

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS  
ACTION AGENDA SUMMARY

DEPT: Parks and Recreation

BOARD AGENDA # \*B-7

Urgent

Routine

AGENDA DATE August 5, 2008

CEO Concurs with Recommendation YES  NO   
(Information Attached)

4/5 Vote Required YES  NO

SUBJECT:

Approval to Apply for and Accept, if Awarded, a Grant from the Stewardship Council, Youth Investment Program 2008, for a Learn to Swim Program at the Empire Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or her designee, to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant in the amount of \$50,000 from the Stewardship Council, Youth Investment Program 2008, for a Learn to Swim Program at the Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool
2. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or her designee, to sign all required documents for the application and acceptance of the grant.
3. Adopt a Resolution from the Board of Supervisors to apply for and accept, if awarded, a grant from the the Stewardship Council.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Department is seeking a grant from the Stewardship Council in the amount of \$50,000 to assist with the programming, operations and maintenance costs associated with offering a Learn To Swim Program at the Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool during its first year of operation. The Empire Community Pool construction project is anticipated to be complete in the spring of 2009. This grant funding would add an instructional swim program component to the three-year operations and programs funding plan previously approved by the Board of Supervisors.

(Continue on page 2)

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2008-572

On motion of Supervisor Monteith, Seconded by Supervisor O'Brien  
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Grover, Monteith, DeMartini and Chairman Mayfield

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) X Approved as recommended

2) \_\_\_\_\_ Denied

3) \_\_\_\_\_ Approved as amended

4) \_\_\_\_\_ Other:

MOTION:

Christine Ferraro

ATTEST: CHRISTINE FERRARO TALLMAN, Clerk

File No.

FISCAL IMPACT: (Continued)

County staff will continue exploring other available granting opportunities and both community and private partnerships to further identify funding to augment the programs that will be offered at this new County regional aquatic facility once constructed.

DISCUSSION:

Stewardship Council Grant-Youth Investment Program 2008

The Stewardship Council is dedicated to investing in efforts to improve the lives of young people through connections with the outdoors. Implementation of the Youth Investment Program's 2007 Grantmaking Plan was a major step forward in working toward this goal. The Plan was well received by stakeholders as it supported the efforts of community parks and youth development programs, and nurtured efforts in communities most in need. The central goal of the 2008 Grantmaking Plan, adopted by the Stewardship Council Board of Directors in September 2007, is to improve the lives of underserved youth by providing greater access to outdoor experiences from urban parks in the city to watersheds in the wilderness.

The Youth Investment Program grant from the Stewardship Council would be used to help fund the Learn to Swim Program at the Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool. Stanislaus County Police Activities League (SCPAL) will offer learn to swim classes for ages 12 months through 17 years of age, serving all basic levels of swimming ability. The proposed class is designed to help develop swimming readiness by leading parents and their children in water exploration activities to have fun and to learn to be comfortable and safe in, on and around water. The Learn to Swim Program would be offered once the pool is opened in the spring of 2009. The months of instruction would be from June 15, 2009 through August 7, 2009. There would be approximately 30 days of instruction. There would be a total of ten lessons offered at \$25.00 per participant. This cost would help cover (4) lifeguards at one and one half hours a day for thirty days at a total cost of \$3,535.20. The classes would accommodate the following ages:

Session 1 (June 15-June 26)

1-3 Years of Age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant
3-6 years of age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant
4-10 years of age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant
11-17 years of age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant

Session 2 (July 7-July 17)

1-3 Years of Age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant
3-6 years of age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant
4-10 years of age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant
11-17 years of age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant

Session 3 (July 27 – August 7)

1-3 Years of Age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant
3-6 years of age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant
4-10 years of age	10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant

Approval to Apply for and Accept, if Awarded, a Grant from the Stewardship Council, Youth Investment Program 2008, for a Learn to Swim Program at the Empire Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool  
Page 3

11-17 years of age 10 Lessons/\$25.00 per participant

If the Stewardship Council awards the total amount requested of \$50,000 from the grant, \$40,000 would be used to supplement the cost of teaching 1,600 children in the first year of the pool opening. The remaining \$10,000 dollars would be utilized to help offset the cost of operations and maintenance.

### Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool

The Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool is envisioned as a safe recreational alternative for children and families where supervised swimming and water safety education can be provided as a deterrent to swimming in the area's many dangerous canals and rivers.

The approved Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool includes a 5-lane 25-yard pool and a 706 square foot recreational spray playground. These aquatic components better achieve and address the needs of the Empire community. Furthermore, they enhance the two areas deemed most important to the community, swimming lessons and family recreation.

The Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool will be located within the existing Empire Neighborhood Park. The 5-lane 25-yard pool is planned to have stairs along one side of the pool, gradually descending into the water. This is a very good teaching tool for both children and adults learning to swim. The size of the facility has also shown, in other locations, to be a very popular size for both recreational and instructional swim programs. The recreational spray playground will provide much greater interest to all ages and keep pool goers in the facility for longer periods of time. This type of facility has also proven to be very popular with families and teenagers. The turf area completes a more programmable and functional facility. It is anticipated that this facility will be lower in maintenance costs and result in higher usage than originally planned. The park will compliment the aquatic facility by providing easy access to the existing parking lot and restroom structure.

On May 20, 2008, the Board of Supervisors approved the award of the design-build construction contract to Diede Construction, Inc, of Lodi, established the project budget and accepted the donated funds from the Empire Pool Fundraising Committee, along with other actions. Since award of the construction contract, the Chief Executive Office – Capital Projects Division and the Department of Parks and Recreation have begun meeting with the Diede construction team to begin work towards the completion of the project design. The ground breaking for the Empire Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool Project is anticipated this fall. Additionally, County staff is also providing assistance to the Empire Pool Fundraising Committee, in coordination with the Empire Municipal Advisory Council, on the formation of a local non-profit to support the new aquatic facility. The plan approved by the Board included three years of funding for operations and maintenance and one year of a recreational swim program. This grant from the Stewardship Council would provide a year of funding for the addition of an instructional swim program during the inaugural year of operation. Funding for additional recreational and instructional swim programs and ongoing maintenance and operations will continue to be sought through other granting opportunities and community and private partnerships.

Approval to Apply for and Accept, if Awarded, a Grant from the Stewardship Council, Youth Investment Program 2008, for a Learn to Swim Program at the Empire Regional Water Safety Training Center - Empire Community Pool  
Page 4

**POLICY ISSUE:**

The Board of Supervisors should determine if submission of this grant application, and acceptance if awarded, is consistent with its stated priorities to strive for a safe community, a healthy community and effective partnerships.

**STAFFING IMPACT:**

The Learn To Swim Program would be staffed with American Red Cross certified Lifeguard "Water Safety Instructors" from the Stanislaus County Police Activities League. The goal of SCPAL is to charge fees that will enable them to offset the cost of the instructors and at the same time provide fees that would be reasonable and affordable for families.