



London N. Breed, Mayor
Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

Date: April 07, 2021

To: San Francisco Recreation and Park Commission Capital Committee

Through: Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager
Toks Ajike, Director, Capital and Planning Division

From: Omar Davis, Project Manager
Toni Moran, Grant Manager

Subject: Playground at India Basin Shoreline Park – Grant Application, Accept and Expend, and Associated Agreement

AGENDA WORDING

Discussion and possible action to 1) adopt a resolution approving the application to the California State Parks Department for \$5.768M in Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant Funds for the Playground at India Basin Shoreline Park Project (“the Project”); 2) recommend that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Recreation and Park Department to accept and expend the Grant Funds for purposes of the Project; and 3) recommend that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Recreation and Park Department to enter into an agreement with the California State Parks Department to operate and maintain the park improvements for a period of 30 years.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Strategy 1: Inspire Public Space

Objective 1.1: Develop more open space to address population growth in high-needs areas and emerging neighborhoods

Objective 1.2: Strengthen the quality of existing Parks & Facilities

Objective 1.4: Preserve and celebrate historic and cultural resources

Strategy 3: Inspire Investment

Objective 3.1: Increase public investment to better align with infrastructure needs and service expectation

Objective 3.3: Cultivate increased philanthropic support



BACKGROUND

The Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Grant (“Grant”) program originates from Proposition 68 California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 that was approved by the voters on June 5, 2018. The purpose of the Grant is to create new parks and new recreation opportunities that serve critically underserved neighborhoods across California. There is \$395,302,155 available for this 4th and final round of grants. Applicants can apply for up to \$8.5 million per project.

Projects eligible for Grant funding must serve a community with a median household income less than or equal to \$56,982 (80% of the statewide average) or serve a community with less than three acres of open space per 1,000 residents. Neighborhoods with the highest number of people living below in poverty are prioritized. Projects with high levels of public participation in the park design and development, designed with sustainable elements, and that create at least 20 jobs or volunteer opportunities are the most competitive.

The Statewide Park and Community Revitalization Program has a five-year grant performance period, with project applications due to the State by March 12, 2021. Project awards will be announced late summer 2021, and projects completed and project completion packets are due March 31, 2025.

The grant agreement requires biannual reporting, and each project that receives grant funding must file a Deed Restriction protecting the property for public use through July 1, 2050.

The RPD Capital Division Staff evaluated several capital projects for the Statewide Park Grant Program. Based on the grant criteria and the grant performance period, staff determined that the Playground at India Basin Shoreline Park would be competitive and, in partnership with the Trust for Public Land, submitted an application requesting \$5,768,000 to fund the construction of the playground, restroom, and associated site work as an initial phase of the India Basin Shoreline Park Renovation Project.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The existing playground at India Basin Shoreline Park is outdated and inadequate, lacking contemporary, standard amenities like bathrooms, drinking fountains, shaded seating areas, and protection from the wind. If awarded, a new playground will be constructed that addresses these shortcomings. The new children’s playground will have separate areas for children ages 2 to 5 and ages 6 to 12 with contemporary, adventure-themed elements, a new restroom and drinking fountains. Trees will be planted to create an open canopy that will provide protection from the sun without impacting site visibility. Site grading will create areas protected from the wind, making the playground more inviting to children and their caretakers, Marine-themed play elements and pathways to overlooks of the San Francisco Bay will connect children to the site’s cultural and natural history. The children’s playground is located within visibility from planned basketball courts and a cookout terrace and will also be accessible from the new Boat Yard Park planned for construction in 2023.

The project will be initiated as one of the first phases of work at India Basin Shoreline Park. Additional park improvements planned, but that are not part of this grant, include creating a grand lawn for gathering and activating, enhancing park entryways, construction of two basketball courts, new waterfront access including an outfitter building and kayak launch, floating recreational dock, and public access to decks and piers. All these features will support and enhance the new children's playground.

A lengthy public process initiated in 2014 and involving numerous meetings, workshops, and activation events has resulted in a new vision for the India Basin open spaces. As a part of this community engagement effort, the renovation and reprogramming of India Basin Shoreline Park was discussed, and residents had opportunities to provide feedback on the larger park and playground features. As recently as last month, concept design options were presented in online surveys and three virtual meetings to solicit feedback from the community were held. Combined with the early park feedback we received in 2019-2020, we have created a design that responds to the community's feedback. Additional public input on the playground details is being collected and the final playground and park design will be presented to the Recreation and Park Commission at a future date.

SUPPORT

The Trust for Public Land (TPL)
San Francisco Parks Alliance (SFPA)
A. Philip Randolph Institute (APRI)
Hunters Point Family
NOW Hunters Point
Parks 94124
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Livable Streets Division (SMTA)

OPPOSITION

There is no known opposition for the application.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Recreation and Park Commission 1) adopt a resolution approving the application to the California State Parks Department for \$5.768M in Statewide Park Development and Community Revitalization Program Grant Funds for the Playground at India Basin Shoreline Park Project ("the Project"); 2) recommend that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Recreation and Park Department to accept and expend the Grant Funds for purposes of the Project; and 3) recommend that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Recreation and Park Department to enter into an agreement with the California State Parks Department to operate and maintain the park improvements for a period of 30 years.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit A: Statewide Park Grant Resolution.
Exhibit B : Statewide Park Grant Contract.