



Edwin M. Lee, Mayor
Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

Date: June 5, 2014

To: Recreation and Park Commission
Operations Committee

Through: Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

From: Lisa Bransten, Director of Partnerships

Subject: Grants from Levi Strauss & Co. for Visitacion Valley Playground and Pioneer Park

Agenda Item Wording

Discussion and possible action to accept \$22,000 from the Levi Strauss Foundation to support a water-saving irrigation project at Visitacion Valley Playground and to support operations at Pioneer Park surrounding Coit Tower.

Background

For the past 14 years San Francisco-based Levi Strauss & Co. has held a Community Day on which it sends its employees out to volunteer on important projects around the globe and also supports these projects with thousands of dollars in grants. This year Community Day was held on May 7 and with the assistance of the Department's volunteer services team about 160 Levi's volunteers worked at six Department sites including: 1) Pioneer Park surrounding Coit Tower, 2) Lake Merced, 3) Stern Grove, 4) Heron's Head Park and 5) the Golden Gate Park Botanical Gardens. Tasks at these sites included weeding, mulching, picking up trash and performing habitat restoration.

In addition to sending volunteers to perform this work in San Francisco Parks, Levi's made two generous grants to the department.

- 1) \$20,000 to support an irrigation project at Visitacion Valley Playground that staff will use to replace manual sprinklers with an automated system that will both improve operations at that site and result in water savings. This grant is in keeping with both the company's general focus on environmental stewardship particularly around water use and with the fact that water conservation was one of the main themes of this year's Community Day
- 2) \$2,000 to support operations at Pioneer Park, which surrounds Coit Tower. This site is one of the closest parks to Levi's Headquarters at Levi Plaza and has always been a place of interest for the company. This grant will be used to buy plants and other materials and supplies for the historic site.

It is worth noting that as part of Community Day Levi's also awarded grants to several Rec and Park Partners that will certainly come back to benefit the Department. These grants included support for the Stern Grove Festival, the San Francisco Botanical Garden Society and the EcoCenter at Heron's Head Park.



Financial Impact

\$20,000

Recommendation

Department management and staff recommend accepting this grant.

Supported by

Department staff

Opposed By

No known at this time

People to contact:

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