



Recreation and Parks Commission Agenda Statement
Meeting Date: September 17, 2025
Agenda Heading: New Business

TITLE:

Plans and Specifications for the Teen Center, Plaza, and Skatepark Renovation Project at Recreation Park, Project No. PW 25-13

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Review and provide feedback on the plans, specifications, and alternative bids for the renovations of the Teen Center, Plaza, and Skatepark at Recreation Park (Project No. PW 25-13).
2. Alternatively, discuss and take other action related to this item.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount Appropriated to Date for Recreation Park Projects: \$10,100,000

Additional Appropriation: None

Account Number(s): 301-400-8202-8421

BACKGROUND:

Recreation Park is centrally located within the residential core of El Segundo and encompasses approximately 17 acres of active and passive recreational amenities. The park is also home to several key community facilities, including George E. Gordon Clubhouse, the Checkout Building, the Joslyn Center, and the Teen Center and Skate Plaza.

On August 31, 2022, the City Council and the Recreation and Parks Commission convened a joint meeting at the Joslyn Center to evaluate improvement strategies for Recreation Park. At that meeting, both bodies provided directions to retain the existing layout of the park and to implement improvements through a phased approach. This strategy is intended to allow for the systematic execution of upgrades while minimizing disruption to public access and programming.

Phase One Improvements:

Following the joint meeting, and after initial efforts to reach an agreement with the City's prior consultant were unsuccessful, MIG, Inc. was retained in March 2024 to complete final plans and specifications for Phase One improvements. The Phase One Improvements include the renovations of the Teen Center, Teen Plaza, and Skatepark, and are divided into two primary tasks:

Task 1 – Teen Center, Teen Plaza, and Skatepark Renovation:

- Interior renovation and cosmetic exterior improvements of the existing Teen Center

building

- Renovation of the Teen Plaza, including the full demolition and reconstruction of the existing skate park and multi-use/basketball court
- Construction of a new, reoriented concrete multi-use court and skate park
- Parking lot upgrades to incorporate ADA accessibility and enhanced drop-off functionality

During the conceptual planning stage, the City Council considered the possibility of relocating the skate park elsewhere within Recreation Park. However, following extensive outreach to teens, the Recreation and Parks Commission, and the Park Renovation Subcommittee, it was determined that there was not public support for relocation. The Council subsequently directed staff and MIG to proceed with schematic design Option 2, which retains the general footprint of the Teen Plaza while enhancing its layout and usability.

The schematic design, presented to the Recreation and Parks Commission on November 20, 2024, incorporates improvements related to ADA accessibility, site grading, drainage, seating, functionality, lighting, and modernized amenities. The Commission voted 4-0 to approve the proposed design, with a recommendation to include exterior lighting for the multi-use court in the final plans and associated cost estimates.

Task 2 - Renovation of George Brett Field and the Softball Field:

- Installation of amended soil and replacement with new natural turf playing surfaces
- New irrigation system

Task 2 is still in design and will be brought for approval at a future date.

DISCUSSION:

During a recent Park Renovation Subcommittee meeting, the materials and long-term maintenance of the skatepark's concrete were discussed. A key design feature is the iconic El Segundo Water Tower, which is incorporated into the skatepark's concrete surface. The base bid proposes a painted concrete finish as the most cost-effective option, allowing for precise color matching and easier application; however, it will require ongoing maintenance over time due to potential fading and peeling. The alternative bid item proposes integral-colored concrete, which offers greater durability and color retention, although it is significantly more expensive, particularly for custom blue tones.

Additionally, the Park Renovation Subcommittee held discussions on the lighting system. The base bid includes retrofitting the existing pole lights, which offers cost savings and avoids trenching. However, it provides uneven lighting with shadows over ramp sections, keeps pole lights in the public sidewalk, and requires additional work to separate circuits and seal pole penetrations. Structural testing of existing poles is also recommended.

The alternate bid proposes a new lighting system that delivers uniform coverage, relocates poles into optimal skate park locations, and includes a full dedicated electrical system with updated as-builts. While more costly, it offers a long-term, comprehensive solution with improved safety and lighting performance.

These options have been structured to allow complete substitution of one for the other. This approach ensures cost-effective decision-making while preserving design flexibility. City Council may decide once bid prices are received to proceed with the alternatives, if desired.

The final engineering plans and specifications for the renovation of the Teen Center, Plaza, and Skatepark at Recreation Park are complete and ready for bidding. These documents have been reviewed and approved by staff.

El Segundo Municipal Code (“ESMC”) § 1-7C-11 authorized the Public Works Director or City Council to approve the Project’s design or plans in advance of construction pursuant to Government Code § 830.6.

The proposed resolution would authorize the Public Works Director, or designee to review and potentially approve the Project’s design and plans, under his or her discretion, pursuant to state and local law. The Public Works Director, or designee, must approve the Project’s design plans to determine consistency with the applicable standards and requirements before any Project construction begins. The proposed resolution would also establish a Project payment account for purposes of the contract documents administering the Project. Finally, the resolution would allow the Public Works Director, or designee, to act on the City’s behalf in approving any alterations or modifications of the approved design and plans.

With Council’s authorizations, the anticipated schedule for Task 1 of the improvements is as follows:

October 2025	Council approval and authorization to begin bid process
October 2025	Advertising and Bid Process
January 2026	Contract Award
April 2026	Begin Construction
May 2027	Project Completion

CITY STRATEGIC PLAN COMPLIANCE:

Goal 1: Develop and Maintain Quality Infrastructure and Technology

Adopting Plans and Specification for the Teen Center, Plaza, and Skatepark Renovation
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Strategy A: Seek opportunities to implement and expedite the projects in the Capital Improvement Program and ensure that City-owned infrastructure is well maintained, including streets, entryways, and facilities.

Strategy C: Maintain an innovative General Plan to ensure responsible growth while preserving El Segundo's quality of life and small-town character.

PREPARED BY: Alberto Oliveros, Senior Engineer Associates

REVIEWED BY: Cheryl Ebert, City Engineer and Linner Palmer, Recreation Manager

APPROVED BY: Elias Sassoon, Public Works Director