



**SACRAMENTO
HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT
AGENCY**



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May 7, 1991

Budget & Finance Committee
of the City Council
Sacramento, CA

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Plaza Park Funding Agreement

SUMMARY

The attached report is submitted to you for review and recommendation prior to consideration by the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Sacramento.

RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends approval of the attached resolution approving the agreement.

Respectfully submitted,


JOHN E. MOLLOY
Acting Executive Director

TRANSMITTAL TO COMMITTEE:



JACK R. CRIST
Deputy City Manager

Attachment



SACRAMENTO HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY



May 14, 1991

Redevelopment Agency of the
City of Sacramento
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT: Plaza Park Funding Agreement

SUMMARY

This report requests that the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Sacramento authorize the Executive Director of Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency to enter into an agreement with the City Department of Parks and Community Services to provide funding for plans and improvements to Plaza Park and to amend the proposed fund for future improvements to provide funds for temporary improvements at St. Rose of Lima Park in the form of an ice skating rink during the 1990 and 1991 Winter Festivals.

BACKGROUND

On April 2, 1985, the Redevelopment Agency approved a list of Catalyst Redevelopment Projects located within the boundaries of the Merged Downtown Sacramento Redevelopment Area. These projects and activities were funded through tax allocation bonds. The list included an allocation of funds totalling \$213,000 for planning and improvements to Plaza Park.

A funding agreement between the Redevelopment Agency and the City Department of Parks and Community Services in the amount of \$213,000 was entered into on January 12, 1987. This agreement expired on November 1, 1988.

Before its expiration, the 1987 agreement funded the following improvements to increase the park's use and enjoyment by the community: rest room alterations, landscaping enhancements (flower beds, raised planters, tree trimming), and irrigation and lighting improvements. (A total of \$70,790 in Agency funds was expended on these improvements).

In addition, Projects for Public Spaces Inc. (PPS), a non-profit consulting firm that specializes in the management of public spaces, was retained to review all design and use plans.

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In order to revitalize Plaza Park, PPS recommended cooperative public/private management, the use of portable food vending carts, cultural/recreational programming, and some immediate minor improvements. The recommended minor improvements included demolition of selected park furnishings, removal of undesirable design elements, and pruning of trees and shrubs. Funds allocated for these improvements totaled \$52,125.

With respect to cooperative public/private management, the City Council approved a steering committee made up of representatives from: the Parks Department, Library Department, Planning and Development Department, Redevelopment Agency, downtown merchant associations, California Grown Farmer's Market, citizen's groups and developers of adjacent sites. The committee has planned and managed programming and marketing activities, made recommendations regarding park design and improvements, and endorsed a conceptual master plan for the park.

Due to the time required for consultant studies and improvement implementation, the Parks Department was unable to complete all the intended improvements by the contract expiration date. Therefore, a new agreement is required to replace the expired 1987 agreement.

On October 16, 1990, the Parks Department introduced and City Council approved a new agreement for the use of funds previously scheduled for Plaza Park improvements to include funding for an ice skating rink at St. Rose of Lima Park for the 1990 and 1991 Winter Festivals. Attachment "A" describes the proposed use of the funds as approved in the Agreement and Amendment.

FINANCIAL DATA

The total amount of this agreement is \$213,000, of which approximately \$122,915 has already been expended. In addition, \$35,000 will be allocated for the ice rink in St. Rose of Lima Park. Therefore, approximately \$55,000 currently remains for future improvements to Plaza Park. This amount is currently set aside for the Plaza Park fund under current budget authority.

MBE/WBE EFFORTS

Contracts discussed in this report will be executed through the Department of Parks and will follow their M/WBE policies.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

The proposed action is exempt from environmental review per CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(3); NEPA does not apply.

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POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The action proposed in this report continues a precedent of support for activities and improvements to Plaza Park and is consistent with policies intended to revitalize downtown.

VOTE AND RECOMMENDATION OF COMMISSION

At its meeting of April 17, 1991, the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency adopted a motion recommending approval of the attached resolution. The votes were as follows:

AYES: Diepenbrock, Moose, Simon, Simpson, Williams, Wooley,
Yew, Strong

NOES: None

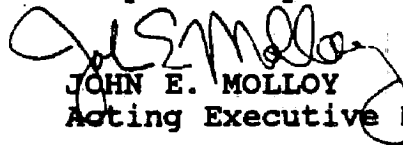
NOT PRESENT TO VOTE: Amundson, Cespedes

ABSENT: Pernell

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Agency approve the attached resolution, authorizing the Executive Director to execute the attached agreement with the City Department of Parks and Community Services for funding of plans and improvements for Plaza Park and to approve an amendment to the future improvements fund to provide funds for the temporary ice skating rink at St. Rose of Lima Park during the 1990 and 1991 Winter Festivals.

Respectfully submitted,



JOHN E. MOLLOY
Acting Executive Director

TRANSMITTAL TO COUNCIL:

District 1
May 14, 1991

WALTER SLIPE
City Manager

Contact Person: Thomas V. Lee,
440-1357

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RESOLUTION NO.

ADOPTED BY THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO

ON DATE OF _____

AGREEMENT WITH THE SACRAMENTO PARKS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT FOR THE FUNDING OF PLANS AND IMPROVEMENTS FOR PLAZA PARK AND ST. ROSE OF LIMA PARK

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO:

Section 1: The Executive Director is authorized to enter into a new agreement on the terms of the original agreement with the Parks and Community Services Department to fund plans and improvements to Plaza Park which shall replace the expired contract for such services.

Section 2: The Executive Director is authorized to enter into an amendment to such renewed agreement which will allocate, from the funds for future improvements, funds for temporary improvements at St. Rose of Lima Park for an ice skating facility for 1990 and 1991 Winter Festival.

ATTEST:

CHAIR

SECRETARY

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FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

DATE ADOPTED: _____

PLAZA PARK IMPROVEMENTS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Department of Parks and Community Services has a goal to revitalize Plaza Park. To that end, certain design improvements were implemented, and further action has been taken to determine an optimum use plan and design for the park. As a result, plans to revitalize Plaza Park have been formulated and fall within 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 renovation, landscaping enhancements (flower beds, raised planters, tree trimming), irrigation and lighting improvements.

PHASE II -- RECOMMENDED IMPROVEMENTS (1990-1991)

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

The 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 vending carts that meet health code requirements.

Consistent with the goal of attracting park users to the central downtown, Phase II also includes financial support for a temporary ice skating rink at St. Rose of Lima Park located at 7th and K Streets. The project is a joint effort by the Downtown Plaza Merchants Association, Regional Transit, and the Department of Parks and Community Services with partial funding provided through this agreement. The ice rink will be in operation from November 29, 1990 through January 5, 1990.

PHASE III -- FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS (1991-1993)

As recommended by PPS, a public/private steering committee commenced in January 1990 to plan and manage ongoing programming and market activities in Plaza Park. Depending upon the recommendations made by the steering committee, a consultant may need to be retained to develop a new master plan for Plaza Park. Should this be necessary, public hearings will be held involving the appropriate design review bodies.

The need for a new master plan shall be determined by January 1992.