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**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS  
AND COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA**

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October 25, 1990

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SACRAMENTO ZOO  
PARKS AND RECREATION  
• NORTH  
• SOUTH  
• CITY-WIDE

Budget and Finance/Transportation  
and Community Development Committee  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members In Session:

**SUBJECT: Plaza Park Funding Agreement and Master Plan Development**

**SUMMARY**

This report requests that the City Council authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency to provide funding for plans and improvements to Plaza Park. Additionally, this report requests that the City Council authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Community Services to conduct public hearings to finalize the conceptual master plan for Plaza Park.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

On April 2, 1985, the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) approved a list of Starter Redevelopment Projects located within the boundaries of Redevelopment Project Area No. 8 (Uptown Development) and funded through tax allocation bonds. The list includes an allocation of funds totalling \$213,000 for planning and improvements for Plaza Park.

An existing funding agreement between the Department of Parks and Community Services and SHRA in this amount was entered into on January 12, 1987. Due to the time required for consultant studies and the design and public hearings' process, the Department was unable to complete its intended improvements by the November 1, 1988, contract expiration date.

Since that time, a consultant study on the redesign/revitalization of Plaza Park was completed by Project for Public Spaces, Inc. (PPS), social planners specializing in the design and animation of public spaces. The results of this study were presented and endorsed by the Council last fall. PPS recommended a new work plan, design strategy, and minor improvements. These recommendations are now components of the new funding agreement between SHRA and the Department of Parks and Community Services. The new agreement expires upon completion of design and improvements or by December 31, 1993.

Components of the new funding agreement fall into three phases as follows:

**PHASE I -- COMPLETED IMPROVEMENTS (1987-1989)**

The following improvements to Plaza Park were completed to further its use and enjoyment by the community: restroom alterations, landscaping enhancements (flower beds, raised planters, tree trimming), and irrigation and lighting improvements.

**PHASE II -- RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS (1990-1991)**

Project for Public Spaces, Inc. (PPS) was retained by the Department of Parks and Community Services to observe the park and review all design and use plans. PPS recommended that to revitalize Plaza Park, cooperative public/private management, food services, cultural/recreational programming, and immediate minor improvements would be necessary.

The minor design improvements recommended by PPS which will be implemented are as follows: demolish selected park furnishings and undesirable design elements, prune trees and shrubs, and provide portable food vending carts that meet health code requirements.

**PHASE III -- MASTER PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS (1991-1993)**

As approved by Council, a public/private steering committee made up of representatives from the Department of Parks and Community Services, Library, Planning, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, downtown merchants, farmers' market, citizens, and adjacent developers commenced in January 1990 to plan and manage programming and market activities and to make recommendations on design and improvements. The steering committee will be involved in the development of a new master plan, and make recommendations on final improvements funded by this agreement.

The steering committee recently endorsed a conceptual master plan for the park. This plan incorporates input received from a variety of interested public/private groups and accommodates cultural performances, the farmers' market, food service, expanded water element, preservation of historic nature, and retention of the treescape.

Public hearings necessary to finalize this plan are tentatively scheduled to begin in spring 1991 and conclude in fall 1991. Department staff will then return to City Council with a final master plan and cost estimate for Plaza Park.

Funding for the implementation of the new master plan has not been identified. Partial funding may come from the private sector. Department staff will work with the steering committee to identify potential funding sources and phased implementation of the master plan.

October 25, 1990

FINANCIAL DATA

Under this agreement, the Redevelopment Agency will provide \$213,000 for plans and some improvements in Plaza Park. No additional general fund support is requested with this report.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Approval of this agreement is consistent with Council's policy and commitment to revitalizing downtown.

MBE/WBE EFFORTS

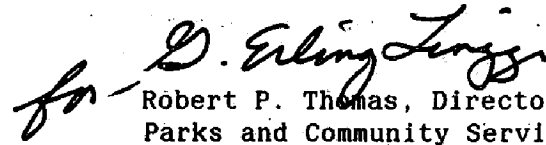
No impact.

RECOMMENDATIONS

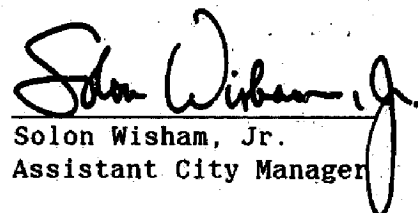
It is recommended that the joint Budget and Finance/Transportation and Community Development Committee approve this report and refer it to the full City Council for action. Further, it is recommended that the City Council, by resolution:

1. Authorize the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency for the funding of plans and improvements for Plaza Park.
2. Approve the development of a new master plan for Plaza Park.

Respectfully submitted,

*for*   
Robert P. Thomas, Director  
Parks and Community Services

Recommendation Approved:

  
Solon Wisham, Jr.  
Assistant City Manager

RPT:ja

October 25, 1990  
District No. 1

Contact Person: Patti Gonzales, Administrative Services Officer - 449-5375

A:Council.doc

# RESOLUTION NO.

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SACRAMENTO HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR PLAZA PARK FUNDING AND AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES TO CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARINGS ON A PLAZA PARK MASTER PLAN

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

1. That the City Council hereby authorizes the City Manager to enter into an agreement with the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency to fund plans and improvements to Plaza Park.
2. That the City Council hereby authorizes the Department of Parks and Community Services to proceed with public hearings to finalize a master plan for Plaza Park.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK

FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

RESOLUTION NO.: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE ADOPTED: \_\_\_\_\_