



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



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[www.LBParks.org](http://www.LBParks.org)

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September 18, 2014

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
City of Long Beach  
California

## RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend that the City Council approve the Bixby Park Master Plan and Infrastructure Funding Priorities.

## DISCUSSION

As a part of the fiscal year 2014 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget, the City Council appropriated \$1,000,000 for improvements at Bixby Park. In the same FY14 budget cycle, each Council District (CD) also received \$250,000 for Park Playground and Other Park Improvements. CD 2 has opted to use their allocation to help fund the replacement of the playground at Bixby Park. This \$1,250,000 allocation of funding for improvements at Bixby Park led to the development of a community-led master planning effort to reflect the needs of the park users today and guide improvements in the future.

The Bixby Park Master Plan (attached) outlines the proposed final build-out of Bixby Park. Each of the design elements that are included in the Master Plan incorporate programming and rehabilitation elements that have been requested by the community. The Bixby Park Master Plan is organized into four chapters as follows:

**Introduction and Context.** This chapter provides regulatory and project-related context, background and goals.

**Process.** This chapter considers the major defining features and improvements at Bixby Park resulting from site analysis, community input, and public life surveys. Overall opportunities and constraints within and around the park area are identified.

**Master Plan.** This chapter presents a comprehensive and long-term Master Plan for Bixby Park, including the expansion of park space that is created through street closures.

**Phasing and Costing.** This chapter discusses a phased approach to park enhancements, starting with critical needs and eventually reaching full build out.

The Bixby Park Master Plan envisions an enhanced and new experience for park visitors. The Master Plan proposes the closure of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street to incorporate additional park space and to enhance circulation and connectivity through the park. A large central corridor lined by large canopy trees will connect three parcels of the park. Additional and enhanced improvements occur in the northerly portion of the park: an enhanced and expanded skate park, renovated community center, new parking lot, expanded children's play area, fitness loop, reorganized picnic areas, dog park, flex active courts, and enhanced band shell area.

The availability of funding will dictate how much of the full master plan vision can be implemented and when. The following improvements could be included in a possible phasing strategy for the Master Plan.

Improvements	Details
* New Restroom Building	Stand along 8 stall pre fab building
Central Spine	Paving, trees, landscaping, lighting, and site furnishings,
Temporary Dog Park	Small and Large Dog Park
Enhanced Band shell	Paving, trees, site furnishings, landscaping, lighting and stage/building improvements
* Friend of Bixby Park Improvements	Central entrance node with trees, benches, lighting and landscaping
Entry Nodes along Broadway	Decomposed granite paths
* Fitness Loop & Exercise Equip.	Decomposed granite path and relocation and/or addition of new exercise equipment
Crossing Enhancements	Continental crossings at every intersection
Historic Picnic Table Area	Decomposed granite paving, trees, landscaping, lighting, and site furnishings.
Site Furnishings	Benches, bike racks, trash cans and picnic tables.
* Raised Table Crossings	Table top crossings across 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Streets.
* Signalized Crossings at Ocean	Signalized mid-block pedestrian crossing at Ocean Blvd.
Beach Connections	Decomposed granite path to connect park to beach
Playground Renovation	Phase one nature-play playground within Parcel 2.

\* Indicates a priority improvement, per information collected during Workshop #3 and project prioritization voting.

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The total cost for the interim improvements listed above far exceeds the current \$1,250,000 of funding available for the phase one infrastructure improvements. Within the context of one of the highest ranking goals for the project, safety and security, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine recommends the following improvements be completed with first phase funding.

New freestanding restroom and re-use/re-configuration of existing restroom space and patio area	\$655,000
Playground Replacement Phase 1	\$430,000
Fitness Loop	\$165,000

SUGGESTED ACTION:

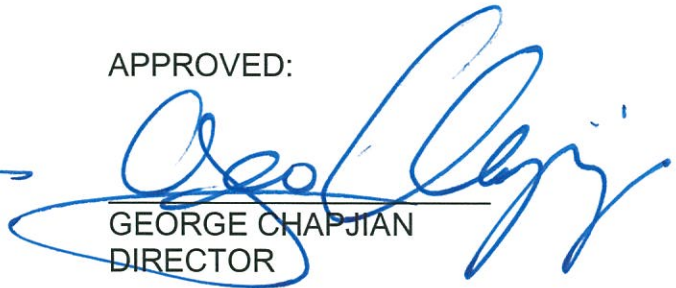
Recommend that the City Council approve the Bixby Park Master Plan and Infrastructure Funding Priorities.

Respectfully submitted,

APPROVED:



RAMON AREVALO  
MANAGER  
MAINTENANCE & DEVELOPMENT



GEORGE CHAPJIAN  
DIRECTOR

GC:RA:AMM/vhd

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Attachment: Bixby Park Master Plan