BOARD REPORT

DATE July 16, 2020

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: VALLEY PLAZA PARK – WHITSETT SPORTS FIELD SYNTHETIC FIELD REPLACEMENT (PRJ21389) PROJECT – REALLOCATION OF QUIMBY FEES – CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, CLASS 1(1) [EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS INVOLVING MINOR CONSTRUCTION WHERE THERE BE NEGLIGIBLE OR NO EXPANSION OF USE] OF CITY CEQA GUIDELINES AND ARTICLE 19, SECTION 15301(a) OF CALIFORNIA CEQA GUIDELINES

AP Diaz
H. Fujita
V. Israel

S. Piña-Cortez
C. Santo Domingo
N. Williams

Approved X Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve the scope of work for the Valley Plaza Park – Whitsett Sports Field Synthetic Field Replacement (PRJ21389) Project (Project), as described in the Summary of this Report;

2. Approve the reallocation of Six Hundred Thousand Dollars ($600,000.00) in Quimby Fees currently allocated to the Valley Plaza Park – Whitsett Sports Field Improvements Phase II (PRJ21057) Project to the Valley Plaza Park – Whitsett Sports Field Synthetic Field Replacement (PRJ21389) Project;

3. Determine that the proposed Project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1) [Exterior alterations involving minor construction where there be negligible or no expansion of use] of City CEQA Guidelines And Article 19, Section 15301(a) of California CEQA Guidelines

4. Authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks’ (RAP)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,

5. Authorize RAP staff to make technical corrections as necessary to carry out the intent of this Report.
SUMMARY

The Whitsett Sports Field Complex is located at Valley Plaza Park, which is located 12240 Archwood Street in the North Hollywood community of the City. Valley Plaza Park is a 77.64-acre park that 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.

PROJECT SCOPE

The proposed scope of work for the Valley Plaza Park – Whitsett Sports Field Synthetic Field Replacement (PRJ21389) Project includes the replacement of the existing synthetic soccer field located in the southeast corner of the park along Vanowen Street.

PROJECT FUNDING

Upon approval of this Report, Six Hundred Thousand Dollars ($600,000.00) in Quimby Fees currently allocated to the Valley Plaza Park – Whitsett Sports Field Improvements Phase II (PRJ21057) Project can be reallocated to the Valley Plaza Park – Whitsett Sports Field Synthetic Field Replacement (PRJ21389) Project.

These Quimby Fees were collected within five (5) miles of Valley Plaza Park, which is the standard distance for the allocation of Quimby Fees for community recreational facilities pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.33 E.3.

FUNDING SOURCE MATRIX

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PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

RAP Staff has determined that sufficient funding has been identified and construction of the proposed Project is anticipated to begin in July 2020.

TREES AND SHADE

This proposed Project will have no impact on the existing trees and shade at Valley Plaza Park.
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed Project consists of exterior alterations involving minor construction where there be negligible or no expansion of use. As such, RAP staff recommends that the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) determines that it is exempt from the provisions of CEQA pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1), of City CEQA Guidelines as well as to Article 19, Section 15301(a) of California CEQA Guidelines. RAP staff will file an NOE with the Los Angeles County Clerk upon the Board’s approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

The approval of this allocation of Quimby Fees will have no fiscal impact on RAP’s General Fund. 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 the 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 synthetic soccer field will enhance the park user’s experience.

This Report was prepared by Meghan Luera, Management Analyst, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch.