

PARKS, FACILITIES, AND RECREATION PROGRAM DONATIONS

PURPOSE

The City Council recognizes the need to promote community involvement and active participation in quality of life components throughout the community, and the need to establish a fair, equitable, and uniform procedure for which gifts may be donated to the City. This policy establishes criteria for donations to assure area compatibility, attractiveness, usefulness, and the capability to be maintained. Each donation considered for inclusion in the City park public improvement and street system will be subject to established limitations and guidelines for the particular area.

POLICY

A. Acceptance of donations of cash or tangible items

1. Based on the value of the donation, appropriate City staff will review the acceptability of any donation and determine if the benefits to be derived warrant acceptance of the donation.
2. Criteria for evaluation includes consideration of any immediate or initial expenditure required in order to accept the donation, the potential and extent of the City's obligation to maintain the donation, and the community benefit to be derived from the donation.
3. The cost of a tangible donation shall include a 10% maintenance fee paid for in full by the donor. This maintenance fee is in addition to any other fees or charges.

B. Types of Donations

Donations may be received in the form of cash, real, or personal property. Restricted donations are those donations that the donor specifies for a particular City location or purpose. Unrestricted donations are those donations that are given to the City for unspecified use.

1. Cash Gifts

- a. Donation of cash or items valued at below \$10,000 may be accepted by the City Manager. However, any donation considered a park

facility improvement that would result in an installation of a permanent fixture in the parks must be in compliance with section B-4 of this policy, *Park and Street Improvement Donations*.

- b. Donations of \$10,000 and above may be accepted by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission.
- c. Gifts of funds may be designated for restricted or unrestricted use.
- d. Gifts of funds accepted by the City imply no other obligation besides using donated funds for the specified purpose.

## 2. Trees

Tree donations add beauty to City parks and facilities. Trees may be donated and installed at parks and parkway locations recommended by the General Services Director and approved by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission. The minimum size of tree donations must be 24" boxed containers unless waived by the Commission.

- a. Tree donations are limited to specific species and limitations identified in the City Donation Catalog.

## 3. Benches

Bench donations may be donated and installed in different areas of placement including parks, streets, along the beachfront, within villages, commercial districts, neighborhoods, on a specific island, etc. The Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission, with the assistance of General Services staff, shall designate the type, style, design, and placement of City-owned benches on City property.

- a. An inventory of designated benches and available bench locations will be maintained in the City Donation Catalog.
- b. Donation requests must be submitted to the General Services Department and meet the following requirements:

- i. Bench donations along a city street, beachfront or other public right of way will require the approval of the General Services Director.
- ii. Bench donations within a commercial district will require notification of, and an endorsement from, the local business association, if applicable.
- iii. Bench donations for parks and facilities within a residential community will require notification of residents and an established homeowners association or common interest development, when applicable, within 300 feet of placement.

4. Park, Public Improvement, and Street Amenities

Other amenities such as drinking fountains, tables, and other equipment that will improve public places in parks, in and/or around public buildings, streets, walkways, and trails may be donated to the City.

- a. Other amenities that may be donated will be identified in the City Donation Catalog.
- b. Donation of public amenities valued at below \$10,000 may be accepted by the City Manager.
- c. Donation of public amenities valued \$10,000 and above may be accepted or declined by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission.
- d. Donations to be installed on public sidewalks shall meet the criteria described in Policy L-15 Encroachments on Public Sidewalks and approved by the Public Works Director and General Services Director.

C. Naming Rights

Donors may receive naming rights on capital improvement projects for which any donation matches or exceeds 75% of the total budgeted cost for the area benefiting from the donation. All such donations will be submitted to the City

Council for acceptance of the donation and the name to be applied to the project in keeping with City Council Policy B-9 – *Naming of City Parks & Facilities*.

D. Sponsorships

Special Events are recognized as fundraising activities. Where donations or sponsorship of a special event will require some form of recognition, and, in order to provide recreational opportunities, corporate or organizational sponsors may be recognized by use of logos and name on event banners and signage. Signs and literature at all such special events would be at the discretion of the appropriate Department Director. The size, scale and location of corporate logos and names should not dominate the event facilities or area. Corporate logos and/or names should not be displayed in a manner that would, in any way, suggest the endorsement of the Department or the City. All signs must comply with the City's existing sign code and Council Policies B-3 and B-8.

E. Right to Decline

The City of Newport Beach reserves the right to decline any donation if, upon review, acceptance of the donation is determined to be not in the best interest of the City.

F. Special Privileges

Making a donation or co-sponsoring a special event does not entitle a sponsor/donor to any special privileges other than those stated in this policy such as recognition, plaques or displays at events, unless otherwise agreed upon and approved by the Department Director or the City Council when appropriate.

G. Gift Donation Catalog

The Recreation & Senior Services Director and General Services Director shall review and present to the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission periodically the City Donation Catalog containing ideas for public donations.

H. Acknowledgements

1. Letter of acceptance of donation will be sent to donor.

2. In some cases, recognition of donations may be given at Commission or Council Meetings.
3. Plaques are reserved for donations meeting the following criteria:
  - a. Donors providing donations valued at \$1,000 to less than \$3,999 \$4,000 may elect to provide a dedicatory plaque not exceeding 2" x 6" with a name designated by the donor preceded by one of the following: "Donated by", "Donated for", "In recognition of", or "In Memory of".
  - b. Donors providing donations valued at \$4,000 or greater may elect to provide a dedicatory plaque not exceeding 5"x7" with name, date and dedication wording not exceeding 25 words. Plaque content must be approved by the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission.
  - c. Donors providing donations valued at least \$1,000 that recognize individuals or organizations that have provided distinguished long term and/or significant service to the City may include a dedicatory plaque not exceeding 5"x7" with name, date and dedication wording not exceeding 25 words. Individuals can include City employees with 25 or more years of distinguished service, as determined by the PB&R Commission.
  - d. Plaques are at the expense of the donor, the City will assume ownership and maintenance of the donated item and plaque however, the City does not assume replacement costs due to vandalism or theft. Plaques will remain on a donated item during its useful life. The City reserves the right to remove and/or relocate the donated item.
  - e. Plaque information will be entered on the Gift Donation Catalog application form and ordered by the City.

**Adopted - May 9, 2006**  
**Amended - February 24, 2009**  
**Amended - June 26, 2012**

**Formerly G-5**