



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

Norma E. García-González, Director

Alina Bokde, Chief Deputy Director

December 17, 2024

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

40 December 17, 2024

Dear Supervisors:

Edward Yen
EDWARD YEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**SENATE BILL 96
HISTORIC VENUE RESTORATION AND RESILIENCY ACT
ESTABLISH INTEREST-BEARING ACCOUNT
AND DELEGATE AUTHORITY FOR USE OF FUNDS AND AGREEMENT
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5) (4-VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The purpose of the recommended action is to implement Senate Bill 96, the Historic Venue Restoration and Resiliency Act, by establishing the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) as the responsible agency for receiving collected SB 96 funds associated with the Hollywood Bowl, a confirmed historic venue; establishing and depositing the funds in an interest bearing trust account; delegating authority to the Director of the DPR to direct and expend the funds at the Hollywood Bowl; and authorizing the Director of the DPR, or her designee, to execute an agreement with the Los Angeles Philharmonic Association (LA Philharmonic) to transfer funds to implement approved SB 96 permitted capital infrastructure, improvement, or maintenance projects at the Hollywood Bowl.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed actions are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this Board letter and the record.
2. Approve and authorize the Auditor-Controller to establish an interest-bearing account for the deposit and use of SB 96 collected funds for the Hollywood Bowl.
3. Delegate authority to the Director of Department of Parks and Recreation, or her designee, to direct and approve the use of SB 96 collected funds from the Hollywood Bowl for any purpose permitted by SB 96.
4. Delegate authority to the Director of Parks and Recreation, or her designee, to execute an agreement with the LA Philharmonic, upon approval as to form by county counsel, for implementation of health and safety, universal access, and historical preservation projects.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

SB 96, also known as the Historic Venue Restoration and Resiliency Act, requires that Sales and Use Tax returns filed with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration report the gross receipts for sales tax purposes to segregate taxable sales made at a qualified event at a historical venue. A portion of gross sales generated by historic venues are to be reinvested back into the sites for restoration, maintenance, and various other improvements.

Approval of the recommended actions will allow for the County, through DPR, to utilize historic venue sales tax funding for projects and improvements at the Hollywood Bowl, furthering its long-standing partnership with the LA Philharmonic. The funds will address critical needs that address deferred maintenance, historic preservation, sustainability, visitor health and safety, accessibility, and a universal design approach that emphasizes equitable use and fosters inclusivity. These improvements will enhance the visitor experience for a broad, diverse community that attends performances and visits the facility's public spaces and picnic areas.

The Hollywood Bowl has been confirmed as a historic venue as defined by SB 96 as it contains a structure built before 1940, is a site continuously used for live, ticketed, public events for more than 50 years, has a total fixed seating capacity of at least 15,000 people, and is owned by a public entity. The County is the owner of the Hollywood Bowl and leases the facility to the LA Philharmonic pursuant to a Lease Agreement dated August 3, 1973, as amended.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The proposed recommendations will promote and further the County of Los Angeles approved Strategic Plan Goals to Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities by investing in communities and creating public spaces and programs that are welcoming, accessible, where all residents can easily build relationships, create social networks, feel connected, and can access opportunities (North Star 2.F.i and ii); and by modernizing infrastructure needs (North Star 3.F.ii).

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

In accordance with the requirements of SB 96, beginning January 1, 2025, the State Controller will transmit up to five percent of the sales and use tax revenue generated at the Hollywood Bowl for the prior fiscal year, to the County. The estimated annual revenue to the County will vary. The DPR will utilize SB 96 funds generated by sales at the Hollywood Bowl, a historic venue, for approved purposes, through the LA Philharmonic under the authority of an executed agreement.

All funds transmitted by the State Controller and interest generated thereby will be held in a newly established interest-bearing trust account and will be used for allowable expenditures. SB 96, which has financial reporting to the Department of Finance requirements, ends July 2030.

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There is no net County cost impact. SB 96 funding provided to the Hollywood Bowl, a historic venue, will not exceed funding transmitted by the State Controller plus earned interest.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On October 8, 2023, Governor Newsom approved SB 96, which allows for a portion of gross sales generated by historic venues during a qualified event (i.e. a live event at a historic venue to which tickets are offered to the public) to be reinvested back into those sites for restoration, maintenance, and various other improvements. SB 96 creates the Historic Venue Restoration and Resiliency Fund, from which these appropriated monies will be deposited and then distributed to the cities and counties. SB 96 became effective January 2024, and will sunset July 2030.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION


The recommended actions are not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because they are activities that are excluded from the definition of a project by Section 21065 of the Public Resources Code and Section 15378(b)(5) of the State CEQA Guidelines. 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.

Upon your Board's approval of the recommended actions, the Department will file a Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk in accordance with section 21152 of the California Public Resources Code.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to forward three adopted copies of this letter to the DPR for distribution. Should your staff have any questions, please ask them to contact Carolyn Bernardez at (626) 688-5294 or via email at cbernardez@parks.lacounty.gov, or Ephraim Nkemere at (626) 588-5250 or via email at NNkemere@parks.lacounty.gov, or Johanna Hernandez at (626) 588-5370 or via email at bjl@parks.lacounty.gov.

Respectfully submitted,



Norma E. García-González
Director

NEGG:AB:MR:cb

c: *Chief Executive Office*
County Counsel
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors