

March 18, 2025

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION

Increase appropriations in the Capital Projects Fund Group in the Public Works Department by \$325,627, for park improvement projects, offset by grant revenue; and,

Increase appropriations in the Capital Projects Fund Group in the Public Works Department by \$325,627, for park improvement projects, offset by a transfer of Los Angeles County Measure A grant funds from the Capital Grants Fund. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

In 2016, Los Angeles County voters approved the Safe, Clean Neighborhood Parks and Beaches Measure of 2016 (County Measure A) which authorizes dedicated local funding for park, recreation, and open space development and maintenance through an annual special tax of 1.5 cents per square foot of building floor area on all taxable real property in the County. County Measure A makes funding available to eligible recipients for projects that repair and upgrade parks and recreational facilities; create new parks; preserve and protect open spaces and beaches; and support recreational programming. County Measure A provides funding through both annual allocation programs and competitive grant programs. Annual allocations are distributed using set formulas, while competitive grants are awarded on a competitive basis during set grant cycles. Annual allocations are divided among the 188 Study Areas that were used to prepare the initial Los Angeles County Park Needs Assessment (PNA) in 2016. The City of Long Beach contains five Study Areas: Central, East, North, South, and West.

Community-Based Park Investment Program (Category 1) funds are allocated annually to each Study Area in the County. Neighborhood Parks, Healthy Communities, & Urban Greening Program (Category 2) funds are allocated annually to Study Areas identified as High-Need or Very-High-Need in the most current PNA. Funds in both categories are allocated using a Per Capita and Structural Improvements Formula.

On June 11, 2019, the City Council approved the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department to apply for County Measure A allocation funding for a series of projects. On January 19, 2021, City Council approved the acceptance of the Year 1 and 2 allocations of these grant funds; however, due to various delays, these funds have been unavailable for the City to appropriate until now. Staff are now requesting City Council approval to accept and appropriate funds for two of the approved projects which include Bixby Park Parcel 1 Improvements and Scherer Park Improvements. These projects were approved to be eligible for a retro-active performance

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period and are now being prioritized for project and grant closeout. The projects are complete, staff are now seeking to secure the grant revenue to reimburse the City for project expenses.

This matter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Anita Lakhani on February 19, 2025, and by Budget Analysis Officer Greg Sorensen on February 26, 2025.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on March 18, 2025, to allow project and grant closeout activities to be completed by March 31, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT

Total LA County Measure A funding for the Bixby Park Parcel 1 Improvements is \$90,000 and \$235,627 for Scherer Park Improvements. LA County Measure A funding has no match requirement or in-kind service mandate.

An appropriation increase is requested in the amount of \$651,254 in the Capital Projects Fund Group in the Public Works Department for park improvement projects. Of this amount, \$325,627 will be offset with grant reimbursement revenues received from Los Angeles County. The remaining \$325,627 is a technical appropriation to allow for the transfer of Los Angeles County Measure A grant funds from the Capital Grants Fund, a fund within the Capital Projects Fund Group.

Operating and maintenance costs associated with these projects are currently budgeted in the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department. This recommendation has no staffing impact beyond the normal budgeted scope of duties and is consistent with existing City Council priorities. There is no local job impact associated with this recommendation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



Brent Dennis
Director
Parks, Recreation and Marine



Eric Lopez
Director
Public Works

APPROVED:



THOMAS B. MODICA
CITY MANAGER