

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

Norma E. García-González, Director

Alina Bokde, Chief Deputy Director

December 09, 2025

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

**Dear Supervisors:** 

HOLLYWOOD BOWL TO FORD THEATER URBAN TRAIL PLAN AUTHORIZE TO EXECUTE FUNDING AGREEMENT WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5) (FY2024-25, 3 VOTES)

#### SUBJECT

Approval of the recommended actions will authorize the Director of Parks and Recreation, or her designee, to execute a funding agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA) for the completion of the Hollywood Bowl to Ford Theater Urban Trail Plan. The funding agreement provides support to LACMTA during development of the Urban Wilderness Access Feasibility Plan, a comprehensive park access strategy that includes the Urban Trail Plan to develop pedestrian infrastructure improvements establishing a safer, well-defined urban trail between the Hollywood Bowl and the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre.

#### 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. Delegate authority to the Director of Parks and Recreation (Director), or her designee, to execute, amend and terminate, as necessary, a funding agreement with Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LACMTA), in the form substantially similar to the attached, upon approval as to form by County Counsel, in the amount of \$93,000, fully offset by a grant from the Regional Park and Open Space District, and also execute, amend and terminate other agreements which may be necessary for the completion of the Hollywood Bowl to Ford Theater Urban Trail Plan.

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#### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Hollywood Bowl to Ford Theater Urban Trail Plan (Bowl-Ford Urban Trail Plan) aims to strengthen and expand the connection between two iconic cultural landmarks owned by the County, the Hollywood Bowl (Bowl) and the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre (The Ford). The Bowl and The Ford are premier destinations for live music and events in Southern California with a seating capacity of 17,500 and 1,200 respectively. As both venues have grown in stature and popularity, so has the need for improved access and more efficient pedestrian circulation between them. With The Ford often serving as overflow parking for Bowl events, large numbers of visitors regularly travel between the two venues, placing heavy demand on existing sidewalks. The Bowl-Ford Urban Trail Plan will explore enhancements such as increased wayfinding signage, pedestrian-scale lighting, and surface upgrades to create a well-defined and welcoming "urban trail" that strengthens connectivity and enhances the overall visitor experience.

LA County Parks is a partner agency in a Southern California Association of Governments' Regional Early Action Planning grant awarded to LACMTA to complete the Urban Wilderness Access Feasibility Plan, which is a comprehensive planning effort to evaluate methods to improve access to key destinations, recreational facilities, and entertainment venues within and nearby Griffith Park. The Urban Wilderness Plan includes two components: (1) Pedestrian infrastructure improvements between the Bowl and The Ford (Bowl-Ford Urban Trail Plan) and (2) A transit plan including route and operations planning for access to the LA Zoo and Griffith Park, including connections from the Metro B Line, Metro NoHo-Pasadena BRT Line, and any other nearby high-frequency Metro lines and local transit hubs as appropriate.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Project will further LA County Park's Strategic Plan goals, namely by serving in our capacity as the County's multi-use trail coordinator and by preserving and celebrating historic and cultural resources.

The proposed recommendations will further the County Strategic Plan Goals to Foster Vibrant and Resilient Communities (North Star 2) through Sustainability (Strategy 3.D.i,iii) by mitigating climate change, building resilient communities, and supporting thriving ecosystems, habitats, and biodiversity.

The OurCounty Sustainability Plan, adopted in 2019, establishes goals to address the environmental impacts of climate change and the subsequent social challenges. The proposed Project will support Goal 6, by creating accessible parks, public lands, and public spaces that create opportunities for respite, recreation, ecological discovery, and cultural activities and improving access to these parks, public lands, and public spaces (Strategy 6B).

This Project is aligned with the County's Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiative and guided by the Countywide Equity Guiding Principles adopted by the Board on September 15, 2021, including the reduction of racial disparities in life outcomes as well as disparities in public investment to shape those outcomes. Consistent with these Principles, the Department has developed and proposes implementation of the proposed project that will support disadvantaged geographies and populations.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The proposed Project will have no net County cost impact. The proposed Project is fully offset by a

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grant from the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District in the amount of \$93,000.

The Department will include an appropriation request for this grant through the County budget process.

#### FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The funding agreement has been approved as to form by County Counsel. A portion of the Bowl-Ford Urban Trail Plan is within existing County facilities. The Bowl and The Ford are owned by LA County Parks. The connecting streets between the two facilities are owned, operated, and maintained by City of Los Angeles.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The proposed actions to enter into a funding agreement for the development of the Bowl Ford Urban Trail Plan and to amend it as necessary, 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)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines. The proposed actions would create a government funding mechanism that does not involve any commitment to a specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

## IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The recommended actions will have no adverse impact on current County services or projects.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Upon approval by the Board, please instruct the Executive Office-Clerk of the Board, to forward one adopted copy to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division, and one adopted copy to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Should you have any questions please contact Michelle O'Connor at moconnor@parks.lacounty.gov or (626) 588-5302, Jeremy Munns at jmunns@parks.lacounty.gov or (626) 588-5307, or Johanna Hernandez at (626) 588-5370 or bll@parks.lacounty.gov.

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Respectfully submitted,

Norma E. Garcia-Gonzalez

Director

NEG:AB:CK:SW:JM:mo

c: Auditor Controller
Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Arts and Culture (Civic Art Division)
LA County Parks