

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

October 1, 2020

TO: Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

FROM: Michael A. Shull, General Manager 

SUBJECT: OVERVIEW OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY PROPOSITION A – SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS, GANG PREVENTION, TREE PLANTING, SENIOR AND YOUTH RECREATION, BEACHES AND WILDLIFE PROTECTION ACTS OF 1992 AND 1996 – GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING FOR DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

SUMMARY

Approved by Los Angeles County (County) voters, the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Gang Prevention, Tree Planting, Senior and Youth Recreation, Beaches and Wildlife Protections Acts of 1992 and of 1996 (established as Propositions A-1 and A-II, respectively, City of Los Angeles (City) Ordinance No. 174870) were established to improve the quality of life for citizens throughout the County. To that end, the Proposition A grant Program has provided funding for development and acquisition projects, youth employment, and facility maintenance that have: 1) improved the safety for children, youth, adults, and senior citizens at recreation and park facilities, 2) encouraged tree planting; 3) increased park land, and 4) restored and preserved beach, park, wildlife, and open space areas.

Since their passage, the 1992 and 1996 Propositions A-I and A-II have generated in excess of \$725 million for capital improvement projects, including acquisition, development, improvement, restoration and maintenance, to address park, recreation, beach and open space needs throughout the County. The County apportioned the funds into the following three funding categories: Specified, Per Parcel Discretionary (PPD), and Excess (Specified, Cities and County, and Competitive). A total of \$615.25 million in Specified Funds and a total of \$110 million in PPD were allocated to various cities and non-profit agencies throughout the County. In particular, the City through its Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP), Zoo, and Department of Public Works were allocated approximately \$135 million in Specified Funds and approximately \$43 million in PPD, Competitive and Excess Funds.

RAP CAPITAL PROJECT FUNDING

Proposition A funding for RAP has included Specified, PPD, and Excess Funds (Specified, Cities and Competitive) in excess of \$131 million for various capital improvement projects. As of July 1, 2020, RAP Proposition A grant funds represent 167 capital project grants involving beach and nature facilities, parks and recreation facilities (including Housing Authority and urban impact parks), swim and lake facilities, and park land acquisitions throughout the City, as shown in the tables below.

Specified Awards				
Facilities	No. of Projects	Total Grant Award Amounts	Total Grant Receipts	Remaining Grant Balances
Acquisition of Park Land	7	\$5,809,873.50	\$5,809,873.50	\$0
Beach and Nature Related	4	\$12,550,000.00	\$12,550,000.00	\$0
Elysian Park Master Plan	6	\$2,197,726.99	\$2,197,726.99	\$0
Griffith Observatory/Park	2	\$20,361,089.47	\$20,361,089.47	\$0
Housing Authority	5	\$5,201,218.82	\$5,201,218.82	\$0
Sepulveda Basin	7	\$7,165,454.00	\$7,165,454.00	\$0
Swim and Related	7	\$19,050,000.00	\$18,800,000.00	\$250,000.00
Urban Impact Park	20	\$11,936,592.88	\$11,936,592.88	\$0
Various Recreational	16	\$9,969,186.34	\$9,711,924.34	\$257,262.00
TOTAL Specified	74	\$94,241,142.00	\$93,733,880.00	\$507,262.00

PPD, Competitive, and Excess Fund Awards				
Facilities	No. of Projects	Total Grant Award Amounts	Total Grant Receipts	Remaining Grant Balances
Acquisition of Park Land	8	\$3,640,324.00	\$3,640,324.00	\$0
Beach and Nature Related	6	\$1,082,334.93	\$1,082,334.93	\$0
Griffith Park	5	\$1,548,111.67	\$1,548,111.67	\$0
Pool	8	\$8,400,000.00	\$8,400,000.00	\$0
Urban Impact Park	5	\$1,013,000.00	\$1,013,000.00	\$0
Various Recreational	61	\$21,855,455.45	\$20,759,702.25	\$1,095,753.20
Total Grant Funding	93	\$37,539,226.05	\$36,443,472.85	\$1,095,753.20

Funding Type	No. of Projects	Total Grant Award Amounts	Total Grant Receipts	Remaining Grant Balances
Specified Awards	74	\$94,241,142.00	\$93,733,880.00	\$507,262.00
PPD/Competitive/Excess Fund Awards	93	\$37,539,226.05	\$36,443,472.85	\$1,095,753.20
Total Grant Funding	167	\$131,780,368.05	\$130,177,352.85	\$1,603,015.20

NOTE: Of the 167 capital project grants, 161 are closed, 5 are active, and 1 is in the process of closeout. The remaining 6 active grants total \$1,603,015.20 of the remaining Prop A grant balance (Attachment No. 1). All Proposition A-I projects are complete. All Proposition A-II projects are expected to be completed by January 2022. RAP is working with the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) to remain in good standing status, which is one of the criteria to apply for Measure A: Los Angeles County Parks and Open Space Parcel Tax (Measure A), funding in the future.

MAINTENANCE FUNDING

Propositions A-I and A-II also provided funding for maintenance and recreation activities for sites that had received capital funding. RAP has received approximately \$35.2 million in facility maintenance funding (approximately \$1.5 million annually) from Propositions A-I and A-II. These funds have generally been equally divided to support activities at the Hansen Dam Recreation Aquatics Center and EXPO Center. Proposition A-I and A-II maintenance payments are no longer being received, as these funds expired on June 30, 2015 and on June 30, 2019. All Proposition A-I and A-II maintenance funds have been claimed by RAP.

Under the Measure A Guidelines, Measure A maintenance and recreation activities funding is available for all Proposition A projects if an application is submitted.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT POLICY

To help prevent gang violence, RPOSD established a Youth Employment Policy, which charged grant recipients with meeting a Youth Employment Goal (YEG) equal to ten percent (10%) of total development funding received or fifty percent (50%) of their maintenance funding received. Whenever possible, grant recipients were to hire at-risk youth residing within the community where the development project took place to perform project development and/or maintenance tasks that were appropriate for youth. Based on the estimated \$24,376,972 in Maintenance and Servicing Fund allocation, the City's YEG was set at \$12,188,486. To date, the City has met and exceeded its youth employment obligation by more than \$3 million for a total amount of \$15,628,838 as of February 2012. A reported 8,387 youths were hired through this program for the period covering July 1, 1996 through January 31, 2012.

CONCLUSION

Propositions A-I and A-II provided critical maintenance and capital funding to complete over 167 large and small capital projects in the City thereby improving accessibility to open space, recreational facilities and other facilities for the enjoyment of the public. It further provided youth employment

opportunities and funding used to maintain completed projects. These facilities have been used or visited by millions of Los Angeles County residents or visitors over the last twenty-five years further improving the economy and livability of the County and the City.

Propositions A-I and A-II played a significant role towards RAP's goals of providing a clean, safe, well-programmed, equitable and sustainable park system. This mission is being continued with Measure A, which was passed by the County voters on November 8, 2016 and Proposition 68: Parks, Environment, and Water Bond (Proposition 68), which was passed by California voters on June 5, 2018.

This report was prepared by Kai Wong, Senior Project Coordinator, Grants Administration, Finance Division, and reviewed by Bill Jones, Chief Management Analyst, Grants Administration, Finance Division.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Proposition A-II Active and Closed Project Status Report

Proposition A-II Active Project Status

CD	Park Project	Work Order No.	Grant Scope	Proposition A Grant Award Amount	Proposition A Grant Balance	Other Funding Sources
8	Algin Sutton Pool Replacement	PRJ21117 E170293A E170293B E170293D E170293L	Demolish existing pool and replace with new pool to include new deck, shade structures, fencing, security lighting, and splash pad, renovate equipment and install new equipment and other related amenities.	\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00	CDBG PY 43 CDBG PY 44 CDBG PY 45 Prop K Site & Facilities
1	Alpine Recreation Center Expansion	PRJ20591 E170225A E170225B E170225D E170225F E170225L	The development of a park on a vacant blighted hillside adjacent to the Chinatown Library. Park amenities will include benches, street trees, park lighting, a raised platform, elevated sculptural ramp, stairs, a view terrace, retaining walls, restrooms, a drinking fountain, fitness equipment, play structures and landscaping.	\$950,966.59	\$950,966.59	MICLA Prop K Prop 84
10	Rancho Cienega Sports Complex (Celes King III)	PRJ20308 E1907684	Design and construct a new Sport Complex facility which will include a new gym, pool bathhouse, fitness annex, and community room. The southern portion of the park will also include new lighting, landscaping improvements, and storm water.	\$44,786.61	\$44,786.61	CDBG PY 40 CDBG PY 45 MICLA Prop K Site & Facilities
6	Sepulveda Recreation Center Aquatic Pool Equipment Improvement	PRJ21340	Replace antiquated circulation equipment and chemical injection systems including pumps, motors, and hardware for both pool and waterslide. Additional work for the water slide will include repairs to flume and step decking. Pump house building upgrades for safety and security include upgrade entry doors and surge pit grating.	\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00	
6	Sun Valley Recreation Center Sports and Area Lighting	PRJ21178	Install and upgrade sports and area lighting within the park and other amenities related	\$257,262.00	\$257,262.00	
Total					\$1,503,015.20	

Proposition A-II Closed Project Status

CD	Park Project	Work Order No.	Grant Scope	Proposition A Grant Award Amount	Proposition A Grant Balance
1	Lummis House General Improvements	PRJ21146	General Improvements to Lummis Home and Gardens, including refurbishing the interior and exterior of the free standing restroom building	\$100,000.00	\$0.00
Total				\$100,000.00	\$0.00