



**THE PORT
OF LOS ANGELES**

Executive Director's
Report to the
Board of Harbor Commissioners

DATE: JULY 31, 2014

FROM: PUBLIC RELATIONS

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. _____ - COMMUNITY INVESTMENT GRANT
FOR LOS ANGELES MARITIME INSTITUTE**

SUMMARY:

The Los Angeles Maritime Institute (LAMI) operates the TopSail Youth Sail Training Program (TopSail), which is part of a network of programs for at-risk youths at 37 schools in the City of Los Angeles. The educational program exposes school children to the rigors and discipline of sailing tall ships and at the same time teaches team work, responsibility, leadership skills and maritime tradition.

LAMI was selected through the Community Investment Grant Program process, and the committee is recommending the Board of Harbor Commissioners (Board) approve sponsorship for one year in the amount of \$225,000.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Harbor Commissioners:

1. Find that, in accordance with City Charter Section 1022, the scope of work of the proposed Agreement is of a temporary and occasional nature and is best completed by a contractor on an interim basis;
2. Find that the proposed Community Investment Grant is consistent with the criteria of the Board-approved Sponsorship/Hosting Policy (March 2010);
3. Approve the Agreement with LAMI for a term one year and a total not-to-exceed amount of \$225,000;
4. Adopt Resolution No. _____.

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MARITIME INSTITUTE

DISCUSSION:

Background/Context – As presented to the Board on April 3, 2014, for Fiscal Year 2014/15, a Community Grant Investment Program was initiated for the funding of a variety of community programs benefitting both the Harbor Department and the Harbor area. A selection committee of seven members with familiarity of the Harbor communities was named consisting of four Harbor Department employees, two community representatives and one Council District 15 representative. Community grant proposals were broken into three categories: Small - \$5,000 and under; Medium - \$5,001 to \$99,999; and Large - \$100,000 and over. For the large grants, all seven members rated the proposals and discussed appropriate funding level – grants could be made up to the requested amount. The LAMI application came in under the “large” category with a request of \$400,000 in funding. The selection committee is recommending funding at \$225,000, thus necessitating Board action as the recommended amount exceeds the \$150,000 Executive Director authority level.

TopSail is a program of the Los Angeles Maritime Institute, a non-profit, public benefit corporation which operates in conjunction with the Los Angeles Maritime Museum. TopSail is an experiential education program for at-risk youth which has been in operation since 1992. The program consists of three to five one-day sails in and around San Pedro Bay with the option of a multi-day voyage, usually to Catalina Island. TopSail’s programs use the twin brigantines, the *Exy Johnson* and the *Irving Johnson*, the Official Tallships of the City of Los Angeles.

TopSail is known as a highly successful program which promotes teamwork, teaches responsibility and encourages leadership and self-esteem by providing character-building opportunities. At the same time, the youths receive educational information regarding the Port of Los Angeles (Port) and the maritime industry. For some of the participants, the TopSail voyages represent their first awareness of the Port and its operations. Testimonials from educators, participants and others indicate that the TopSail experience has served to encourage the majority of the students to stay in school and lead more productive lives.

Past Board Actions – The Board of Harbor Commissioners initially approved a two-year agreement with LAMI for TopSail in March 1997 for Fiscal Years 1997/98 and 1998/99, for a total of \$200,000 per year. At the conclusion of the second year, the success of the program was re-evaluated prior to eventual sponsorship of a third and fourth year at the same level.

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Agreement No. 2177 was approved in March 2002 for annual sponsorship of \$300,000 for an additional three-year period. Subsequently, the Board approved the first Amendment to Agreement No. 2177 which increased the annual sponsorship by \$467,000 to assist with capital repayment costs for the completion of twin brigantines commissioned on April 27, 2002. Both actions were also approved by the City Council. Agreement No. 2177 covered fiscal years 2001/02, 2002/03 and 2003/04.

Agreement No. 2330 was approved in July 2004 for annual sponsorship of \$450,000 for an additional three-year period. This action was approved by the City Council in September 2004. Agreement 2330 covered fiscal years 2004/05, 2005/06 and 2006/07.

Agreement No. 2581 was approved on February 27, 2007. This agreement was for three years with a sliding financial package starting at \$525,000 and increasing three percent each year for a final year compensation of \$556,972.

Agreement No. 10-2890, was approved on October 13, 2010. This agreement was for three years with a financial package of \$350,000 a year for a total amount of \$1,050,000. An amendment to this Agreement in the amount of \$175,000 continued funding of the LAMI program through the end of calendar year 2013.

Agreement 13-3213 was approved on December 12, 2013 for \$175,000 bringing total funding in Port Fiscal Year 2013/14 to \$350,000.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

The proposed action is approval of a Community Investment Grant for operation of the LAMI TopSail program. As an administrative activity, the Director of Environmental Management has determined that the proposed action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with Article II Section 2 (f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines.

ECONOMIC BENEFIT:

Approval of the proposed Agreement will have three direct and one secondary one-year equivalent job impact for the five county region.

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FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Approval of the proposed grant commits the Harbor Department to funding \$225,000 for this grant agreement. Funds in the amount of \$225,000 have been budgeted in the fiscal year 2014-15 budget in Account 52031 (Sponsorships), Center 220 (Public Relations), Program 000 (Base Budget).

CITY ATTORNEY:

The Office of the City Attorney has reviewed and approved this Agreement as to form and legality”

TRANSMITTAL:

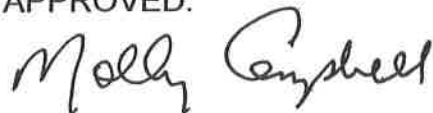
1. Agreement

FIS Approval KL (initials)
CA Approval KL (initials)


THERESA ADAMS LOPEZ
Director Public Relations


CYNTHIA RUIZ
Deputy Executive Director,

APPROVED:



 EUGENE D. SEROKA
Executive Director

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