



Board of Education Report

File #: Rep-009-23/24, **Version:** 1

**Define and Approve Five Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
August 22, 2023**

Facilities Services Division

Action Proposed:

Define and approve five Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects at Liberty Boulevard Elementary School, Limerick Avenue Elementary School, Los Angeles Elementary School, Sun Valley Magnet, and Sylvan Park Elementary School (Projects), as described on Exhibit A, and amend the Facilities Services Division (Facilities) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to incorporate therein. The total combined budget for the five proposed Projects is \$600,000.

Background:

The SEEDS Program supports the development of projects that will enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school-based and community-led efforts (Program). There are two components to the Program:

1. Development of the outdoor learning space constructed by Los Angeles Unified which includes capital investments, such as asphalt removal, installation of irrigation and utilities, and any associated testing and inspection.
2. Collaboration with a school site and/or partner organization that will outfit the outdoor learning space with the plant materials and landscaping features that align with the school's instructional vision and program. This component is essential to the success of each project.

Potential projects are identified through proposals submitted by schools and/or partners. A school site by itself, or in cooperation with a partner organization, may submit a SEEDS application to receive up to \$100,000 to create or improve an outdoor learning space. An additional \$50,000 is now available to schools ranked in the top 150 on the Los Angeles Unified Greening Index of schools in need of green space (Greening Index).

The Greening Index ranks the five schools as follows: Liberty Boulevard Elementary School (155), Limerick Avenue Elementary School (594), Los Angeles Elementary School (56), Sun Valley Magnet (573), and Sylvan Park Elementary School (57), and therefore Los Angeles Elementary School and Sylvan Park Elementary School are eligible for the additional \$50,000 allocation.

District staff evaluates the proposals based on the specific criteria and requirements outlined in the SEEDS Program Guide to ensure each proposal meets the eligibility requirements. Proposals must include a written project narrative describing the project scope, an explanation of how the project will be integrated into the school's curriculum, and confirmation of the availability of resources to outfit and maintain the outdoor learning space. The recommended projects included in this Board Report have been reviewed and have been found to comply with the program requirements, including feasibility and equitable distribution throughout the

District.

Bond Oversight Committee Recommendations:

This item was considered by the School Construction Bond Citizens' Oversight Committee (BOC) at its meeting on August 10, 2023. Staff has concluded that this proposed Facilities SEP amendment is in alignment with BOC recommendations and will facilitate Los Angeles Unified's ability to successfully implement the Facilities SEP.

Expected Outcomes:

Approval of this proposed action will enable staff to proceed with the design and construction of these five projects. Approval of these greening projects will improve the learning environment for students, teachers, and staff, increase sustainability, and enhance the outdoor school environment.

Board Options and Consequences:

Approval of this proposed action will authorize staff to proceed with the expenditure of Bond Program funds to execute these projects that support educational programs related to nutrition, health, literacy, math, and science. If these projects are not approved, the school sites will not benefit from the creation of these outdoor learning spaces.

Policy Implications:

The proposed action is consistent with the District's long-term goal to address unmet school facilities needs and provide students with safe and healthy learning environments. The action is also aligned with Board Resolutions that reiterate Los Angeles Unified's commitment to creating green learning spaces (Expand Sustainable Schoolyards and Environmental Initiatives and Curriculum Board Resolution adopted on April 16, 2013, Creating New School Gardens and Campus and Community-Shared Green Spaces to Provide Outdoor Learning Opportunities and Create Sustainable and Healthy Environments adopted on February 9, 2021, and Green Schools for All: Equitable Funding and Expansion of Green Spaces across District Campuses adopted on September 27, 2022). The proposed action advances Los Angeles Unified's 2022-2026 Strategic Plan Pillar 2 Joy and Wellness Welcoming Learning Environments by developing safe and sustainable green spaces, outdoor learning environments, and shaded areas at schools.

Budget Impact:

The combined project budget for the five proposed projects is \$600,000. The projects will be funded with Bond Program funds earmarked specifically for school upgrades and reconfigurations to support wellness, health, athletics, learning, and efficiency.

Student Impact:

The proposed SEEDS projects at Liberty Boulevard Elementary School, Limerick Avenue Elementary School, Los Angeles Elementary School, Sun Valley Magnet, and Sylvan Park Elementary School will provide outdoor learning spaces that create environments for student-centered, experiential, and engaged learning. These SEEDS learning gardens will facilitate educational programs related to nutrition, health, literacy, math, and science, and may also be used during recess and lunchtime by approximately 3,410 students. These projects also encourage and support community, student, and parent engagement through the creation of partnerships that help establish and maintain the newly developed garden spaces.

Equity Impact:

Potential projects are identified through proposals submitted by schools and/or partners. A school by itself or in cooperation with a partner organization may submit an application for a SEEDS project for up to \$100,000.

Schools ranked in the top 150 on the Greening Index will receive an additional \$50,000 for their SEEDS project. Two of the five projects included in this Board Report qualify for this additional funding.

Issues and Analysis:

In order to ensure the long-term permanence of each SEEDS project, the school site and/or its partner organization must enter into a Maintenance Agreement that provides for the on-going maintenance of the proposed outdoor learning space.

Attachments:

Exhibit A - Five SEEDS Projects

Exhibit B - BOC Resolution

Informatives:


None

Submitted:

July 20, 2023

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

APPROVED BY:


ALBERTO M. CARVALHO
Superintendent


PEDRO SALCIDO
Deputy Superintendent, Business Services & Operations

REVIEWED BY:

APPROVED BY:


DEVORA NAVERA REED
General Counsel

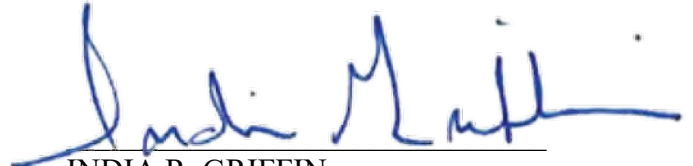

KRISZTINA TOKES
Chief Facilities Executive
Facilities Services Division

☒ Approved as to form.

REVIEWED BY:

PRESENTED BY:


NOLBERTO DELGADILLO
Deputy Chief Business Officer, Finance


INDIA R. GRIFFIN
Director of Facilities Maintenance & Operations
Facilities Services Division

☒ Approved as to budget impact statement.

Exhibit A

Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS)

Item	Board District	Region	School	Partner Organization	Project Description	Project Budget**	Anticipated Construction Start	Anticipated Construction Completion
1	5	E	Liberty Boulevard Elementary School	School	Construct an outdoor learning environment of approximately 2,300 square feet. The project includes the removal of asphalt and adding new decomposed granite, concrete benches, salvaged log benches and stools, and native planting areas with shade trees. The school will provide the drought tolerant shrubs and plants.	\$ 100,000	Q3-2024	Q1-2025
2	3	N	Limerick Avenue Elementary School	Enrich LA	Construct an outdoor learning environment of approximately 2,700 square feet. The project includes the removal of asphalt and adding new decomposed granite, salvaged log benches and stools, picnic tables, and native planting areas with shade trees. The school will provide the drought tolerant plants.	\$ 100,000	Q3-2024	Q1-2025
3	5	W	Los Angeles Elementary School	Garden School Foundation	Construct an outdoor learning environment of approximately 3,500 square feet. The project includes the removal of asphalt and adding new decomposed granite, concrete seat walls, salvaged log benches and stools, and native planting areas with shade trees. The school will provide the drought tolerant shrubs and plants.	\$150,000	Q3-2024	Q1-2025
4	6	N	Sun Valley Magnet School*	School	Construct an outdoor learning environment and native garden of approximately 4,200 square feet. The project includes the removal of existing grass and adding new decomposed granite, salvaged log benches and stools, and native planting areas with shade trees. The school will provide the shrubs.	\$ 100,000	Q3-2024	Q1-2025
5	3	N	Sylvan Park Elementary School	School	Construct an outdoor learning environment and edible garden area of approximately 4,000 square feet. The project includes the removal of asphalt and adding new decomposed granite, raised planter beds, salvaged log benches and stools, garden tables and storage, and native planting areas with shade trees. The school will provide the edible garden plants.	\$ 150,000	Q3-2024	Q1-2025
						\$ 600,000		

*LAUSD school with co-located charter(s)

**Project budget reflects the design services and improvements undertaken by the District. The outfitting and maintenance of the outdoor learning space will be provided by the school site community and/or partner organization.

Greening Index:

Liberty Boulevard Elementary School Index Rank No. 155

Limerick Avenue Elementary School Index Rank No. 594

Los Angeles Elementary School Index Rank No. 56

Sun Valley Magnet School Index Rank No. 573

Sylvan Park Elementary School Index Rank No. 57

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Margaret Fuentes, Chair

LAUSD Student Parent

D. Michael Hamner, FAIA, Vice-Chair

American Institute of Architects

Samantha Rowles, Secretary

LAUSD Student Parent

Robert Campbell, Executive Committee

L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

Scott Pansky, Executive Committee

L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce

Neelura Bell

CA Charter School Association

Jeffrey Fischbach

CA Tax Reform Assn.

Chris Hannan

L.A. Co. Federation of Labor AFL-CIO

Patrick MacFarlane

Early Education Coalition

Jennifer McDowell

L.A. City Mayor's Office

Brian Mello

Assoc. General Contractors of CA

Dr. Clarence Monteclaro

Tenth District PTSA

William O. Ross IV

31st District PTSA

Dolores Sobalvarro

AARP

Chad Boggio (Alternate)

L.A. Co. Federation of Labor AFL-CIO

Connie Yee (Alternate)

L.A. Co. Auditor-Controller's Office

Vacant

L.A. City Controller's Office

Joseph P. Buchman – Legal Counsel

Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP

Lori Raineri and Keith Weaver – Oversight

Consultants

Government Financial Services Joint

Powers Authority

Timothy Popejoy

Bond Oversight Administrator

Perla Zitle

Bond Oversight Coordinator

RESOLUTION 2023-21

BOARD REPORT 009-23/24

RECOMMENDING BOARD APPROVAL TO DEFINE AND APPROVE FIVE SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS AND AMEND THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO INCORPORATE THEREIN

WHEREAS, District Staff proposes the Board of Education define and approve five Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects at Liberty Boulevard Elementary School, Limerick Avenue Elementary School, Los Angeles Elementary School, Sun Valley Magnet, and Sylvan Park Elementary School (Projects), which have a total combined budget of \$600,000, and amend the Facilities Services Division (Facilities) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to incorporate therein, as defined in Board Report No. 009-23/24; and

WHEREAS, The SEEDS Program was established to support the development of projects that will enhance school sites by creating outdoor learning spaces in collaboration with school-based and community-led efforts (Program); and

WHEREAS, Potential projects are identified through proposals submitted by schools and/or partners. A school site by itself, or in cooperation with a partner organization, may submit a SEEDS application to receive up to \$100,000 to create or improve an outdoor learning space. An additional \$50,000 is now available to schools ranked in the top 150 on the Los Angeles Unified Greening Index of schools in need of green space; and

WHEREAS, District Staff evaluated proposals based on the specific criteria and requirements outlined in the SEEDS Program guide to ensure each proposal meets the eligibility requirements and includes a written project narrative describing the project scope, an explanation of how the project will be integrated into the school's curriculum, and confirmation of the availability of resources to outfit and maintain the outdoor learning space, and the projects being recommended were reviewed and are found to be in compliance with the Program requirements; and

RESOLUTION 2023-21**RECOMMENDING BOARD APPROVAL TO DEFINE AND APPROVE FIVE SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS AND AMEND THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO INCORPORATE THEREIN**

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Unified Greening Index ranks Liberty Boulevard Elementary School (155), Limerick Avenue Elementary School (594), Los Angeles Elementary School (56), Sun Valley Magnet (573), and Sylvan Park Elementary School (57); and

WHEREAS, Liberty Boulevard Elementary School, Limerick Avenue Elementary School, and Sun Valley Magnet will receive \$100,000 for their SEEDS projects, and Los Angeles Elementary School and Sylvan Park Elementary School will receive \$150,000 for their SEEDS projects. The projects will be funded with Bond Program funds earmarked specifically for school upgrades and reconfigurations to support wellness, health, athletics, learning, and efficiency; and

WHEREAS, In order to ensure the long-term permanence of each SEEDS project, the school site and/or its partner organization must enter into a Maintenance Agreement that provides for the on-going maintenance of the proposed outdoor learning space; and

WHEREAS, District Staff has concluded that this proposed Facilities SEP amendment will facilitate Los Angeles Unified's ability to successfully complete the Facilities SEP.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The School Construction Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee (BOC) recommends the Board of Education define and approve five SEEDS Projects at Liberty Boulevard Elementary School, Limerick Avenue Elementary School, Los Angeles Elementary School, Sun Valley Magnet, and Sylvan Park Elementary School, with a total combined budget of \$600,000, and amend the Facilities SEP to incorporate therein, as defined in Board Report 009-23/24, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference.
2. This resolution shall be transmitted to the Los Angeles Unified Board and posted on the BOC's website.
3. Los Angeles Unified is directed to track the above recommendation and to report on the adoption, rejection, or pending status of the recommendations as provided in section 6.2 of the Charter and Memorandum of Understanding between the BOC and Los Angeles Unified.

ADOPTED on August 10, 2023, by the following vote:

AYES: 12

ABSTENTIONS: 0

NAYS: 0

ABSENCES: 3

/Michael Hamner/

D. Michael Hamner
Vice-Chair

/Samantha Rowles/

Samantha Rowles
Secretary