

APPROVED

Apr 17, 2025
BOARD OF RECREATION
AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD REPORT

NO. 25-061

DATE April 17, 2025

C.D. 9

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: VERMONT SQUARE PARK PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS (PRJ21842) PROJECT – COMMITMENT OF PARK FEES – CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 19, SECTION 15303(e) [INSTALLATION OF ACCESSORY (APPURTENANT) STRUCTURES INCLUDING GARAGES, CARPORTS, PATIOS, SWIMMING POOLS, AND FENCES] OF CALIFORNIA CEQA GUIDELINES AND ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, CLASS 3(6) OF CITY CEQA GUIDELINES

B. Aguirre _____ M. Rudnick _____
 B. Jones _____ for *C. Santo Domingo DF
 C. Stoneham _____ N. Williams _____



 General Manager

Approved X Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve the scope of work and the total budget of the Vermont Square Park – Playground Improvements (PRJ21842) 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 \$85,636.64 in Park Fees for the proposed Project;

<u>FUNDING SOURCE</u>	<u>FUND/DEPT./ACCT. NO.</u>	<u>WORK ORDER NO.</u>
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP002425
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003382
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003460
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003855
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003912
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003870
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003406
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	QP003806

3. Approve the Project to be bid and constructed through the RAP list of pre-qualified on-call contractors;

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4. Approve the authorization of change orders as authorized under Board Report No. 06-136, for the construction contracts for the Project in the budget contingency amounts for such contracts as stated in this Report;
5. Determine that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15303(e) [Installation of accessory (appurtenant) structures including garages, carports, patios, swimming pools, and fences] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 3(6) of City CEQA Guidelines, and direct staff to file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Los Angeles County Clerk and the Governor's Office of Land use and Climate Innovation;
6. 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 NOE; and,
7. Authorize RAP staff to make technical corrections as necessary to carry out the intent of this Report.

SUMMARY

Vermont Square Park is located at 1248 West 47th Street in the Vermont Square community of the City. This 3.01-acre facility provides basketball courts, children's play area, fitness equipment and picnic tables. Due to the facilities, features, programs, and services it provides, Vermont Square Park meets the standard for a Neighborhood Park, as defined in the City's Public Recreation Plan.

PROJECT SCOPE

The scope of work of the proposed Project involves replacing the blue pour-in-place surfacing and fitness equipment.

PROJECT FUNDING

Upon approval of this Report, \$85,636.64 in Park Fees can be committed to the proposed Project, which is the total budget including the budget contingency amount set forth below. See below the anticipated pre-qualified on-call contract(s) and budget contingency amount(s) that will be used for the Project:

On-Call Contract	Contingency Amount
Playground Construction	\$17,127.33

The Park Fees were collected within two miles of Vermont Square Park, which is the standard distance for the commitment of Park Fees for neighborhood recreational facilities pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.33 E.3.

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FUNDING SOURCE MATRIX

Source	Fund/Dept/Acct	Amount	Percentage
Park Fees	302/89/89718H	\$85,636.64	100%
Total		\$85,636.64	100%

PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

RAP Staff has determined that sufficient funding has been identified for the Project. See below the anticipated schedule for the proposed Project:

Phase	Duration
Pre-design	N/A
Design	N/A
Bid and Award	February 2025 – May 2025
Construction	June 2025 – October 2025
Post Construction	November 2025 – February 2026

TREES AND SHADE

This Project will have no impact on the existing trees and shade at Vermont Square Park.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed Project consists of installation of small accessory structures.

According to the parcel profile report retrieved on February 26, 2025, this area resides in a liquefaction zone. The construction of this Project will not create conditions that could lead to liquefaction. This site is not within a coastal, methane, or historic zone, so there is no reasonable possibility that the proposed Project may impact on an environmental resource of hazardous or critical concern or have a significant effect due to unusual circumstances. No other known projects would involve cumulatively significant impacts, and no future projects would result from the proposed Project. As of February 26, 2025, the State Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) (Envirostor at www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) (Geotracker at <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>) have not listed the Project site or any contaminated sites near the Project area (within 1,000 feet). According to the Caltrans Scenic Highway Map, there is no scenic highway located within – or adjacent to – the Project site. Furthermore, the proposed Project is located in proximity of the Vermont Square Park Library, an historic building listed in the National Register of Historic Places (# 87001022) and the California Register of Historical Resources (# 21242), and also designated as a City of Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monument (#264). The replacement of minor features of the park will not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of any historical resource.

Based on this information, staff recommends that the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) determines that the proposed Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section

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15303(e) of California CEQA Guidelines as well as Article III, Section 1, Class 3(6) of City CEQA Guidelines. Staff will file a Notice of Exemption with the Los Angeles County Clerk and the Governor's Office for Land use and Climate Innovation upon Board's approval.

FISCAL IMPACT

The approval of this commitment of Park 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 Park Fees 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.

This Report was prepared by Nicolas Caulfield, Management Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch.