

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

JUNE 9, 2026

Whittier Narrows Recreation Area Splash Pad Project: Reject Previous Bids, Re-advertise for Bids, and Authorize Construction

The Whittier Narrows Recreation Area Splash Pad Project (Project) is located at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area, a Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation facility, at 750 Santa Anita Avenue, in Unincorporated Whittier Narrows. The splash pad will be located in “Area D” of the park, north of Legg Lake. According to the 2022 Parks Needs Assessment+, as a regional park with a 25-mile service radius, Whittier Narrows Recreation Area serves many communities experiencing moderate to very high park need including Unincorporated Bassett-West Puente Valley, Unincorporated East Los Angeles, Unincorporated Covina, and Unincorporated East San Gabriel-Arcadia. The delivery of the proposed Project will provide a water play experience benefiting a large regional service area with very high park needs.

The proposed Project will provide children and families with a safe and fun place to recreate from early spring through the end of fall. In addition to enhancing the park experience, the splash pad will provide the added benefit of helping to deter children from playing in the unsupervised waters of nearby Legg Lake, thereby supporting ongoing efforts to improve water safety at the park. The splash pad is expected to be a very

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popular new amenity and attract many daily visitors (especially families) above the current attendance levels, substantially increasing operational demands at the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area.

The proposed Project's scope of work includes the installation of a splash pad with various activities using water to spray; shade structures and seating areas throughout; renovated accessible parking and paved path of travel complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act; and irrigation and new climate-appropriate landscaping, including shade trees within and around the splash pad.

On January 13, 2026, the Board found the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area Splash Pad Project exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and Notice of Exemption (NOE) was filed; approved the project and project budget of \$4,500,000, and an appropriation adjustment of \$500,000; adopted plans and specifications; directed the advertising for construction bids; and authorized Public Works to award and execute a Consultant Services Agreement (CSA) and Construction Contract for the project. The advertising for construction bids was conducted in accordance with the County's standards. Six bids were received on February 23, 2026; however, all were determined to be over the published estimated construction cost for the full scope of the project.

To effectively move forward with the project as currently envisioned, at the discretion of the Board, the previous bids are to be rejected, and the project re-advertised

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for bids in accordance with Section 20125 of the State Public Contract Code. During this time, additional Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District funding will be pursued in the event the project implementation costs are higher than the current approved project budget. Should additional funds be required to implement the project, appropriate action will be taken, including returning to the Board for approval to increase the project budget. Rebidding the project at this time will allow the County to make every effort to complete the project within the grant performance periods.

A standard construction contract, in a form previously approved by County Counsel, will be used that contains terms and conditions supporting the Board's ordinances, policies, and programs, including but not limited to, County's Greater Avenues for Independence and Skills and Training to Achieve Readiness for Tomorrow Programs, Contract Language to Assist in the Placement of Displaced County Workers, and Notice to Employees Regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015). The plans and specifications include the necessary contractual provisions and material requirements necessary for the project and are on file with Public Works Business Relations and Contracts Division, 900 South Fremont Avenue, 8th Floor, Alhambra, CA 91803-1331.

To ensure the contract is awarded to a responsible contractor with a satisfactory history of performance, bidders would be required to report violations of the False Claims Act, criminal convictions, civil litigation, defaulted contracts with the County, complaints

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filed with the Contractor's State License Board, labor law/payroll violations, and debarment actions. As provided for in Board Policy No. 5.140, the information reported by the contractor will be considered before making an award.

In accordance with Board Policy 5.270, Countywide Local and Targeted Worker Hiring, the proposed Project would require a mandatory hiring goal of 30 percent of the California craft worker hours for construction of the proposed Project be performed by Local Residents and at least 10 percent be performed by Targeted Workers facing employment barriers. The proposed Project will also include a jobs coordinator who will facilitate implementation of the targeted hiring requirement of the policy.

On February 28, 2023, the Board approved the execution of the Countywide Workforce Agreement (CWA), which applies to projects with an estimated construction value of \$5,000,000 or greater. Therefore, the proposed Project is exempt from the Countywide CWA since it does not meet the minimum requirements within section 1.9.1 (a) as the proposed Project does not have an estimated construction value of \$5,000,000 or greater.

Additionally, in accordance with Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD)'s Measure A Annual Allocation Program, a funding acknowledgement and maintenance of this Project in perpetuity will be required. As such, a deed restriction which identifies the Project must be recorded.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

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1. Find that the actions herein are within the scope of the Board's previous finding of exemption under Sections 15301(e)(2), 15303(e), 15304 (a) and 15311 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1(g)(3), (x)(2) and (12), 3(b), 4(a) and (c) and 11(c) and (f) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area Splash Pad Project and related actions on January 13, 2026, and that there have been no changes that require further findings under CEQA. Upon the Board's approval of the actions herein, Public Works will file a Notice of Exemption with the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk and the State Clearinghouse in the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation in accordance with Section 21152 of the California Public Resources Code and will post the Notice of Exemption on the County's website pursuant to Section 21092.2.
2. Reject the bids as advertised on January 15, 2026, as all bids received for the full scope of the project were over the budgeted cost for construction.
3. Adopt the plans and specifications that are on file with Public Works for construction of the Whittier Narrows Recreation Area Splash Pad Project, Capital Project No. 69539.
4. Instruct the Executive Officer of the Board to advertise the project for bids to be received and opened on July 7, 2026, in accordance with the Instruction Sheet for Publishing Legal Advertisements.

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5. Authorize the Director of Public Works or his designee to execute a Consultant Services Agreement with the apparent lowest responsive and responsible bidder to prepare a baseline construction schedule for a \$5,000 not-to-exceed amount funded by the project funds.
6. Delegate authority to the Director of Public Works or his designee to make the determination that a bid is nonresponsive and reject it on that basis; to award to the next lowest responsive and responsible bidder; to waive inconsequential and nonmaterial deficiencies in submitted bids; and to determine whether the apparent lowest responsive and responsible bidder has satisfied all conditions for contract award in accordance with the applicable contract and bid documents. Upon such determination, delegate authority to the Director of Public Works or his designee to award and execute the Construction Contract, in the form previously approved by County Counsel, to the apparent lowest responsive and responsible bidder if the contract can be awarded within the approved total budget; to establish the effective date of the contract upon receipt by Public Works of acceptable performance, payment bonds, and evidence of required contractor insurance; and to take all other actions necessary and appropriate to deliver the proposed Project.

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