade structures would also create a cool place on the pool deck for visitors to congregate, thus those who do not wish to stay in the pool water constantly have an opportunity to escape the direct sun and heat. This may lead to increased use of our City's pools especially with regard to the City's adult and elderly population, who may avoid the pools because of the heat when not in the water, and lack of available shade. Most important, however, is the protection of children. Eighty percent of a lifetime of UV exposure occurs before the age of 20. One bad sunburn during childhood could lead to skin cancer 30 years later.

As part of each proposal the City will commit to adding sun safety to its swim class and swim team curriculum. The City will also place signs at each of its pool facilities encouraging sun safety.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There would be no drain on the general fund. The request will be for \$117,000. This is for six pools at \$15,000 each with a 30% contingency fund.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

None with this report.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

This program is consistent with many of the goals of the City's strategic plan including: enhancing neighborhoods, strengthening and enhancing quality of life and expanding recreational opportunities.

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ESBD CONSIDERATIONS

No goods or services are being purchased under this report.

Respectfully Submitted:



RICHARD J. RAMIREZ, Acting Director
Deputy City Manager

APPROVED:



ROBERT P. THOMAS
City Manager