

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE  
L.A. FOR KIDS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING, JANUARY 29, 2026  
AGENDA ( 2 )  
BUREAU OF ENGINEERING

**DATE:** January 29, 2026

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

**FROM:** Ohaji K. Abdallah, RA, Asst. Div Head, Prop K Program Manager  
Proposition K, L.A. for Kids Program  
Bureau of Engineering

ENGINEERING  
Ohaji Abdallah  
2026.01.20 11:16:39-08:00  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

**SUBJECT: GRIFFITH PARK FERRARO SOCCER FIELDS – RECLAIMED WATER SCOPE – FINDING OF INFEASIBILITY (PROPOSITION K ID# R12, COUNCIL DISTRICT #4)**

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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

1. Determine that the Reclaimed Water portion of the scope defined for the Griffith Park Ferraro Soccer Fields (R12), as specified in the 1996 Proposition K ballot measure (Ballot Measure), is infeasible for the reasons described below, as further detailed in this report:
  - a. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) has altered their approach to providing reclaimed water to sites throughout Los Angeles, and now encourages on-site reclamation of water;
  - b. The LADWP Reclaimed Water Pipeline (Purple Pipe) system does not extend to the Ferraro Soccer Fields (Fields) and LADWP does not intend to fund an extension of the Purple Pipe from the LA Glendale Water Treatment Plant (LAGWRP) Purple Pipe to the Fields;
  - c. The vast majority of the Fields have been converted to synthetic soccer fields, which reduces the overall total landscaped area at the park that can benefit from a reclaimed water system; and

- d. Constructing a new reclaimed water system within the Fields, absent an LADWP connection to provide reclaimed water to the site, would render the improvements unable to be utilized for an unknown period of time and therefore would constitute an unnecessary use of assessment funds.
2. Acknowledge that the remainder of the specified project scope has been previously completed, as further discussed below.
3. Determine that no additional alternatives have been identified that would satisfy the legal requirements of the Ballot Measure within the remaining timeline of the Proposition K – L.A. for Kids Program (Proposition K).

## **SUMMARY**

The Ferraro Soccer Fields Project (Project) is Proposition K Regional Specified Project (R12, Council District CD #4). The Ballot Measure specified that the Project would receive \$2,000,000 in Proposition K funding. In addition, the project has received \$194,408 in Proposition K, Year 9, Inflation funds and \$2,000,000 in Proposition K, year 27, GAP Funds for a total award of \$4,194,408.

The Ballot Measure specified scope for this project is as follows:

### **IMPROVEMENTS TO ATHLETIC FIELDS, REST ROOMS, POTABLE & RECLAIMED WATER, DEVELOPMENT OF PICNIC AREAS**

The various scopes of this specified line item have been designed and constructed in various phases, and each of the phases accomplished one or more of the required specified scopes. The phases, and status of each phase, are as follows, as well as the specified scopes accomplished by that phase. The only remaining and uncompleted scope item is the “Reclaimed Water” scope, which is shown as Phase III, below:

**Phase 1-** Construction of a new field house and restroom building (W.O. E170200/PRJ1714C). The project included the installation of new potable water lines to serve the building, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible drinking fountains, new picnic areas which include concrete pads, picnic tables and benches, a small playground area, and ADA compliant paths of travel. This phase of the project was funded with Proposition K and other funds. The project was completed August 20, 2004, and was accepted by the Board of Recreation and Parks (RAP Board) on January 19, 2005 (RAP Board Report No.05-17). Proposition K line-item specified scopes satisfied during this phase included the “Rest Rooms”, “Development of Picnic Areas” and “Potable Water”.

**Phase II** - Improvements to existing soccer field number five (W.O. E170375), including re-grading, re-seeding, installation of new bleachers, scoreboard, and goal posts, new decomposed granite walkways for ADA access, chain link fencing around the field's perimeter, irrigation adjustments, and expansion of the existing parking lot, including re-stripping and re-paving. The project was completed on July 1, 2009, and was accepted by the RAP Board on July 14, 2010 (RAP Board Report No. 10-69). This phase of the project satisfied the "Improvements to Athletic Fields" specified scope.

### **Phase III – (FUTURE) – Reclaimed Water (System).**

#### ***Background***

The remaining scope of the specified line item of the project, as specified in the Ballot measure, is "Reclaimed Water". Based on staff's understanding, the scope was assumed to be the construction of a Purple Pipe within the Fields, to connect to a previously planned LADWP Purple Pipe, to be used for irrigation purposes. This would serve the various natural turf fields that existed at the time of the Ballot Measure, to connect directly to the LADWP Purple Pipe that was to be built from LAGWRP. The reclaimed water would only be used for subsurface irrigation purposes and would not be a potable water source.

At the time the Ballot Measure specified project list and funding amounts were being developed, LADWP was in the early process of designing and constructing reclaimed water pipelines from the LAGWRP and Donald C. Tillman water reclamation plants for use on commercial and recreational large-scale greenspace properties. Discussions began as early as 1985 to coordinate the terms of alternative alignments for the future Purple Pipe system.

At the time that the Ballot Measure was presented to the public for consideration, the Fields were on the LADWP list of projects to be served by a future reclaimed Purple Pipe system in addition to other areas of Griffith Park.

To date, although LADWP has provided reclaimed water to other areas of Griffith Park, Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Mount Sinai Memorial Park, and the Los Angeles Zoo for landscaping purposes, LADWP has not completed the pipeline extension to the Fields. Recent communication with LADWP confirmed BOE's understanding that LADWP does not include the Fields in its near-term plans for any extensions to the existing LAGWRP Purple Pipe system.

#### ***Feasibility***

Due to the location of the Fields between the L.A. River and the I-5 Golden State Freeway and I-134 Ventura Freeway, a new pipeline would likely have to be constructed either over or under the LA River and under the I-134 Freeway as a new standalone Purple Pipe or it would have to be constructed as an extension to the LAGWRP Griffith Park line via a

pipeline under the I-5 Golden State Freeway. This would require significant design engineering, coordination and permitting with CALTRANS, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and the US Army Corps of Engineers, would not be completed in a timely manner, even if said options were funded by LADWP.

It should be noted that the Department of Recreation and Parks has turned most of the existing natural turf soccer fields into synthetic turf fields at the Fields. Four (4) of the synthetic turf fields are underlaid with an extensive drainage system which collects and treats rainwater, including any minor excess water from the underground field misting system, re-uses the treated water on-site or drains it into the adjacent LA River if the collection system fills.

In addition, the landscaping at the Fields has been reduced in area and replaced by drought tolerant landscaping. Therefore, adding a Purple Pipe system to the Fields would not be useful nor cost-effective due to the minimal water use of the facility and the fact that the drainage system underlying four of the synthetic turf fields are retaining and either re-using on-site, or releasing, water to the LA River. The use of reclaimed water would not be significant due to the onsite collection system already present and reclaimed water can only be used for subsurface irrigation and cannot be used to cool down the artificial turf fields.

### ***Conclusion***

Therefore, for the reasons set forth in this report, and inasmuch as:

1. There are no current plans by LADWP to provide a new, or extension to an existing, Purple Pipe to the Fields, and thus the construction of a Purple Pipe system at the Fields would not result in an improvement that could be efficiently utilized; and,
2. Installation of a reclaimed water system would provide negligible reduction in water use at the site due to the existing underground water drainage and collection/treatment/on-site re-use system.

It is therefore recommended that the “Reclaimed Water” scope component of the Fields project be found to be infeasible. Assuming the Reclaimed Water portion of the overall project scope is found to be infeasible, a future report would be brought to the Steering Committee to reprogram any remaining, unspent funds in the project in accordance with the requirements of the Proposition K program.