GRiffith Park - Roadway and Traffic Improvements (PRJ21111) Project; Allocation of Quimby Fee Interest; Categorical Exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1,3) of the City CEQA Guidelines (Minor Alterations to Existing Facilities and Minor Alterations to Existing Streets)

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Chief Accounting Employee to transfer Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.00) in Quimby Fee Interest from the Quimby Fees Interest Account No. 89460K-01 to the Griffith Park Account No. 89460K-GB;

2. Approve the allocation of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.00) in Quimby Fee Interest from Griffith Park Account No. 89460K-GB for the Griffith Park – Roadway and Traffic Improvements (PRJ21111) Project;

3. Find that the Griffith Park – Roadway and Traffic Improvements (PRJ21111) Project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption;

4. Authorize the RAP’s Chief Accounting Employee to prepare a check to the Los Angeles County Clerk in the amount of Seventy-Five Dollars ($75.00) for the purpose of filing a Notice of Exemption for the project; and,

5. Authorize the RAP’s Chief Accounting Employee 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 Hollywood area of the City. This 4,281.73 acre park provides a variety of recreational programs and activities for the local community. Approximately 18,155 residents live within a one-half (½) 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 scope of the Griffith Park – Roadway and Traffic Improvements (PRJ21111) Project is for street and roadway improvements, and related enhancements, to improve traffic flow in the Vermont Canyon area of Griffith Park.

RAP’s staff estimates these improvements will cost approximately Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.00).

PROJECT FUNDING

Upon approval of this report, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.00) in Quimby Fee Interest from the Quimby Fees Interest Account No. 89460K-01 can be transferred to the Griffith Park Account No. 89460K-GB and allocated to Griffith Park – Roadway and Traffic Improvements (PRJ21111) Project.

The total funding available for the Griffith Park – Roadway and Traffic Improvements (PRJ21111) Project would be Five Hundred Thousand Dollars ($500,000.00).

Pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.33 J.2, interest accrued on Quimby in-lieu fees may be applied outside the project development for which the original fees were collected, provided that RAP holds a public hearing prior to committing the interest, and uses the interest to develop new or rehabilitate existing parks or recreational facilities within the City.

FUNDING SOURCE MATRIX

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<th>Source</th>
<th>Fund/Dept/Acct</th>
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PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

Staff has determined that sufficient funding has been identified for the construction of the Griffith Park – Roadway and Traffic Improvements (PRJ21111) Project.

Construction of this project is currently anticipated to begin in April 2017.
TREES AND SHADE

The approval of this project will have no impact on existing trees or shade at Griffith Park and no new trees or new shade is currently proposed to be added to Griffith Park as a part of this project.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The subject project will consist of modifications to existing park facilities involving negligible or no expansion of use and repair and alteration of existing streets. As such, 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(1,3) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The approval of this allocation of Quimby Fees will have no fiscal impact and the estimated costs for the design, development, and construction of the proposed park improvements are anticipated to be funded by Quimby Fees or funding sources other than RAP’s General fund.

The maintenance of the proposed park improvements can be performed by current staff with no overall impact to existing maintenance services.

This Report was prepared by Darryl Ford, Senior Management Analyst I, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch.