



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION REPORT

AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2008

TO: Park and Recreation Commission

FROM: Recreation Division, Parks and Recreation Department

SUBJECT: Recognition of Barney Berglund, Chairperson of the Santa Barbara Local Organizing Committee for the Amgen Tour of California

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission recognize three years of dedicated work by Barney Berglund, the volunteer Chairperson of the Santa Barbara Local Organizing Committee for the Amgen Tour of California Bike Race.

DISCUSSION:

AEG/Medalist Sports first introduced the idea of a professional bicycle race going through the State of California in 2005. Initiated in 2006, "Amgen Tour of California", covers 650 miles and includes stages and time trials similar to the Tour de France. With Santa Barbara on the Amgen Tour route, the City became a sponsor and hosted a Local Organizing Committee comprised of City staff, Conference and Visitors Bureau staff, and interested community members. The Local Host Committee conducts fundraising and promotion activities, provides race logistics, organizes police and volunteer staffing along the race route, and, obtains City permits. Barney Berglund, an avid cyclist and supporter of the sport of cycling, stepped forward and volunteered to be the Chairperson of the Local Organizing Committee. Mr. Berglund and his committee members put in many hours of hard work resulting in the successful 2006 inaugural event.

Santa Barbara played host to two "stage starts" in 2007 and 2008, with Mr. Berglund again as Chairperson of the Local Organizing Committee. In addition to handling duties related to the event, Mr. Berglund was the main liaison between the race organizers, AEG/Medalist Sports, and the City. Mr. Berglund proved to be a consummate professional when dealing with committee members, City staff, City officials, community agencies and event sponsors.

The Local Organizing Committee would not have been as successful if it were not for efforts of Barney Berglund and his volunteer committee members. His efforts are greatly appreciated by the Department and the community. The Parks and Recreation Department would like to recognize Mr. Berglund's leadership.

SUBMITTED BY: Judith Cook, Recreation Programs Manager

APPROVED BY: Nancy L. Rapp, Parks and Recreation Director