

BOARD REPORT

NO. 21-120

DATE June 17, 2021

C.D. 2

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: RHODES PARK – OUTDOOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS (PRJ21331) PROJECT – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATED FUNDS AND INSTALLATION OF FITNESS EQUIPMENT – STATUTORY EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 11, SECTION 2(i) [ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR WHICH THE UNDERLYING PROJECT HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN EVALUATED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE] OF CITY CEQA GUIDELINES AND SECTION 21082 OF CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE

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



 General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn X

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Accept a donation from the Los Angeles Parks Foundation (LAPF), valued up to Eighty-Eight Thousand (\$88,000.00) Dollars, for the installation of additional fitness equipment at Rhodes Park;
2. Find that the proposed action, consisting of an acceptance of additional funding for which the underlying project has previously been evaluated for environmental significance, is statutorily exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article II, Section 2(i) of City CEQA Guidelines [allocation of additional funding for which the underlying project has previously been evaluated for environmental significance] and Section 21082 of California Public Resources Code and direct Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Los Angeles County Clerk;
3. Authorize RAP’s Chief Accounting Employee or designee to prepare a check to the Los Angeles County Clerk in the amount of \$75.00 for the purpose of filing an NOE; and,
4. Authorize RAP staff to make technical corrections as necessary to carry out the intent of this Report.

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SUMMARY

Currently, the Rhodes Park project site is known as Valley Plaza Park. Valley Plaza Park is located at 12240 West Archwood Street in the North Hollywood – Valley Village community of the City. This 77.64-acre park provides multipurpose fields, basketball and tennis courts, children's play areas, a recreation center, and a swimming pool for the use of the local community. Approximately 8,963 residents live within a one-half mile walking distance of Valley Plaza Park. Due to the facilities, features, programs, and services it provides, Valley Plaza Park meets the standard for a Community Park, as defined in the City's Public Recreation Plan.

The scope of work for the Rhodes Park – Outdoor Park Improvements (PRJ21331) Project included the installation of new fitness equipment, a multipurpose walking path, water fountain, smart irrigation system and the planting of new trees. It was previously approved by the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) on July 16, 2020.

With the previously accepted Proposition 68 funds, ten pieces of fitness equipment have been installed at Rhodes Park (Report 20-142). LAPF has donated Eighty-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$88,000.00) in additional funding for a group adult fitness piece of equipment at Rhodes Park, which incorporates several elements into a single zone that can be used simultaneously. This additional equipment was part of the original scope of the project and was designed to complement the already existing fitness equipment and landscaping of the park. However, this equipment was not acquire and installed as part of the project due to a shortage of funds. Upon the approval of this Report, RAP will use the accepted LAPF donation to purchase and install this additional fitness equipment.

PROJECT FUNDING

Previously, the Rhodes Park – Outdoor Park Improvements (PRJ21331) Project was awarded a total of Four Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$485,000.00) in Proposition 68 funds (Report 20-142).

Upon the approval of this Report, the total amount of available funding for the proposed Project will be Five Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand (\$573,000.00) Dollars.

FUNDING SOURCE MATRIX

Source	Fund/Dept/Acct	Amount	Percentage
Proposition 68	205/89/89SRGR	\$485,000.00	85%
LAPF Donation	205/88/88TMIB	\$88,000.00	15%
Total		\$573,000.00	100%

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PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

RAP Staff has determined that sufficient funding has been identified. Construction of the project began in September 2020.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed action consists of accepting additional funding for which the underlying project has previously been evaluated for environmental significance. The project was approved by the Board on July 16, 2020 with Board Report 20-142. Since the funding provided by this action does not add pieces of equipment to the project scope from that previously approved by the Board, there is no change to its environmental impact from that previously considered by the Board. As such, staff recommends that the Board determines that it is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article II, Section 2(i) of City CEQA Guidelines and to Section 21082 of California Public Resources Code. RAP Staff will file a Notice of Exemption with the Los Angeles County Clerk upon Board's approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

The acceptance of donated funds from LAPF will have no impact on RAP's General Fund.

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 acceptance of donation funds will allow for the further development of Rhodes Park, enhancing the park user's experience.

This Report was prepared by Ligaya Khennavong, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch.