
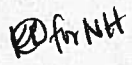


## REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

**DATE:** AUGUST 13, 2014

**TO:** HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** GREG RAMIREZ, CITY MANAGER 

**BY:** NATHAN HAMBURGER, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER 

**SUBJECT:** REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SECURE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS FOR THE INTERPRETIVE EDUCATION CENTER IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RECREATION CENTER CONSTRUCTION AND APPROPRIATE THE NECESSARY FUNDS

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The City was notified by Los Angeles County Supervisor, Zev Yaroslavsky, that a \$250,000 grant was awarded for use on the Recreation Center Outdoor Interpretive Education Center. The City Council has taken all required actions to finalize the grant agreement through its adoption of Resolution 14-1756 at its meeting of July 10, 2014. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors plans to finalize the agreement on their end in September.

The Outdoor Interpretive Education Center was designed to add a new and unique area, for use by the community, which helped provide information regarding the wildlife in the Santa Monica Mountains that are adjacent to the Recreation Center site. The improvements include several play features that educate the public about bobcats and mountain lions and information on what to do if you encounter them and other interesting facts, such as how high they jump and their climbing abilities. It will also feature a seating wall shaped like a native snake and a glider (similar to a zip line) that replicates a hawk gliding through the sky. This area will serve as a trail head to the future trail into the surrounding mountains. The play area will include a rubberized play surface suitable for children, and native landscaping will surround the area, which is made up of drought-tolerant plants. The Community Services Committee has previously viewed the details of this project and was supportive with the proposed components and interpretive and educational portions of the project as staff pursued grant funds for the construction of the various components. Several wildlife statues will serve as part of the public art at the Recreation Center.

The site preparation work is being proposed to be completed by Cal-City and their subcontractors that are currently working on the construction of the facility and site. In an attempt to complete the installation of equipment and play surface material by the grand opening, staff will serve as the general contractor for the Interpretive Education Center on all other aspects. A large majority of the materials and equipment are being

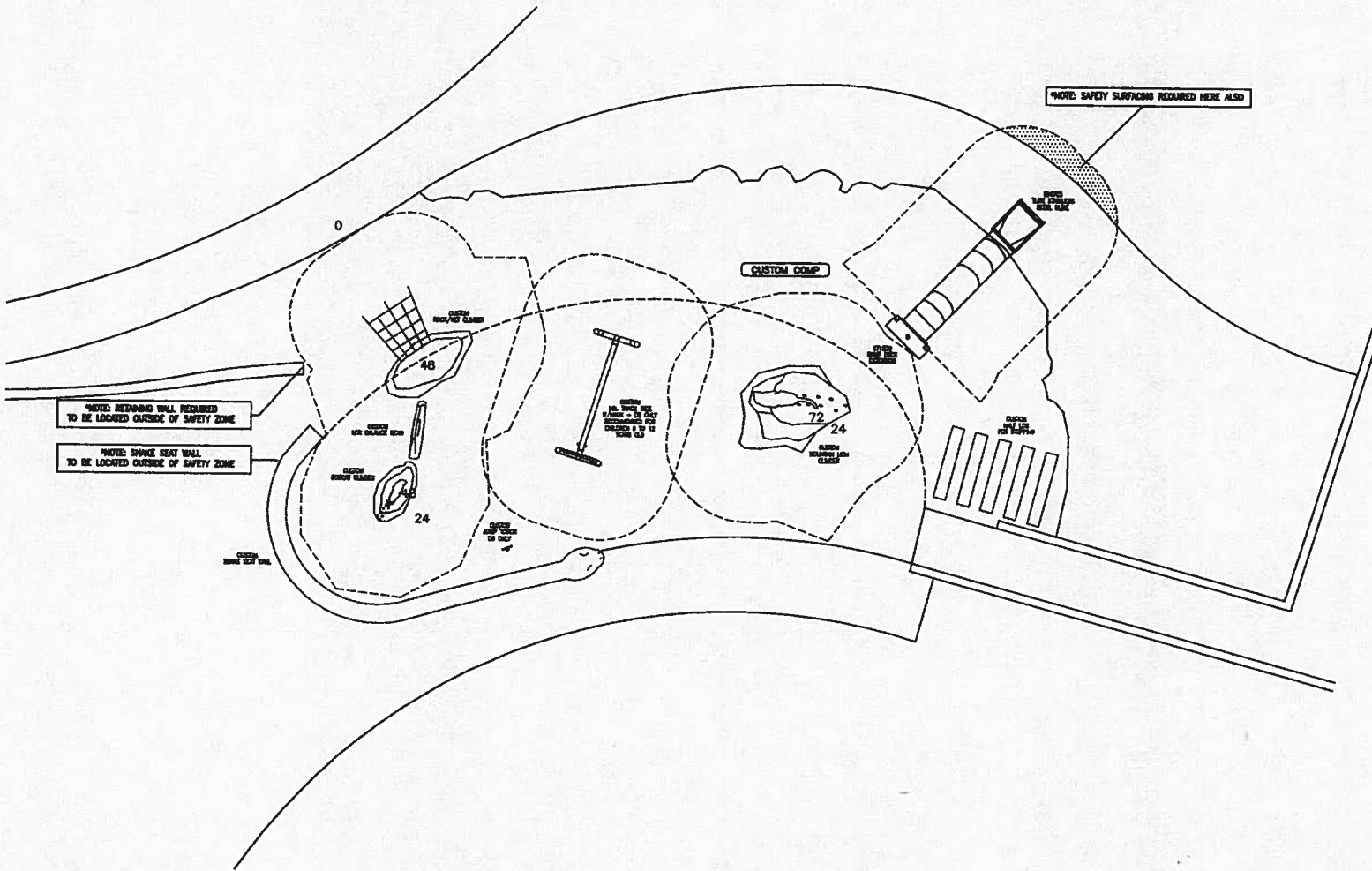
proposed to be secured through the utilization of the U.S. Communities program, which provides a purchasing cooperative that provides guaranteed discount prices on various goods to municipal and state agencies, as well as school districts, throughout the country. The City has used the U.S. Communities program previously and was able to realize significant savings on various office equipment. In order to insure the equipment arrives prior to the open date, staff is bringing this item to the City Council, now, for approval, so as to be prepared to implement the project immediately following the Board of Supervisor's approval of the agreement. The City will need to vacate the existing location on Thousand Oaks Boulevard by December 2014, per the existing agreement with the property owner.

Funding for the Interpretive Educational play area includes the grant funds received through Los Angeles County, existing Recreation Center Construction Funds (contingency amounts already approved by the City Council), and the In-Lieu Art in Public Places Fund (wildlife components and interpretive signage). An appropriation of funds from the In-Lieu Art in Public Places Fund is being requested of the City Council in the amount of \$85,000 in order to purchase the wildlife statues and an additional art piece to recognize the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation for their generous donation that allowed the City to construct the Event Center portion of the project, which also insured dedicated teen/youth space within the facility. The Cultural Arts Council will assist in selecting the appropriate art piece for the Hilton Foundation recognition.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended the City Council authorize the City Manager to secure the necessary equipment and materials for the Interpretive Education Center located at the Recreation Center through the use of U.S. Communities cooperative purchasing program, appropriate \$85,000 from the In-Lieu Art in Public Places Fund to Account 015-0000-334531, and appropriate \$85,000 from the Art Fund to Account 015-4440-5685.

Attachment: Layout diagram

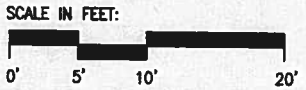


IT IS THE MANUFACTURERS OPINION AND INTENT THAT THE USE AND LAYOUT OF THESE COMPONENTS CONFORM WITH THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS (ASTM) STANDARD ASTM F1487

CHOOSE A PROTECTIVE SURFACING MATERIAL THAT HAS A CRUSHED BEDDING VALUE TO MEET THE MINIMUM FALL HEIGHT FOR THE EQUIPMENT (SEE ASTM F1487 STANDARD CONSUMER SAFETY PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS FOR PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR PUBLIC USE, SECTION 8 CURRENT REVISION).  
AREA OF ACCESSIBLE / PROTECTIVE SURFACING (POURED-IN-PLACE SUGGESTED)

DESIGNED BY:  
CLB  
COPYRIGHT: 7/7/2014  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, INC.  
601 7th STREET SUITE 100 - 94010  
SANTA MONICA, CALIF. 90401  
PH: 310-303-0222 FAX: 310-303-0744

3/4/13	65883-1-1	TW
Date	Previous Drawing #	Initials



Agoura Hills Interpretive  
Play Area  
Agoura Hills, CA

RecWest Outdoor  
Products, Inc.  
Carolynn Jones

SYSTEM TYPE:  
Freestanding Play  
DRAWING #: 65883-1-5

