

APPROVED

June 02 2022

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD REPORT

NO. 22-143

DATE June 02, 2022

C.D. 14

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: HIGHLAND PARK RECREATION CENTER – PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT (PRJ21566) PROJECT – CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, CLASS 1(3) [REPAIR, MAINTENANCE OR MINOR ALTERATION OF EXISTING PEDESTRIAN TRAILS]; CLASS 2 [REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING STRUCTURES WHERE THE NEW STRUCTURE WILL BE LOCATED ON THE SAME SITE AS THE STRUCTURE REPLACED AND HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME PURPOSE AND CAPACITY] AND CLASS 11(6) [PLACEMENT OF MINOR STRUCTURES ACCESSORY TO (APPURTENANT TO) EXISTING INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL OR INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES] OF CITY CEQA GUIDELINES AND ARTICLE 19, SECTIONS 15301(c), 15302 AND 15311 OF CALIFORNIA CEQA GUIDELINES

AP Diaz	_____	M. Rudnick	_____
H. Fujita	_____	<i>for</i> C. Santo Domingo	<u>DF</u>
V. Israel	_____	N. Williams	_____


General Manager

Approved X Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION

1. Approve the scope of work and total budget for the Highland Park Recreation Center–Playground Replacement (PRJ21566) Project (Project), as described in the Summary of this Report;
2. Approve the proposed Project to be bid and constructed through the RAP’s list of pre-qualified on-call contractors;
3. Approve the authorization of change orders as authorized under Report No. 06-136, for the construction contracts for this proposed Project in the budget contingency amounts for such contracts as stated in this Report;

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4. Determine that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(3) [Repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing pedestrian trails]; Class 2 [Replacement of existing structures where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and have substantially the same purpose and capacity] and Class 11(6) [Placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing industrial, commercial or institutional facilities] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15301(c), 15302 and 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines and direct RAP Staff to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Los Angeles County Clerk;
5. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee to prepare a check to the Los Angeles County Clerk in the amount of \$75.00 for the purpose of filing a NOE; and,
6. Authorize RAP staff to make technical corrections as necessary to carry out the intent of this Report.

SUMMARY

Highland Park Recreation Center is located at 6150 East Piedmont Avenue in the Highland Park area of the City. This 5.41-acre park includes a recreation center building, swimming pool and bathhouse, baseball diamonds, basketball courts, a children's play area, and picnic tables for the surrounding community. Approximately 7,939 City residents live within a one-half (1/2) mile walking distance of Highland Park Recreation Center.

PROJECT SCOPE

The scope of the proposed Project includes the following:

- Demolition of existing play area.
- Installation of a new play area with safety surfacing and shade sail structures
- Installation of amenities like trash receptacles, benches, tables and a hydration station.
- Park pathway and path of travel improvements.

Illustrations of the proposed Project are available in Attachment 1.

PROJECT FUNDING

The 2021-22 Adopted Budget included Seventy-Five Million Dollars (\$75,000,000.00) in the Unappropriated Balance for RAP to make capital improvements at City parks and facilities (Council File No. 21-0935). In response, RAP developed a capital improvement plan to utilize the \$75,000,000.00 in funds to complete various park projects citywide. The proposed Project is one of the park projects that RAP has identified for the use of these funds.

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The total amount of funding available for the proposed Project is Eight Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars (\$875,500.00), which will be the total budget for this Project inclusive of the budget contingency amounts set forth below.

The anticipated pre-qualified on-call contracts will be for Playground Construction. The budget contingency for the Playground Construction contracts will be Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$85,000.00).

FUNDING SOURCE MATRIX

Source	Fund/Dept/Acct	Amount	Percentage
Deferred Maintenance Funds	302/89/727H-HP	\$875,500.00	100%
Total		\$875,500.00	100%

PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

RAP Staff has determined that sufficient funding has been identified and construction for the proposed Project is anticipated to begin in Fall 2022.

TREES AND SHADE

This proposed Project includes the installation of two shade sail structures over the proposed new children's play area. No trees will be affected by the proposed Project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed Project consists of minor alteration of existing pedestrian trails; replacement of existing structures where the new structure will be located on the same site as the structure replaced and have substantially the same purpose and capacity and placement of minor structures accessory to (appurtenant to) existing institutional facilities.

According to the parcel profile report retrieved on May 9, 2022 this area does not reside in a liquefaction zone. This site is not within a coastal or methane zone, so there is no reasonable possibility that the project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern or have a significant effect due to unusual circumstances. No other known projects would involve cumulatively significant impacts, and no future projects would result from the proposed Project. As of May 9, 2022 the State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) (Envirostor at www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov) and the State Water Resources Control Board (Geotracker at <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov>) have not listed the Project site or any contaminated sites near the Project area (within 500 feet). According to the Caltrans Scenic Highway Map, the site is 0.3 miles from CA110, an officially federally designated scenic highway and the proposed Project will not affect any trees, historic buildings, rock outcroppings, or similar resources. Furthermore, the proposed Project is located within the Highland Park – Garvanza Historic Preservation Overlay District, but is not located in proximity of a known historical resources and will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of any historical resource.

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Based on this information, staff recommends that the Board determine that it is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(3), Class 2 and Class 11(6) of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15301(c), 15302 and 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines. RAP Staff will file a NOE with the Los Angeles County Clerk upon the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners' (Board) approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated costs for the design, development, and construction of the proposed park improvements are anticipated to be funded by Deferred Maintenance Funds or funding sources other than RAP's General Fund. The maintenance of the proposed park improvements can be performed by current staff with minimal impact to existing maintenance service at this facility.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES AND GOALS

Approval of this Board Report advances RAP's Strategic Plan by supporting:

Goal No. 1: Provide Safe and Accessible Parks

Outcome No. 2: All parks are safe and welcoming

Result: The replacement of the playground at Highland Park Recreation Center will enhance the park user's experience and increase safety.

This Report was prepared by Ajmal Noorzayee, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Attachment 1 – Renderings of the New Playground



















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