

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

Thursday, July 18, 2024

The Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners of the City of Los Angeles convened the Regular Meeting at 9:00 a.m. Present were, President Renata Simril, Commissioner Fiona Hutton and Commissioner Benny Tran. Also present were, Jimmy Kim, General Manager, Matthew Rudnick, Executive Officer, Deputy City Attorney IV Steven Hong and Deputy City Attorney III Brendan Kearns.

The following Department staff members were also present:

Cathie Santo Domingo, Assistant General Manager, Planning Maintenance, and Construction Branch
Chinyere Stoneham, Assistant General Manager, Recreation Services Branch
Mariana Valdivia, Chief Sustainability Officer, Special Operations Branch
Noel Williams, Chief Financial Officer, Finance Administration Branch

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

President Simril called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 20, 2024. Commissioner Tran made such motion, and it was seconded by Commissioner Hutton. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 3-0.

GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE

Jimmy Kim, General Manager, began his update by thanking Anita Meacham and all the staff who assisted for doing an amazing job with lotus festival this past weekend.

Mr. Kim provided a few updates from various communications received by constituents. Mr. Kim provided some background on El Sereno Recreation Center programming that was mentioned at our last meeting. He stated El Sereno has two centers a Recreation Center and a Senior Center. Mr. Kim stated the Senior center operates Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Yoga class that was mentioned during public comment was, in fact, a program held at the senior center, but was held there due to space limitations at the recreation Center, and so that class, unfortunately, was cancelled because the instructor for that class was unavailable. Mr. Kim mentioned that the senior center does still offer chair Yoga, on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., and we expect the other programming to start up again once we identify an instructor that could go ahead and take on that class.

Mr. Kim provided a brief update on golf. As it relates to the Department's golf course operations. He stated he's happy to report that the \$10 non-refundable deposit pilot program has significantly reduced tea time cancellations. It has also mitigated brokering activities and has overall made it easier for golfers to book tea times. Mr. Kim mentioned he has gotten a lot of compliments from some of the golfers who have been successful at booking tea times.

Next, I wanted to bring up the Elysian Park social media posts regarding the children's area. By way of background, the department received concerns by members of the public regarding the impacts of a brush clearance that we performed in Elysian Park, specifically related to the areas adjacent to the Gracie Simons Lodge Building. The Department annually works with the pre-qualified landscape maintenance contracts to perform brush clearance as required by the fire department. Which is increasingly important due to extreme fire heat conditions, so based on our initial assessment, our department's forestry division identified that the brush clearance did not result in a removal of protected native trees. However, the brush clearance did unintentionally impact an outdoor learning environment seasonally used by a permitted nature-based education group, and it also impacted some of the trees and native plants habitat that was planted in that area. Some of the nearby signages that they put up was also affected. RAP is further assessing the brush clearance work performed by the contractor, particularly as it relates to the concerns regarding the damage of native trees, and the department is engaging with the community stakeholders to address these impacts and will be reviewing our brush clearance protocols to make sure that the areas that are slated for brush clearance are identified, and that they understand what protocols need to be followed on an annual basis.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments on matters within the Board's jurisdiction were invited, 34 such requests were submitted.

BOARD REPORT PUBLIC COMMENT AND CONSIDERATION OF THE BOARD REPORTS

Public comments relevant to the Board Reports were requested; 17 such requests were submitted.

BOARD REPORTS

24-150

Measure A – Authorization to Submit Grant Application for 11th Avenue Park Playground Replacement Project and to Accept Grant Funds if Awarded

Board Report No. 24-150 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-151 Transfer of Appropriation from Unreserved and Undesignated Fund Balance in Fund 302 to Various Accounts in the Department of Recreation and Parks

Board Report No. 24-151 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-152 MacArthur Park – Playground Fencing (PRJ21795) Project – Allocation of Quimby 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

Board Report No. 24-152 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-153 Gilbert Lindsay Recreation Center – Synthetic Field Renovation (PRJ21784) Project – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301 [Operation, Repair, Maintenance, Permitting, Leasing, Licensing, or Minor Alteration of Existing Public or Private Structures, Facilities, Mechanical Equipment, or Topographical Features, Involving Negligible or No Expansion of Existing or Former Use] And Section 15302 [Replacement or Reconstruction of Existing Structures and Facilities Where the New Structure will be Located on the Same Site as the Structure Replaced and will have Substantially the Same Purpose and Capacity] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1) and Class 2 of City CEQA Guidelines

Board Report No. 24-153 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-154 Lake Street Recreation Center – Roof And HVAC Replacement (PRJ21787) Project – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article 19, Section 15302 [Replacement of Existing Structures and Facilities Where the New Structure will be Located on the Same Site as the Structure Replaced and Have Substantially the Same Purpose and Capacity as the Structure Replaced] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 2 and Class 2(6) of City CEQA Guidelines

Board Report No. 24-154 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-155 Hope and Peace Park – Playground Replacement (PRJ21706) Project – Approval of Project Scope of Work – 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

Board Report No. 24-155 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-156 Griffith Park – North Atwater Park – Central Service Yard (CSY) New Office Building (PRJ21793) Project – Allocation of Zone Change and Quimby Fees – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article 19, Section 15303(d) [A Store, Motel, Office, Restaurant or Similar Structure Not Involving the Use of Significant Amounts of Hazardous Substances, and Not Exceeding 2,500 Square Feet in Floor Area; in urbanized Areas, the Exemption Also Applies to Up to Four Such Commercial Buildings Not Exceeding 10,000 Square Feet in Floor Area on Sites Zoned for Such Use if Not Involving the Use of Significant Amounts of Hazardous Substances Where All Necessary Public Services and Facilities are Available and the Surrounding Area is Not Environmentally Sensitive] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 3(3) of City CEQA Guidelines

Board Report No. 24-156 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: WITHDRAWN

24-157 MacArthur Park – Grant of Easement to the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Street Services to Install, Inspect, Maintain, Repair, Reconstruct, Replace and Upgrade Any and All Appurtenances and Structures Related to the Public Street Known as 6th Street – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301 [Operation, Repair, Maintenance, Permitting, Leasing, Licensing, or Minor Alteration of Existing Public or Private Structures, Facilities, Mechanical Equipment, or Topographical Features, Involving Negligible or No Expansion of Existing or Former Use] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 1(3) and Class 1(14) of City CEQA Guidelines

Board Report No. 24-157 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-158

Trinity Recreation Center – Synthetic Field Renovation (PRJ21790) Project – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301 [Operation, Repair, Maintenance, Permitting, Leasing, Licensing, or Minor Alteration of Existing Public or Private Structures, Facilities, Mechanical Equipment, or Topographical Features, Involving Negligible or No Expansion of Existing or Former Use] and Section 15302 [Replacement or Reconstruction of Existing Structures and Facilities Where the New Structure will be Located on the Same Site as the Structure Replaced and will have Substantially the Same Purpose and Capacity] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1) and Class 2 of City CEQA Guidelines

Board Report No. 24-158 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-159

(Studio City Recreation Center – New Gymnasium (Re-Bid) (PRJ20404) (W.O. # E170267B) Project – Review of Bids and Award of Contract

Darryl Ford, Superintendent, Planning, Maintenance & Construction Branch, presented Board Report No. 24-159.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-160

Measure A – Acceptance of Technical Assistance Program Funds and Authorization to Submit Funding Request for Strathern Park West Acquisition Project

Board Report No. 24-160 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-161

Glassell Recreation Center – Synthetic Field Renovation (PRJ21785) Project – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301 [Operation, Repair, Maintenance, Permitting, Leasing, Licensing, or Minor Alteration of Existing Public or Private Structures, Facilities, Mechanical Equipment, or Topographical Features, Involving Negligible or No Expansion of Existing or Former Use] and Section 15302 [Replacement or Reconstruction of Existing Structures and Facilities Where the New Structure will be Located on the Same Site as the Structure Replaced and will have Substantially the Same Purpose and Capacity] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1) and Class 2 of City CEQA Guidelines

Board Report No. 24-161 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-162

Fred Roberts Recreation Center – Synthetic Field Renovation (PRJ21783) Project – Categorical Exemption from the Provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301 [Operation, Repair, Maintenance, Permitting, Leasing, Licensing, or Minor Alteration of Existing Public or Private Structures, Facilities, Mechanical Equipment, or Topographical Features, Involving Negligible or No Expansion of Existing or Former Use] and Section 15302 [Replacement or Reconstruction of Existing Structures and Facilities Where the New Structure will be Located on the Same Site as the Structure Replaced and will have Substantially the Same Purpose and Capacity] of California CEQA Guidelines and Article III, Section 1, Class 1(1) and Class 2 of City CEQA Guidelines

Board Report No. 24-162 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-163

As-Needed Landscape Maintenance and/or Repairs – Award of Contracts

Board Report No. 24-163 was taken on consent.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-164

As-Needed Park Facility Asphalt Paving, Flatwork Concrete, Grading, and New Park Construction Services – Award of Contracts

Harrold Arrivillaga, Management Analyst, Planning, Contract Administration Branch, presented Board Report No. 24-164.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

24-165

Griffith Los Angeles Equestrian Center – Approval of Proposed Boarding Rates for New Equine Animals

DISPOSITION: **CONTINUED**

24-166

Community Recreation Centers – Pickleball and Tennis – Amendment to the Schedule of Rates and Fees and Approval of New Pickleball Court Rules/Waiting System and Updated Tennis Rules for Non-Pay Tennis Facilities

Juan Aynat , Principal Recreation Supervisor, , Recreation Services Branch, presented Board Report No. 24-166.

DISPOSITION: APPROVED

DISPOSITION: WITHDRAWN

President Simril requested a Motion to approve the Board Reports that were taken on Consent 24-150, 24-151, 24-152, 24-153, 24-154, 24-155, 24-156, 24-157, 24-158, 24-160, 24-161, 24-162 and 24-163. It was moved by Commissioner Hutton and seconded by Commissioner Tran. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 3-0.

President Simril requested a Motion to approve Board Report 24-164. It was moved by Commissioner Tran and seconded by Commissioner Hutton. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 3-0.

President Simril requested a Motion to approve Board Reports 24-159, and 24-166 as presented. It was moved by Commissioner Hutton and seconded by Commissioner Tran. There being no objections, the motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 3-0.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENTS

Discussion with Neighborhood Council Representatives on Neighborhood Council Resolutions or Community Impact Statements Filed with the City Clerk Relative to Any Item Listed or Being Considered on this Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Meeting Agenda (Los Angeles Administrative Code 22.819; Ordinance 184243)

COMMISSION TASK FORCE UPDATES

Commission Task Force on Concessions

This Task force will meet directly after today’s meeting and will provide an update at our next meeting.

Commission Task Force on Facility Repair and Maintenance

This Task force did not meet.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

Comments from the Commissioners on Matters within the Board’s jurisdiction and Requests by Commissioners to Schedule Specific Future Agenda Items were requested. President Simril requested a report back on the contractor’s experience with regards to brush clearance. And if

there's an oversight of staff and or an arborist specifically with regard to the fire brush clearance that was most recently talked about in public comment. President Simril and Commissioner Hutton requested a report back on Arroyo Seco and where does RAP stand in the process of this project.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Meeting adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

ATTEST

PRESIDENT

BOARD SECRETARY