To: Office of the City Administrator & City Council

From: Councilmember At-Large Henry Chang Jr.

Date: July 3, 2006

Re: Use of $250,000 Priority Project Funds for the At-Large City Council Office

SUMMARY

Each Councilmember has been allocated $250,000 in Councilmember Priority Funds as one of the amendments to the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Mid-Cycle Budget. I wish to use my Priority Funds for two projects: 1) $210,000 for the East Bay Zoological Society to construct and/or upgrade animal care facilities and 2) $40,000 to the Chabot Space and Science Center for immediate use as operating funds. Since these funds are currently required for each of the two institutions, I request that they be released as soon as possible.

FISCAL IMPACT

The aforementioned $250,000 is already in the Mid-Cycle Budget. Releasing these funds will have no negative impact on this Budget, but will immeasurably aid the two institutions to fulfill their missions.

BACKGROUND

During discussions of the 2006-2007 Mid-Cycle Budget, various Councilmembers requested funds for projects and/or institutions they felt particularly worthy of support. To accommodate these requests, the Council allocated $2 million dollars, or $250,000 to each Council District plus the At Large seat. The allocation of these funds would be at the discretion of each individual Councilmember, but subject to overall Council approval. At the June 28, 2006 Rules Committee a process was suggested for those Councilmembers who required allocations during the summer recess, and this process was further refined by the City Attorney on July 3, 2006. This Agenda Report is my request for speedy allocation of my Priority Project Funds.
DISCUSSION

Although each Councilmember was allocated $250,000 in Priority Project Funds as an amendment to the 2006-07 Mid-Cycle Budget, no actual process for Council approval of individual Councilmember allocations was detailed at the time of passage. The need for such a process became clear when certain Councilmembers expressed the need for a speedy allocation of their funds. In addition, since Council will be in recess after the July 18, 2006 Council Meeting, each request for rapid allocation of Priority Project funds during the Summer Recess has to be put in place ten working days prior to the July 18 meeting in order to conform to the Brown and Sunshine regulations. Further, since there would be no Rules Committee on July 6, 2006, these requests would have to be approved by the President of City Council and City Administrator, not Rules Committee, for placement on the Agenda for the July 18, 2006 City Council meeting. This situation was addressed by the Rules Committee meeting of June 28, and the City Attorney further refined the process by further opining that each Councilmember had to submit a Resolution and Agenda Report (albeit of the Councilmember’s own format) to the City Clerk explaining their approved requests prior to noon on Thursday, July 6, 2006 for placement on the July 18 City Council Meeting Agenda. This Report and accompanying Resolution is for that July 18, 2006 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION(S) AND RATIONALE

I request that at its July 18, 2006 meeting, City Council approve that my Priority Project Funds be allocated to the East Bay Zoological Society ($210,000) and Chabot Space and Science Center ($40,000) at the earliest possible time.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry Chang, Jr.
Councilmember At-Large
OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. C.M.S. DRAFT

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER HENRY CHANG, JR.

Immediate Allocation of Councilmember At-Large Henry Chang, Jr.'s Priority Project Funds to the East Bay Zoological Society and the Chabot Space and Science Center

WHEREAS, On June 8, 2006 the City Council did amend the 2005-2007 Policy Budget for the City of Oakland to include $250,000 apiece for each councilmember to use as priority funds for projects at each councilmember's discretion but subject to City Council approval; and

WHEREAS, The City of Oakland is a member of the Joint Powers Agreement governing the Chabot Science Center and the center serves tens of thousands of Oakland students and residents each year; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland owns the Oakland Zoo facility and has provided funding to the East Bay Zoological Society in its mission to improve access to the zoo's programs for Oakland residents; and

WHEREAS, Both the Oakland Zoo and the Chabot Space and Science Center require these funds during the summer of 2006 and prior to the initial Fall, 2006 City Council Meeting; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That $210,000 of Councilmember Henry Chang, Jr.'s priority purpose funds be apportioned to the East Bay Zoological Society at the earliest possible time; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That $40,000 of Councilmember Henry Chang Jr.'s priority funds be apportioned to the Chabot Space and Science Center at the earliest possible time.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA. 2006

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, REID, QUAN, KERNIGHAN and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST:__
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California

ITEM NO. DATE: CITY COUNCIL