# BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD REPORT	NO	23-171	
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DATE September 21, 2023	C.D.	4	
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#### **BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS**

SUBJECT:

GRIFFITH PARK - FERN DELL PLAY AREA IMPROVEMENTS (PRJ21204) PROJECT -- COMMITMENT OF ADDITIONAL PARK FEES -- EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE II, SECTION 2(i) [ANY ACTIVITY (APPROVAL OF BIDS, EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS, ALLOCATION OF FUNDS, ETC.) FOR WHICH THE UNDERLYING PROJECT HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN EVALUATED FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE PROCESSED ACCORDING TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THESE GUIDELINES] OF CITY CEQA GUIDELINES AND ARTICLE 5, SECTION 15061(b)(3) [THE ACTIVITY IS COVERED BY THE COMMON SENSE EXEMPTION THAT CEQA APPLIES ONLY TO PROJECTS WHICH HAVE THE POTENTIAL FOR CAUSING A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT. AND WHERE IT CAN BE SEEN WITH CERTAINTY THAT THERE IS NO POSSIBILITY THAT THE ACTIVITY IN QUESTION MAY HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THE ENVIRONMENT, THE ACTIVITY IS NOT SUBJECT TO CEQAI OF THE CALIFORNIA CEQA GUIDELINES

B. AguirreB. Jones	M. Rud for <sub>*C. San</sub>		
B. Jackson	N. Willi		9/4
			General Manager
Approved	Х	Disapproved	Withdrawn

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. Approve the revised total budget of the Griffith Park Fern Dell Play Area Improvements (PRJ21204) Project (Project), as described in the Summary of this Report;
- 2. Authorize Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff to commit from the following fund and work order numbers a maximum of Five Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand, Two Hundred Sixty-One Dollars and Forty Cents (\$554,261.40) in additional Park Fees for the Project;

FUNDING SOURCE	FUND/DEPT./ACCT. NO.	WORK ORDER NO.
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QZ900160
Park Fees	302/89/89716H	QM142579

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FUNDING SOURCE	FUND/DEPT./ACCT. NO.	WORK ORDER NO.
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP001400
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP002431
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP001506
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP001950
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP001718
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP001857
Park Fees	302/89/89716H	QP001728
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP001794
Park Fees	302/89/89716H	QT074052
Park Fees	302/89/89716H	QT074169
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP002558
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP002633
Park Fees	302/89/89716H	QT082550
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003114
Park Fees	302/89/89716H	QM170829
Park Fees	302/89/89716H	QM187143
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003126
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003342
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003159
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003045
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP001215
Park Fees	302/89/89716H	QM160035

- 3. Approve the Project to be bid and constructed through the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) list of pre-qualified on-call contractors;
- 4. Approve the authorization of change orders as authorized under Board Report No. 06-136, for the construction contracts for this Project in the budget contingency amounts for such contracts as stated in this Report;
- 5. Determine that the Project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article II, Section 2(i) [Any activity (approval of bids, execution of contracts, allocation of funds, etc.) for which the underlying project has previously been evaluated for environmental significance and processed according to the requirements of these Guidelines] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 5, Section 15061(b)(3) [The activity is covered by the common sense exemption that CEQA applies only to projects which have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment, and where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the

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activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA] of California CEQA Guidelines, and direct RAP staff to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Los Angeles County Clerk;

- 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 Notice of Exemption (NOE); and
- 7. Authorize RAP staff to make technical corrections as necessary to carry out the intent of this Report.

### SUMMARY

Griffith Park is located at 4730 Crystal Springs Drive in the Los Feliz/Hollywood community of the City. This 4,281.73-acre park provides a wide variety of recreational programs and activities, such as train rides, a merry-go-round, hiking trails, and golf courses, for the local community. Approximately 18,155 residents live within a one-half mile walking distance of Griffith Park. Due to the facilities, features, and programs, and services it provides, Griffith Park meets the standard for a Regional Park, as defined in the City's Public Recreation Plan.

# **PROJECT SCOPE**

The Fern Dell Play Area is located within the Fern Dell/Western Canyon area of Griffith Park.

On October 3, 2018, the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners' (Board) approved the scope of work and budget for the Griffith Park – Fern Dell Play Area Improvements (PRJ21204) Project (Report No. 18-198). The approved Project includes the demolition and replacement of the existing Fern Dell play area, as well as the renovation of the adjacent restroom building. The playground replacement has already been completed.

RAP staff has determined that additional funding is necessary to complete the restroom renovation. No changes to the Project scope of work from that previously approved by the Board is being proposed.

#### PROJECT FUNDING

Previously, the Board approved the commitment of Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00) in Park Fees for the Project (Report No. 18-198).

Upon approval of this Report, Five Hundred Fifty-Four Thousand, Two Hundred Sixty-One Dollars and Forty Cents (\$554,261.40) in additional Park Fees can be committed to the Project,

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The total amount of funding available for this Project, including previously committed Park Fees is One Million, Three Hundred Four Thousand, Two Hundred Sixty-One Dollars and Forty Cents (\$1,304,261.40).

See below the anticipated pre-qualified on-call contract(s) and budget contingency amount(s) that has been and will be used for the Project:

On-Call Contract					Contingency Amount
General	Contractors	for	Park	Facility	\$100,000.00
Construction					
Playgrour	nd Installation				\$20,000.00

These Park Fees were collected within ten (10) miles of Griffith Park, which is the standard distance for the allocation of Park Fees for Regional recreational facilities pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.33 E.3.

### **FUNDING SOURCE MATRIX**

Source	Fund/Dept/Acct	Amount	Percentage
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	\$190,986.76	15%
Park Fees	302/89/89716H	\$1,113,274.64	85%
Total		\$1,304,261.40	100%

### PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

RAP Staff has determined that sufficient funding has been identified for the Project. The playground improvements were previously completed in July 2019, and construction on the restroom improvements is anticipated to begin in Fall 2023.

# TREES AND SHADE

The approval of this Project will have no impact on existing trees or shade in Griffith Park.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

On October 3, 2018, the Board approved funding for the proposed Project and determined that it is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Staff has determined that the nature of the proposed Project and the conditions in which the Project is built have not changed. This proposed Board action, however, includes additional funding for the Project.

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Based on these considerations staff recommends that the Board determines that this action for the proposed Project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Article 5, Section 15061(b)(3) of the California CEQA Guidelines and Article II, Section 2(i) of City of Los Angeles CEQA Guidelines.

### FISCAL IMPACT

The authorization of this commitment of Park Fees will have no fiscal impact on RAP's General Funds. The estimated costs for the design, development, and construction of the park improvements are anticipated to be funded by Park Fees or funding sources other than the RAP's General Fund. The maintenance of the park improvements can be performed by current staff with no overall 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:** Improvements to the Fern Dell Play Area will increase the experience of children using the playground.

This report was prepared by Robert Eastland, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch.