

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HOLLY J. MITCHELL**

**JULY 27, 2021**

**Grant Amendment to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps to Complete the Construction of the Compton Creek Walking Path Phase II**

The Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) is a non-profit organization that provides at-risk young adults and school-aged youth with opportunities for success through job training and education with an emphasis on conservation and service projects. Since its founding in 1986, LACC has led the way in a national conservation and service corps movement that is now more than 35 years old. Their projects include building and renovating parks, building and maintaining trails, restoring habitat, planting and maintaining street trees, and distributing fruit trees to residents. The LACC delivers on nearly \$18 million in more than a hundred conservation contracts per year. These contracts include working with city, state, and county parks and recreation agencies to increase or enhance community green spaces.

In 2012, the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) completed the Compton Creek Walking Path (Walking Path) - Phase I, a 0.6-mile trail that connects George Washington Carver Park to Compton Creek. In 2015, in coordination with DPR, LACC was allocated funding for the construction on Phase II of the Walking Path, which extends the trail from 120th Street in the unincorporated community of Willowbrook half a mile south to El Segundo Boulevard in the City of Compton (Project). Phase II of the Project will include a fully landscaped pathway for recreation, leisure, and educational

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opportunities for the local community. However, due to extensive rain delays, necessary design changes, and logistical demands caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Project budget has increased significantly.

LACC has leveraged funds for the Project from a variety of sources such as the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, the California Coastal Commission, the California Strategic Growth Council, and Proposition A Excess Funds available to the Second District. Despite these efforts, the Project is in need of an additional \$250,000, which can be allocated from the Second Supervisorial District Excess Funds available through the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996. Therefore, the recommendation is to amend the existing grant agreement, add additional work to the Project scope, and allocate an amount not to exceed \$250,000 in Excess Funds available to the Second Supervisorial District for this Project. This additional allocation will complete construction on concrete curbs and slabs, drainage, mile markers, site furnishings, decorative fencing, and signage.

In 2015, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the motion ["Construction of Compton Creek Walking Path – Phase II"](#) (Ridley-Thomas, September 8, 2015) to exempt the Project from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15301(b) and (c), 15303(e), 15304(a) and (b), and 15311(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines; and Class 1(e), (m), (n), and (x) Subsection 13, 14, 17, 18; Class 3(b) and (h); Class 4(a) and (c); and Class 11(d) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines previously adopted by the Board. The categorical exemptions apply to the Project as revised.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGIONAL PARK AND OPEN SPACE DISTRICT:**

- 1) Find that the Project as revised is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15301(b) and (c), 15303(e), 15304(a) and (b), and 15311(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines; and Class 1(e), (m), (n), and (x) Subsection 13, 14, 17, 18; Class 3(b) and (h); Class 4(a) and (c); and Class 11(d) of the County's Environmental Document

Reporting Procedures and Guidelines previously adopted by the Board of Supervisors. In addition, based on the proposed project records, it will comply with all applicable regulations, and it is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, damage to scenic highways, listing on hazardous waste site lists compiled pursuant to Government Code section 65962.5, or indications that it may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource that would make the exemption inapplicable.

- 2) Allocate an amount not to exceed \$250,000 in Excess Funds, available to the Second Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the Los Angeles Conservation Corps to complete the construction of the Compton Walking Path Phase II project and add additional work to the project scope;
- 3) Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, or her designee, in her capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant amendment, when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grant as of the date of award and pursuant to the guidelines in the Proposition A Grants Administration Manual for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

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(CGo/CG/LM)