

APPROVED
SEP 17 2020

BOARD OF RECREATION
AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD REPORT

NO. 20-186

DATE September 17, 2020

C.D. 7

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: HANSEN DAM RECREATION AREA – FACILITY ASSESSMENT AND OUTDOOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS (PRJ21432) PROJECT – ALLOCATION OF QUIMBY FEES – CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FROM THE PROVISIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, CLASS 1(3) [MINOR ALTERATIONS OF EXISTING PEDESTRIAN TRAILS], CLASS 1(12) [OUTDOOR FENCING FOR SECURITY AND OPERATIONS] AND CLASS 6 [DATA COLLECTION, RESEARCH AND RESOURCE EVALUATION] OF CITY CEQA GUIDELINES AND ARTICLE 19, SECTIONS 15301(c) AND 15306 OF CALIFORNIA CEQA GUIDELINES

AP Diaz _____ S. Piña-Cortez _____
H. Fujita _____ for *C. Santo Domingo DF _____
V. Israel _____ N. Williams _____

General Manager

Approved X Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Approve the scope of work for the Hansen Dam Recreation Area – Facility Assessment and Outdoor Park Improvements (PRJ21432) Project (Project), as described in the Summary of this Report;
2. Authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks' (RAP) Chief Accounting Employee to transfer Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) in Quimby Fees from the Quimby Fees Account No. 89460K-00 to the Hansen Dam Recreation Area Account No. 89460K-HG;
3. Approve the allocation of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) in Quimby Fees from the Hansen Dam Recreation Area Account No. 89460K-HG to the Hansen Dam Recreation Area – Facility Assessment and Outdoor Park Improvements (PRJ21432) Project;
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(3) [Minor alterations of existing pedestrian trails], Class 1(12) [Outdoor fencing for security and operations] and Class 6 [Data collection, research and resource evaluation] of City CEQA Guidelines as well as to Article 19, Sections 15301(c) and 15306 of California

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CEQA Guidelines and direct 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

Hansen Dam Recreation Area is located at 11770 Foothill Boulevard in the Lakeview Terrace community of the City. This 1,449.54-acre facility provides a variety of recreational amenities and programs, for the use of the local community. Hansen Dam Recreation Area includes a golf course with clubhouse, a camp area, a skate park, a rangers' station, and playgrounds, picnic areas with barbeques, parking lots, bike paths, fitness areas, a swimming pool, a swimming lake, a sport center with baseball and soccer fields, two maintenance yards and various equestrian amenities. It also includes the Hansen Dam Horse Park, the Discovery Cube LA, a Little League baseball center, and the Lake View Terrace Recreation Center, which is equipped with a picnic area, playground, outdoor basketball courts, and tennis courts. Hansen Dam Recreation Area also encompasses the beds of the Big Tujunga Creek, the Haines Canyon Channel, the Little Tujunga Creek and the Lopez Creek, the Quarry Lake and a wide natural area crossed by horse trails and hiking trails

Approximately 7,591 City residents live within a one-half mile walking distance of Hansen Dam Recreation Area. Due to the facilities, features, programs, and services it provides, Hansen Dam Recreation Area meets the standard for a Regional Park, as defined in the City's Public Recreation Plan.

PROJECT SCOPE

In 2011, the United States Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) approved a master plan for Hansen Dam which delineated the areas of the Hansen Dam Recreation Area where new recreational development could occur, and highlighted the role of the area in protecting the scarce natural resources of the Los Angeles River watershed. More recently, the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Plan (ULART), through a very intense community outreach process, defined a number of projects that could enhance the recreation opportunities in the area, including various facilities at Hansen Dam.

Given the above planning efforts, various public requests for facility improvements, and park infrastructure needs identified by RAP staff, RAP recognizes the need to undertake an integrated approach to identify and prioritize necessary park improvements and new recreational opportunities at Hansen Dam Recreation Area.

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Therefore, RAP staff is recommending that funding be allocated to complete a facility assessment of Hansen Dam Recreation Area which would investigate, assess, and evaluate the recreational amenities at Hansen Dam Recreation Area in order to help RAP staff determine and prioritize the park improvement and park renovation work needed to ensure Hansen Dam remains in a safe and functional state and continues to meet the needs of park users. The proposed facility assessment and evaluation work would be performed by RAP staff with the assistance of one of RAP's as-needed Pre-Qualified On-Call Consultants.

Additionally, any allocated project funding remaining after completion of the facility assessment, would be available to undertake necessary trail and fencing improvements.

The Office of Council District 7 is in support of the facility assessment and allocation of Quimby funds.

PROJECT FUNDING

Upon approval of this Report, Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00) in Quimby Fees can be transferred from the Quimby Fees Account No. 89460K-00 to the Hansen Dam Recreation Area Account No. 89460K-HG and allocated to the Hansen Dam Recreation Area – Facility Assessment and Outdoor Park Improvements (PRJ21432) Project.

These Quimby Fees were collected within ten (10) miles of Hansen Dam Recreation Area, which is the standard distance for the allocation of Quimby Fees for regional recreational facilities pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.33 E.3.

FUNDING SOURCE MATRIX

Source	Fund/Dept/Acct	Amount	Percentage
Quimby Fees	302/89/89460K-HG	\$500,000.00	100%
Total		\$500,000.00	100%

PROJECT CONSTRUCTION

As previously noted in this report, RAP will be undertaking a detailed inventory and assessment of the recreational facilities at Hansen Dam Recreation Area. It is anticipated that the facility assessment would begin in October 2020.

It is unknown at this time if sufficient funding has been identified for the construction of any necessary trail and fencing improvements nor when construction of any of those amenities would begin.

TREES AND SHADE

This proposed Project will have no impact on the existing trees and shade at Hansen Dam Recreation Area.

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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed Project consists of data collection, research and resource evaluation, as well as of minor alterations to existing pedestrian trails and improvements to outdoor fencing for security and operations. Therefore, RAP staff recommends that the Board of Recreation and Parks (Board) determines that the Project is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1(3), Class 1(12) and Class 6 of City CEQA Guidelines and to Article 19, Sections 15301(c) and 15306 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 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 improvements at Hansen Dam Recreation Area will increase park safety and enhance the park user's experience.

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