



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

Norma E. García-González, Director

Alina Bokde, Chief Deputy Director

June 3, 2025

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

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

58 June 3, 2025

Edward Yen
EDWARD YEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**ACQUISITION OF THREE LAKE PATROL/RESCUE BOATS
CAPITAL EQUIPMENT PURCHASE AND APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT
(ALL DISTRICTS)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

The Department of Parks and Recreation, (Department) is seeking Board approval to allow the Director of Los Angeles County Internal Services Department, as the County's Purchasing Agent, to proceed with the acquisition of three lake patrol/rescue boats with an estimated cost of \$660,000. This acquisition is essential to maintaining the highest standards of public safety in some of the most heavily used inland waterways in Southern California, which are managed by the Department.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

1. Find that the proposed action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act, as it does not meet the definition of a "Project" under Section 15378 of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines.
2. Authorize the Director of the Internal Services Department, as the County's Purchasing Agent, to proceed with the acquisition of three lake patrol/rescue boats for the Department of Parks and Recreation, at an estimated cost of \$660,000 to provide critical safety services in County-operated lakes.
3. Approve an appropriation adjustment to increase Capital Assets by \$660,000, funded by net County cost from the Department's Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operating Budget.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The safety of Los Angeles County residents and visitors at our lake facilities is a top priority for the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department). The Department manages some of the most heavily used inland waterways in Southern California, including Castaic Lake, Puddingstone Lake, and Santa Fe Dam. Each year, hundreds of thousands of visitors engage in recreational boating, swimming, and other water activities at these locations, including over 27,000 boat launches in 2024. Ensuring the safety of these visitors requires a well-equipped and modern fleet of patrol/rescue boats.

DPR's lake lifeguards are highly trained professionals certified in self-contained underwater breathing apparatus (SCUBA), emergency medical response, and boating law enforcement. They operate a fleet of 17 rescue and utility vessels to provide critical water safety services, which includes the following:

- Boating law enforcement to prevent accidents and ensure compliance with safety regulations.
- Emergency medical response for water-related injuries, drownings, and boating accidents.
- Underwater rescue and recovery operations in emergency situations.
- Marine fire-fighting and disabled vessel assistance to protect lives and property.
- Deployment and maintenance of navigational buoys which are critical in the prevention of boating accidents.
- Public education and proactive patrol to promote boating safety and prevent accidents.

Three of the DPR's lake patrol/rescue boats have been in continuous use since the 1970s and 1980s and are now in a state of disrepair, frequently inoperable, and requiring costly maintenance that limits operational effectiveness. The aging fleet jeopardizes the ability of our lifeguards to provide timely and effective emergency response services.

The requested investment in three new lake patrol/rescue boats is essential to maintaining the highest standards of public safety. These modernized vessels will enhance lifeguards' ability to respond to emergencies swiftly, enforce boating laws effectively, and protect the hundreds of thousands of individuals who visit our lakes each year. The purchase aligns with the County's commitment to public health and safety by ensuring that lifesaving equipment remains reliable and fully operational. These new lake patrol/rescue boats will replace three existing patrol/rescue boats owned by the Department that will be salvaged. The public safety role of these patrol boats requires special consideration making it urgent that we advance this capital asset purchase and appropriation adjustment without delay.

Your approval of the recommended action will directly contribute to the prevention of water-related injuries, fatalities, and liabilities. Furthermore, this action will reinforce the County's leadership in aquatic safety and responsible recreation management.

Pursuant to the County Policy, Board approval is required for capital equipment purchases where the unit cost is \$250,000 or greater.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the recommended action will promote and further the Board-approved Strategic Plan Goal II, Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities, Strategy II, 1.3. Make Environmental Sustainability Our Daily Reality, by ensuring the Department can continue to provide critical safety services for the public's enjoyment in the County-operated Castaic Lake, Puddingstone Lake, and Santa Fe Dam.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The estimated cost of three lake patrol/rescue boats is \$660,000. Approval of the attached appropriation adjustment will increase the Capital Assets appropriation to allow for the purchase. There is sufficient funding in the Department's Fiscal Year 2024-25 Operating Budget to fund the purchase. No additional net County cost is required for this acquisition.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

This request complies with the County Equipment Policy approved by your Board on October 16, 2001, and Chapter 12 ("Purchase of Fixed Assets In Excess of \$250,000 (Per Unit)") of the County Purchasing Policy and Procedure Manual. This policy requires that departments obtain Board approval prior to submitting a requisition to the Purchasing Agent to process a purchase order.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), as it does not meet the definition of a "Project" under Section 15378 of the CEQA Guidelines.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The acquisition of this equipment is under the statutory authority of the County Purchasing Agent. The acquisition will be competitively solicited in accordance with the standard County purchasing policies and procedures.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)


Your approval will ensure that Department of Parks and Recreation can continue to provide a safe environment for the public by providing critical water safety services to hundreds of thousands of visitors who are engaged in recreational boating, swimming, and other water activities in the County-operated Castaic Lake, Puddingstone Lake and Santa Fe Dam.

CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer of the Board to forward three adopted copies of the action taken by the Board to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Should you have any questions please contact Mr. Ruben Lopez at (626) 588-5300 or via email at rlopez@parks.lacounty.gov, or Ms. Johanna Hernandez at (626) 588-5370 or via email at bjl@parks.lacounty.gov.

Respectfully submitted,



NORMA GARCÍA-GONZÁLEZ
Director

NEGG:AB:MR:HM:cm

ATTACHMENT

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Internal Services Department

BA FORM 10142022

June 03, 2025

REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. PLEASE CONFIRM THE ACCOUNTING ENTRIES AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR HER RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION.

3 - VOTES

[illegible]

This budget adjustment reflects an appropriation decrease of \$660,000 identified savings from Salaries and Employee Benefits and an appropriation increase of \$660,000 in Capital Assets - Equipment to purchase three lake patrol/rescue boats to address critical safety services in the aquatics operation.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Digitally signed by Carolyn Bernardez
Date: 2025.05.06 07:17:28 -07'00'

Carolyn Bernardez, Chief Financial Officer

Edward Yen
EDWARD YEN
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Digitally signed by
Andrea Turner
Date: 2025.06.06
15:39:59 -0700

DATE 5/6/25

Digitally signed by
Christine Frazz
Date: 2025.05.07
17:28:24 -0700'

DATE 5/7/25