



PARKS, AFTER SCHOOL, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The State of California has approved Proposition 84, the Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Act of 2008, grant application guide as of April 1, 2009. While the due date for applications has not been established, the City of Fresno has identified the Universal Accessible Park (UAP) on Polk and Gettysburg Avenue as the key project for this grant proposal based on established criteria.

This competitive grant application will give the highest scoring points to projects that create new parks in critically underserved communities. There is no match requirement for this grant, thus the City of Fresno Parks, After School, Recreation and Community Services (PARCS) Department plans to submit a request for the maximum grant amount of \$5,000,000. PARCS is proactively seeking support from residents, community based organizations, and community leaders in anticipation of the due date being released in the very near future.

BACKGROUND:

The UAP will be the nation's first park area to combine a Miracle League special-needs baseball field and a Shane's Inspiration designed children's play areas in one entire Universally Accessible Park. This 8-acre park in Northwest Fresno will be a one of a kind facility for children of all abilities and their families. The design plans have been completed! Planned amenities include:

- Softball and multi-purpose playfield with rubberized play surface
- Shane's Inspiration designed play structures for age appropriate play
- UV shade facilities over each play structure
- Water spray park play area
- Basketball courts with rubberized play surface
- Skateboard Court area
- Picnic areas with preschool tables
- Community building with family restrooms, concession stand and classroom

- Sensory garden and sensory wall
- Two 50-foot shade pavilions
- Two parking lots designed with plenty of spaces for special needs vehicles

The project will add new park space to Northwest Fresno, a critically underserved area with zero acres per 1,000 residents. The area median household income is \$42,713, below the \$47,959 recommended median income in the application. The project is also in close proximity to a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) eligible area, where 60 to 69 percent of residents are low to moderate income, as identified under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Census 2000 data.

The City of Fresno has successfully been awarded \$720,000 in grant funds for this project. The UAP project will leverage community resources, as well as significant vendor commitments. With support from our community and State elected officials, the Prop 84 funds will help bring this project to fruition.