

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE
L.A. FOR KIDS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, January 29, 2015
AGENDA ITEM (4)**

**BUREAU OF ENGINEERING
ROSE HILL PARK – NEW PEDESTRIAN PATHWAYS AND WALKWAYS PROJECT
(AKA ADA WALKING PATH IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT)**

DATE: January 29, 2015

TO: Proposition K – L.A. for Kids Steering Committee

FROM: Neil Drucker, Program Manager *Neil Drucker*
Proposition K, L.A. for Kids Program
Bureau of Engineering

**SUBJECT: ROSE HILL PARK – NEW PEDESTRIAN PATHWAYS AND
WALKWAYS (AKA ADA WALKING PATH IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT)**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Bureau of Engineering (BOE) - Recreational and Cultural Facilities Division requests that the L.A. for Kids Steering Committee recommend that the City Council:

1. Find that the 8th Cycle Proposition K – L.A. for Kids Competitive Grant Proposal submitted by the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) on April 26, 2012, for the Rose Hill Park – New Pedestrian Pathways and Walkways project inadvertently referenced the "Rose Hill Recreation Center" as the project site and that the intent was always that the project site be at Rose Hill Park.
2. Find that the project approved for Proposition K funding is the "Rose Hill Park – New Pedestrian Pathways and Walkways" project.
3. Authorize Proposition K staff to revise the Proposition K administrative and assessment documentation, if necessary, to reflect that the project is the "Rose Hill Park – New Pedestrian Pathways and Walkways" project.

DISCUSSION/BACKGROUND

On April 26, 2012, in response to the 8th Cycle Proposition K – L.A. for Kids Program, Request for Proposals (RFP), the Department of Recreation and Parks submitted a grant proposal (Proposal) titled "Rose Hill Recreation Center – New Pedestrian Pathways and Walkways" project (Project). The Proposal requested \$400,000 in

Proposition K Competitive Grant funds to “accomplish new pedestrian pathways and walkways at the Rose Hill Recreation Center.” The Proposal provided various required information and forms, such as forms that reference the address and project site information. In the Proposal, the forms inadvertently referenced “Rose Hill Recreation Center” rather than the intended “Rose Hill Park.”

The Proposal stated on page 14, Project Description and Management, that:

“The City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) proposes to construct an extension to an existing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) walkway located at the Rose Hill Recreation Center that will provide ADA accessibility between the parks restrooms and baseball fields. Currently, wheelchair bound residents have no ADA access to the baseball diamonds and must watch the games from a nearby parking lot.

Several years ago, the Department installed new restrooms and an ADA path from the parking lot to the restrooms. That project did not include the construction of an ADA walkway connecting the restrooms to the baseball field, rendering the baseball fields largely inaccessible for handicapped individuals. The proposed project will remedy the situation and improve access to the Recreation Center's recreational facilities; specifically, the baseball fields.

The walkway will be built of concrete and will be approximately 310 feet long and 5 feet wide and located in a sloped area of the park. As required by ADA guidelines, it will be at a maximum five percent (5%) slope in the direction of travel; at the two percent (2%) cross slope (the slope with respect to the horizon and an important safety feature); and have a 5' deep landing at every 400 feet of length, if required. In order to meet these ADA requirements, the proposed path will meander between bathrooms and fields, creating an attractive as well as utilitarian feature in the park. Since it would be situated between trees and will require boundary edges; care will be taken to ensure that the walkway does not disturb the trees' root systems.”

On July 10, 2012, staff of the BOE conducted a site visit to the Rose Hill Recreation Center to view the site of the proposed Project. Upon their arrival at the Recreation Center, BOE staff were directed across the street by RAP staff, who indicated that the project was in fact located at the Rose Hill Park, which is located approximately 0.2 miles from the recreation center.

During its deliberations in the fall of 2012 as part of the annual Proposition K budget development process, the Proposition K Regional Volunteer Neighborhood Oversight Committee (RVNOC) for the Central Region discussed the Project as well as other

projects that had been proposed pursuant to the 8th Cycle RFP. Although the RVNOC did not visit this project site during the RVNOC tours, the RVNOC members were informed by RAP and BOE staff that the Project was located at Rose Hill Park.

On November 15, 2012, the L.A. for Kids Steering Committee considered the funding recommendations of the Central Region RVNOC. The Central Region RVNOC had recommended funding for the full amount of \$400,000, as requested in the Proposal for the ADA compliant pathways and walkways that were described in the Proposal to be constructed at the Rose Hill Park.

On June 5, 2013 (CF No. 12-1670), the Los Angeles City Council approved the proposed Project, and awarded \$400,000 in Proposition K – L.A. for Kids program funds to the Project. The Project was listed as in the Five Year Implementation Plan and in List A as “Rose Hill Park Walking Paths – Develop New Pedestrian Path/Walkways”. These documents were approved by the City Council as the basis for awarding Proposition K funds under the 8th Cycle RFP process and for allocating Proposition K funds in the annual Proposition K Program budgets for the three-year funding cycle that was covered by that RFP process.

Subsequently, a Local Voluntary Neighborhood Oversight Committee (LVNOC) was convened; three LVNOC meetings were held; and the project design was initiated by the Bureau of Engineering’s Architectural Division staff. At its first meeting, the LVNOC and members of the community in attendance were made aware by the BOE Project Manager that the Project was located at the Rose Hill Park. The design of the Project is based on the description of the Project as identified in the Proposal, which logistically can only be located at Rose Hill Park.

On October 8, 2014, the City received an email communication from Jorge Garcia, of the El Sereno Historical Society, that disputed the fact that the Proposal for the ADA compliant pathways and walkways was intended to be at Rose Hill Park, not at the Rose Hill Recreation Center. The purpose of this Steering Committee report is to confirm that the Department of Recreation and Park’s Proposition K – L.A. for Kids grant Proposal for the 8th Cycle RFP was always intended to be at Rose Hill Park, despite the inadvertent reference to “Rose Hill Recreation Center” in some of the pages of the Proposal. Confirmation that the intended site of the Project was always Rose Hill Park is based on the following:

1. In the Proposition K – L.A. for Kids 8th Cycle Competitive Grant Proposal submitted by RAP, the project description indicated the scope of work to consist of a 310 feet ADA walking path, located in a sloped area of the park between the standalone restroom and the two existing baseball fields. The project description further stated that the proposed ADA walking path will be at a maximum five percent (5%) slope in the direction of travel; at two percent (2%) cross slope. (See Attachment #1 – Excerpt from 8th Cycle Grant Proposal). This overall project scope specifically supports the identification of Rose Hill Park as the

project site, not the recreation center. Only Rose Hill Park has two baseball fields and a standalone restroom. The Recreation Center has only one baseball field and does not have a standalone restroom.

Further, page 85 of the Proposal contains a picture/exhibit titled, "Walkway Study" that depicts the correct site (i.e., Rose Hill Park), and clearly shows the project described in the Project Description referenced in paragraph 1, above. The "Walkway Study" also clearly shows Boundary Avenue to the west of the park, and other elements that clearly depict the Rose Hill Park site, as opposed to the recreation center.

2. In a letter dated April 17, 2012, Councilmember Jose Huizar, 14th Council District, expresses his support for the subject project, stating, "The proposed project exemplifies a straightforward and cost-effective solution to increasing access to the baseball diamonds within the **park**, which is an important recreational amenity in one of our community's highly utilized **parks**. **(Emphasis added)**. (See Attachment #2, which was included in the Proposal as page 82). Note that Rose Hill Park has two baseball diamonds (whereas the recreation center only has one baseball diamond).
3. In a letter dated June 10, 2011, from Michael Shull, of the Department of Recreation and Parks, to Mr. Anthony Manzano, Vice President of the LA 32 Neighborhood Council, Mr. Shull makes reference to Mr. Manzano's comments on April 6, 2011, to the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners in support of the need for ADA accessibility for the **two** baseball fields and the standalone **restroom at Rose Hill Park**. **(Emphasis added)** (See Attachment #3, which was included in the Proposal as page 80).
4. In a letter dated April 12, 2012, the Historic Rose Hills Homeowners Association expressed its support for the improvements to be made at Rose Hill Park under the "Rose Hill Recreation Center/**Park** ADA Path Extension Project." The second paragraph of this letter states, "This project will provide a safe and ADA-accessible connection between the **park's** restrooms and its baseball diamonds, promoting safety and inclusion for all community members in the only baseball diamond in our immediate area." **(emphasis added)** (See Attachment #4, which was included in the Proposal as page 86).
5. In a Memorandum dated January 26, 2015, the Department of Recreation and Parks confirms that its Proposal inadvertently referenced "Rose Hill Recreation Center" in the title of the Project and confirms that the Department and its Proposal always intended that the proposed ADA compliant pathways and walkways were to be constructed at Rose Hill Park (not at the recreation center). (See Attachment #5).

The proposed ADA compliant pathways and walkways, as described in the Proposal, could logistically only be installed at Rose Hill Park, given the description of the configuration of the proposed improvements and the existing facilities and amenities at Rose Hill Park. Therefore, it is recommended that the L.A. for Kids Steering Committee recommend that the Los Angeles City Council find that the 8th Cycle Proposition K – L.A. for Kids Competitive Grant Proposal, submitted by the Department of Recreation and Parks on April 26, 2012, was always intended to be constructed at Rose Hill Park, for the reasons discussed herein, and that the Proposition K funds were approved to be used for the Project at Rose Hill Park, and that Proposition K staff be authorized to revise Proposition K administrative and assessment documentation, if necessary, to reflect that the approved and funded project is the “Rose Hill Park – New Pedestrian Pathways and Walkways” project.

cc:Emmett McCosker, Mayor's Office
Paul Habib, Council District 14
Mara Cecilia Ramos, CAO
Brian Randall, CLA
Michael Shull, Recreation and Parks
Cathie Santo Domingo, Recreation and Parks
Olujimi Hawes, Recreation and Parks
Isophine Atkinson, Recreation and Parks

Attachments:

1. Excerpt from 8th Cycle Grant Proposal
2. April 17, 2012 letter from Councilmember Jose Huizar
3. June 10, 2011 letter from Michael A. Shull
4. April 12, 2012 letter from Historic Rose Hill Homeowners Association
5. January 26, 2015 Memorandum from the Department of Recreation and Parks

PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND MANAGEMENT (3 pages maximum)

The City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) proposes to construct an extension to an existing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) walkway located at the Rose Hill Recreation Center that will provide ADA accessibility between the park's restrooms and baseball fields. Currently, wheelchair bound residents have no ADA access to the baseball diamonds and must watch the games from a nearby parking lot.

Several years ago, the Department installed new restrooms and an ADA path from the parking lot to the restrooms. That project did not include the construction of an ADA walkway connecting the restrooms to the baseball field, rendering the baseball fields largely inaccessible for handicapped individuals. The proposed project will remedy the situation and improve access to the Recreation Center's recreational facilities; specifically, the baseball fields.

The walkway will be built of concrete and will be approximately 310 feet long and 5 feet wide and located in a sloped area of the park. As required by ADA guidelines, it will be at a maximum five percent (5%) slope in the direction of travel; at two percent (2%) cross slope (the slope with respect to the horizon and an important safety feature); and have a 5' deep landing at every 400 feet of length, if required. In order to meet these ADA requirements, the proposed path will meander between bathrooms and fields, creating an attractive as well as utilitarian feature in the park. Since it would be situated between trees and will require boundary edges; care will be taken to ensure that the walkway does not disturb the trees' root systems.

Rose Hill Recreation Center is staffed Monday - Friday: 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM; Saturday: 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM; Sunday: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM; and Holidays: 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM. The park is closed daily from 10:00 PM to dusk. The proposed walkway will be accessible at all times that the park is open to the public.

Rose Hill Recreation Center serves over 800 individual youths annually through its sports leagues, recreation classes, and summer camp programs. In addition, many other youth utilize the park through recreational activities organized by private organizations; informal recreational opportunities; and free play in the park's open space and children's play area.

- iii. Provide a detailed narrative history of agency/organization's previous experience with capital improvement projects (including project management) and results of that involvement.

The Department of Recreation and Parks (Department), governed by the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners, has provided quality recreational services to the citizens of Los Angeles for over 100 years and is recognized as a national leader in park land operations. With an annual budget of approximately \$180 million, the Department operates and maintains over 16,000 acres of park land, while also providing recreational programming in parks, swimming pools, public golf courses, recreation centers, museums, youth camps, tennis courts, sports programs and programs for senior citizens.



JOSE HUIZAR
COUNCILMEMBER, 14TH DISTRICT

April 17, 2012

Bureau of Engineering
Prop K- L.A. for Kids Program
200 North Spring Street, Suite 1725A
Los Angeles, CA 90012

I am pleased to support the Rose Hill Recreation Center ADA Path Extension Project, which is one of the projects located in my district and part of the City of Los Angeles' Prop K grant submission.

The proposed project exemplifies a straightforward and cost-effective solution to increasing access to the baseball diamonds within the park, which is an important recreational amenity in one of our community's highly utilized parks.

I am confident that the proposed path extension will have long-term benefits for persons with disabilities, youth riding bikes, families with strollers, and many other community members who wish to safely access the baseball diamonds and park amenities.

I wholeheartedly support this project and, given the community benefit, hope that you do the same. Should you have any questions, please contact Arturo Gonzalez, in my El Sereno District Office at (323) 226-1646 or at Arturo.Gonzales@lacity.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "José Huizar".

José Huizar
Councilmember, 14th District

200 NORTH SPRING STREET, ROOM 465 • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012
PHONE: (213) 473-7014 • FAX: (213) 847-0680
EMAIL: COUNCILMEMBER.HUIZAR@LAPR.ORG

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DEPARTMENT OF
RECREATION AND PARKS
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 100
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

(213) 202-2551
FAX (213) 202-2612

MICHAEL A. SMULL
Superintendent
Planning, Construction
and Maintenance

June 10, 2011

Mr. Anthony Manzano, Vice President
LA 32 Neighborhood Council
4927 Huntington Drive, Suite 111
Los Angeles, CA 90032

Dear Mr. Manzano:

ROSE HILLS PARK - BALLFIELD ACCESSIBILITY

Thank you for attending the Board of Commissioner's meeting on April 6, 2011 and speaking about the need for pedestrian and ADA access to the two ball fields located at Rose Hills Park in El Sereno.

The Department of Recreation and Parks; Planning, Construction and Maintenance Division is aware of the accessibility community concerns at this site and have visited the park to evaluate the situation. Possible remedies to the community's request for accessibility would consist of the following elements:

- At the southern ball field - ADA ramp (approximately 160 linear feet), along with required landing areas, from the restroom to the backstop concrete pad.
- At the southern ball field - staircase (approximately 26 steps) with required landing areas.
- For access to the northern ball field - decomposed granite (DG) pathway that would run adjacent to the roadway curb from the restroom to the northern ball field. The DG path would be 480' long and could incorporate the three (3) existing picnic table concrete pads so that these picnic areas would be accessible as well.
- Re-stripe and sign additional ADA parking stalls at the north end of the existing parking lot.
- Add an ADA curb cut ramp near the rhino gate to allow for easy access to the DG path that runs to the northern ball field.

AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

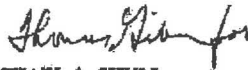


Mr. Anthony Manzano, Vice President
June 10, 2011
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We have estimated the value of these improvements to be \$350,000. We acknowledge your concerns and will continue to work with both the community and Council District 14 to identify future funding sources. Once we have identified funding source, we will actively engaged the community and Council District 14 in the design process.

If you have further questions, please contact Tom Gibson, Landscape Architect, at (213) 202-2666, or email him at tom.gibson@lacity.org.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL A. SHULL
Superintendent

MAS/TG:ls

cc: Rose Hills Park File
Reading File



April 12, 2012

Bureau of Engineering
Prop K- L.A. for Kids Program
200 North Spring Street, Suite 1725A
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Good Day, this letter is being prepared for those parties of interest regarding the request to make improvements to Rose Hill Park. It is with great pleasure that I provide this letter of support from the community for the Rose Hills Recreation Center/Park ADA Path Extension Project, a part of the City of Los Angeles' Prop K grant submission.

The community of Rose Hills takes an active role in improving the quality of life for the residents in our community. We are dedicated to our mission: to preserve and improve the quality of life by creating a safe, healthy, orderly and clean environment that promotes the community spirit of inclusion, cooperation, participation and collaboration in accordance with the wishes of the community through outstanding service. Thus, we enthusiastically support the Rose Hills Recreation Center/Park ADA Path Extension Project. This project will provide a safe and ADA-accessible connection between the park's restrooms and its baseball diamonds, promoting safety and inclusion for all community members in the only baseball diamond in our immediate area.

Thank You for the consideration in hearing the issues brought forth, with the services and improvement projects coming in the foreseeable future, the residents from our community and the City will have the adequate measures to properly protect and provide this much needed improvement to those we serve.

Should you have any questions about our support of the proposed project, please feel free to contact me at (323) 221-2021 or at rosehillsreview@yahoo.com also at topsmanzano@gmail.com.

Joe Manzano
Rose Hills community


ROSE HILLS HISTORIC HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

**DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE**

Date: January 26, 2015

To: NEIL DRUCKER, Recreation and Cultural Facilities Program Manager

From: ISOPHINE ATKINSON, Senior Management Analyst II
Department of Recreation and Parks 

SUBJECT: 8th CYCLE PROPOSITION K ROSE HILL PARK NEW PEDESTRIAN
PATHWAYS AND WALKWAYS PROJECT PROPOSAL

Background

On April 26, 2012, in response to the 8th Cycle Proposition K – L.A. for Kids Program, Request for Proposals (RFP), the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) submitted a grant proposal (Proposal) for the "Rose Hill Recreation Center" Project (Project), which consists of "new pedestrian pathways and walkways." The Proposal requested \$400,000 in Proposition K competitive grant funds to construct additional Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) walking path improvements at the Project site. The Proposal provided various required information and forms that reference the Project site address and Project information. These forms erroneously reference the "Rose Hill Recreation Center" instead of "Rose Hill Park" as the Project Name and Project Site.

Regretfully, this error has resulted in confusion with regards to the intended Project site location. As detailed within pertinent sections throughout the Proposal, it was always RAP's intent to use the requested Proposition K funds, if awarded, for the Rose Hill Park site, where the proposed capital improvements are truly needed and able to be accomplished.

On October 8, 2014, the City received an email communication from Mr. Jorge Garcia, of the El Sereno Historical Society, disputing the fact that the Proposition K 8th Cycle Proposal for the "Rose Hill Recreation Center" Project, as titled in the Proposal, was intended for the Rose Hill Park site.

Discussion

This Memorandum is to address Mr. Garcia's email and to demonstrate and confirm that Rose Hill Park was the intended Project site for Department of Recreation and Parks' (RAP) 8th Cycle Proposition K-L.A. for Kids Proposal.

The following information is provided as evidence that RAP inadvertently listed "Rose Hill Recreation Center" instead of "Rose Hill Park" as the Project name. Although these sites have different addresses (Rose Hill Park at 3606 N. Boundary Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90032; and Rose Hill Recreation Center at 4530 Mercury Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90032), they are within close proximity of each other (0.2 miles), and RAP operates and manages the sites as one entity. Stationed at the Rose Hill Recreation Center location, the same RAP Facility Director is responsible for overseeing operations at both sites. In fact, telephone contact, mail, and participant registrations for the Rose Hill Park site are received at the Rose Hill Recreation Center site. To demonstrate the close proximity of the two sites, see the Proximity View (Attachment No. 1- Proximity View).

Further evidence of Rose Hill Park as the intended Project site can be found, in part, on page 14 in RAP's Project Description and Management response, which states:

*"The City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) proposes to construct an extension to an existing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) walkway located at the Rose Hill Recreation Center that will provide ADA accessibility between the **park's** restrooms and baseball fields. Currently, wheelchair bound residents have no ADA access to the baseball diamonds and must watch the games from a nearby parking lot.*

Several years ago, the Department installed new restrooms and an ADA path from the parking lot to the restrooms. The project did not include the construction of an ADA walkway connecting the restrooms to the baseball field, rendering the baseball fields largely inaccessible for handicapped individuals. The proposed project will remedy the situation and improve access to the Recreation Center's recreational facilities; specifically, the baseball fields.

*The walkway will be built of concrete and will be approximately 310 feet long and 5 feet wide and located in a sloped area of the **park.**"*

The above Project description describes the landscape of the Rose Hill Park, as the limited size of the recreation center area would not be able to accommodate a "310 feet long" pathway in the "sloped area."

Aerial maps for Rose Hill Park and Rose Hill Recreation Center depicting the layout of each site show that elements detailed in the Proposal refer to the Rose Hill Park site layout and not the Recreation Center site are included. The Rose Hill Park Aerial Map

Mr. Drucker, Recreation and Cultural Facilities Program Manager
January 26, 2015
Page 3

shows the existing park elements, which include the existing ADA walkway, the existing restroom, and the existing two (2) baseball fields, as well as the proposed improvements, which include the proposed extension of the existing ADA walkway to connect the baseball fields to the restrooms. All of these elements are unique to Rose Hill Park (Attachment No. 2 – Rose Hill Park Aerial Map). The Rose Hill Recreation Center Aerial Map shows the existing recreation center elements, which show only one (1) baseball field and no existing ADA walkway (Attachment No. 3 – Rose Hill Recreation Center Aerial Map).

Page eighty-five (85) of the Proposal includes a picture/exhibit titled, "Walkway Study" that portrays the correct site (i.e., Rose Hill Park), and displays features of the Project described in the Project Description, as referenced in the above quote (Attachment No. 4 – Project Proposal, Page 85 – Walkway Study). The "Walkway Study" also shows Boundary Avenue to the west of the park, and other previously mentioned elements that clearly depict the Rose Hill Park site.

In conclusion, although the Proposal inadvertently referenced "Rose Hill Recreation Center" in the title of the Project, the proposed capital improvements proposed for Proposition K funds were always intended to be constructed at Rose Hill Park.

Attachments:

- Attachment No. 1 – Proximity View
- Attachment No. 2 – Rose Hill Park Aerial Map
- Attachment No. 3 – Rose Hill Recreation Center Aerial Map
- Attachment No. 4 – Project Proposal, Page 85 – Walkway Study

Attachments

IA/oah

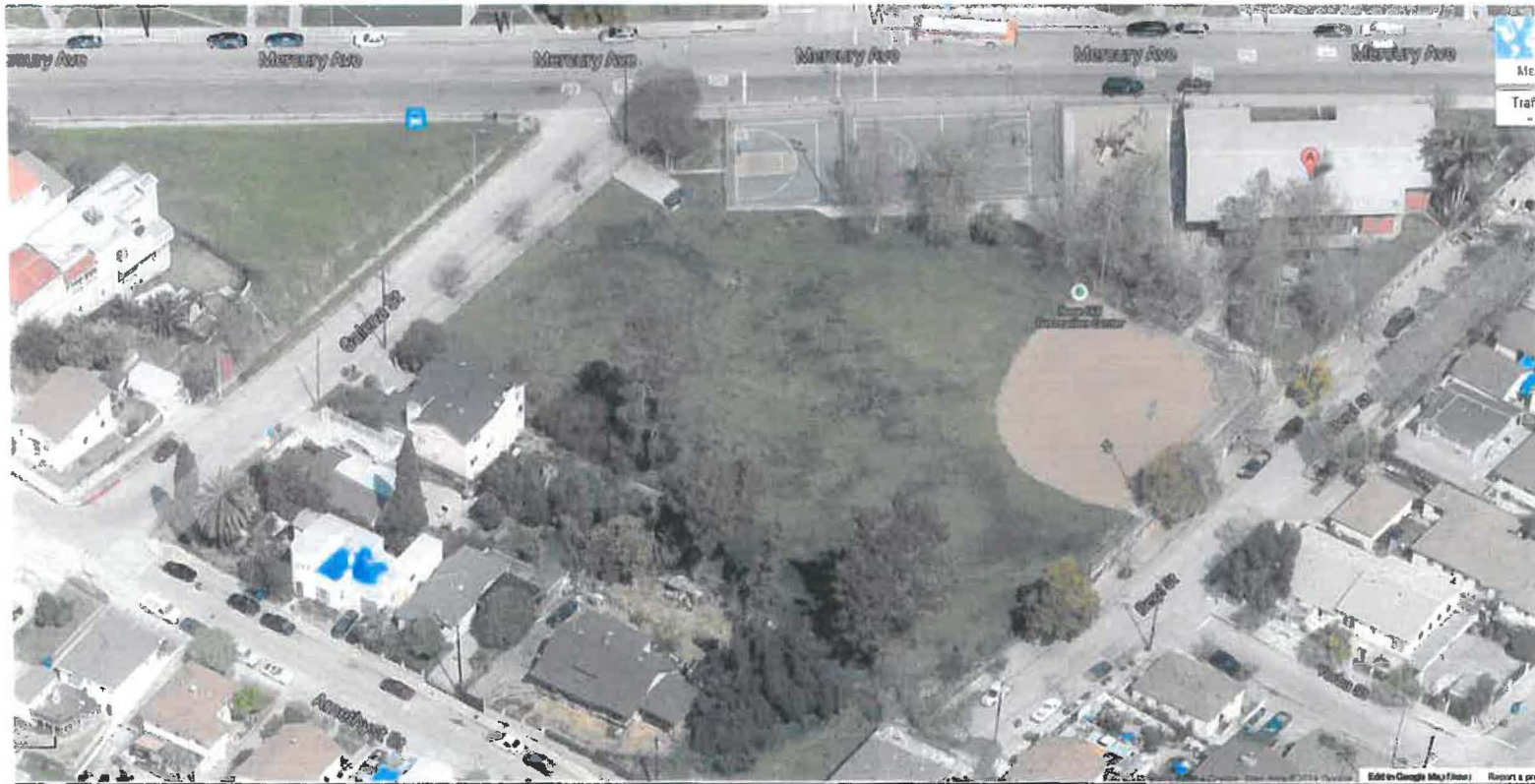
ATTACHMENT NO. 1 - PROXIMITY VIEW
ROSE HILL PARK AND ROSE HILL RECREATION CENTER



ATTACHMENT NO. 2 - AERIAL MAP
ROSE HILL PARK
3606 N. Boundary Avenue, Los Angeles



ATTACHMENT NO. 3 - AERIAL MAP
ROSE HILL RECREATION CENTER
4530 Mercury Avenue, Los Angeles



This aerial view of the recreation center depicts the lack of defining features that were described in the Proposition K 8th Cycle Proposal. For instance, there is only one (1) ball field at this site as opposed to two (2) at the Park site and the lack of an existing ADA walkway to extend between the "park's restrooms and baseball fields."

