BOARD REPORT

DATE March 18, 2021

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: PICO UNION PARK – PLAYGROUND REPLACEMENT (PRJ21420) PROJECT – CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, CLASS 1(1) [EXTERIOR ALTERATIONS INVOLVING REMODELING OR MINOR CONSTRUCTION WHERE THERE BE NEGLIGIBLE OR NO EXPANSION OF USE], CLASS 1(3) [REPAIR AND MINOR ALTERATION OF EXISTING PEDESTRIAN TRAILS], CLASS 1(12) [OUTDOOR LIGHTING AND FENCING FOR SECURITY AND OPERATIONS], CLASS 2 [REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING STRUCTURES AND FACILITIES WHERE THE NEW STRUCTURE WILL BE LOCATED ON THE SAME SITE AND WILL HAVE SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME PURPOSE AND CAPACITY AS THE STRUCTURE REPLACED], CLASS 3(4) [INSTALLATION OF NEW EQUIPMENT INVOLVING NEGLIGIBLE OR NO EXPANSION OF USE IF REQUIRED FOR SAFETY AND THE PUBLIC CONVENIENCE], CLASS 4(3) [NEW GARDENING, OR LANDSCAPING], CLASS 4(12) [MINOR TRENCHING AND BACKFILLING] AND CLASS 11(6) [CONSTRUCTION OR PLACEMENT OF MINOR STRUCTURES ACCESSORY TO EXISTING INSTITUTIONAL FACILITIES] OF CITY CEQA GUIDELINES AND ARTICLE 19, SECTIONS 15301, 15302, 15303, 15304(b), 15304(f) AND 15311 OF CALIFORNIA CEQA GUIDELINES

AP Diaz M. Rudnick
H. Fujita * C. Santo Domingo
V. Israel N. Williams

General Manager

Approved X Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve the scope of work for the Pico Union Park – Playground Replacement (PRJ21420) Project (Project), as described in the Summary of this Report;

2. Approve the Project to be bid and constructed through the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) list of pre-qualified on-call contractors;

3. Approve the authorization of change orders as authorized under Report No. 06-136, for the construction contracts for this Project in the budget contingency amounts for such contracts as stated in this Report;
4. Determine that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1) [Exterior alterations involving remodeling or minor construction where there be negligible or no expansion of use], Class 1(3) [Repair and minor alteration of existing pedestrian trails], Class 1(12) [Outdoor lighting and fencing for security and operations], Class 2 [Replacement of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced], Class 3(4) [Installation of new equipment involving negligible or no expansion of use if required for safety and the public convenience], Class 4(3) [New gardening, or landscaping], Class 4(12) [Minor trenching and backfilling] and Class 11(6) [Construction or placement of minor structures accessory to existing institutional facilities] of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15301, 15302, 15303, 15304(b), 15304(f) and 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines and direct Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Los Angeles County Clerk;

5. 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 an NOE; and,

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

SUMMARY

Pico Union Park is located at 1827 South Hoover Street in the Pico Union community of the City. This 0.72-acre facility includes two play areas, shade trees and park benches. Approximately 11,868 residents live within a one-half (½) mile walking distance of Pico Union Park.

PROJECT SCOPE

The proposed Project includes the following scope of work items:

- Replacement of the northern playground
- Installation of a shade canopy at the new playground
- Improvements to the path of travel
- Installation of new Concrete paving
- Installation of picnic tables and bench seating
- Installation of drinking fountain
- Installation of concrete seatwalls
- Improvements to landscaping and irrigation system
- Installation of tubular steel fencing
- Installation of security lighting and cameras
The scope of work for the Project was developed with the input of the local community and Office of Council District One (CD1). RAP staff participated in a number of meetings with the community in order to develop and refine the scope of work for the Project.

The proposed Project will be constructed utilizing RAP’s pre-qualified on call contractors and/or vendors currently under contract with RAP.

PROJECT FUNDING

Previously, the Los Angeles City Council awarded Two-Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($250,000.00) in Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) Funds from the 2019-20 Program Year 45 for the proposed Project (Council File (CF) No. 18-0968).

The proposed Project was also awarded Two Hundred Thousand Dollars ($200,000.00) in TFAR funds by City Council (CF No.14-1411-S3).

The total amount of funding available for the proposed Project is Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars ($450,000.00).

The anticipated pre-qualified on-call contracts will be for Park Facility Construction. The budget contingency for the Park Facility Construction contracts will be Fifty Thousand Dollars ($50,000).

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 Summer 2021.

TREES AND SHADE

The proposed Project includes the installation of one new shade canopy at the park playground. Also, the proposed Project includes planting of seven (7) new trees at the park: three (3) Coast Coral, three (3) Japanese Maples and one (1) Jacaranda tree.
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed Project consists of exterior alterations involving remodeling or minor construction where there be negligible or no expansion of use; repair and minor alteration of existing pedestrian trails; outdoor lighting and fencing for security and operations; replacement of existing structures and facilities where the new structure will be located on the same site and will have substantially the same purpose and capacity as the structure replaced; installation of new equipment involving negligible or no expansion of use if required for safety and the public convenience; new gardening, or landscaping; minor trenching and backfilling; and construction or placement of minor structures accessory to existing institutional facilities. As such, RAP staff recommends that the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners 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), Class 1(3), Class 1(12), Class 2, Class 3(4), Class 4(3), Class 4(12) and Class 11(6) of City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Sections 15301, 15302, 15303, 15304(b), 15304(f) and 15311 of California CEQA Guidelines. RAP Staff will file a NOE with the Los Angeles County Clerk upon the Board's approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

The estimated costs for the design, development, and construction of the proposed park improvements are anticipated to be funded by CDBG Funds or funding sources other than 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 playground replacement will increase safety and enhance the park users' experience.

This Report was prepared by Ajmal Noorzayee, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Conceptual map of proposed improvements.
DECORATIVE POPPIES ON NEW STEEL GRID FENCING
(PERSPECTIVE)

PICO-UNION PARK
Welcomes You...

FACILITY SIGN

TRASH RECEPTACLE CONTAINER.

DRINKING FOUNTAIN/ BOTTLE FILLER

FENCE AND AMENITY LAYOUT
(PLAN VIEW)