



Board of Education Report

File #: Rep-011-22/23, **Version:** 1

**Define and Approve Three Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) Projects and Amend the Facilities Services Division Strategic Execution Plan to Incorporate Therein
August 30, 2022
Facilities Services Division**

Action Proposed:

Define and approve three Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects at Manchester Avenue Elementary School, Sheridan Street Elementary School, and Park Avenue Elementary School, as described on Attachment A. The total combined budget for the three projects is \$350,000.

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. 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 ("SEEDS+" funding) is now available to schools ranked in the top 150 on the Los Angeles Unified Greening Index of schools in need of green space.

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.

Sheridan Street Elementary School and Park Avenue Elementary School will receive \$100,000 for their SEEDS projects, and Manchester Avenue Elementary School qualifies for an additional \$50,000 in "SEEDS+" funding to receive \$150,000 for its project.

Expected Outcomes:

Approval of this proposed action will enable staff to proceed with the design and construction of these three 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 and *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).

Budget Impact:

The combined project budget for the three proposed projects is \$350,000. 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 Manchester Avenue Elementary School, Sheridan Street Elementary School, and Park Avenue 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 lunch-time by the 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.

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.

Bond Oversight Committee Recommendations:

This item was considered by the School Construction Bond Citizen's Oversight Committee (BOC) at its meeting on August 11, 2022. 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.

Attachments:

Attachment A - Three SEEDS Projects
Attachment B - BOC Resolution

Informatives:

None.

Submitted:

8/3/22

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,


ALBERTO M. CARVALHO
Superintendent


APPROVED BY:


MEGAN K. REILLY
Deputy Superintendent

REVIEWED BY:



DEVORA NAVERA REED
General Counsel

APPROVED BY:



MARK HOVATTER
Chief Facilities Executive
Facilities Services Division

Approved as to form.

REVIEWED BY:


TONY ATIENZA
Director, Budget Services and Financial Planning

PRESENTED BY:


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

Approved as to budget impact statement.

Board of Education Report

ATTACHMENT A

Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS)

Local District	BD	School Name	Partner Organization	Project Description	Project Budget*	Est. Schedule	
						Start	Finish
East	2	Sheridan St Elementary School	School	Construct an outdoor learning and gathering space of approximately 1,800 square feet. Includes the excavation of existing asphalt and the addition of decomposed granite, concrete headers, and permeable pavers. Log benches and stools will be provided. A concrete seat wall will be added to provide more seating under the trees. Seven trees will be installed with irrigation. The school will provide shrubs and groundcovers for the Hummingbird Habitat/Native plant garden.	\$100,000	Q4 2022	Q2 2023
East	5	Park Ave Elementary School	School	Construct an outdoor learning environment and edible garden consisting of approximately 2,600 square feet. Includes the excavation of existing asphalt and the addition of decomposed granite, composite wood headers, and permeable pavers. The edible garden will include eight raised garden beds, potting benches, compost tumbler, and a tool storage shed. The outdoor learning environment will include six shade trees with logs and stools for seating. The school will provide plants and shrubs.	\$100,000	Q1 2023	Q3 2023
South	1	Manchester Avenue Elementary School	School	Construct an outdoor learning and gathering space consisting of approximately 7,400 square feet. Includes the installation of interlocking concrete pavers to create a stage, concrete headers to create a border around the garden, new trees, mulch, a new irrigation system, and metal benches to create an outdoor learning environment. The school will provide shrubs and groundcover for a butterfly/hummingbird habitat, metal benches, and a new natural grass field. This project qualifies for "SEEDS+" funding.	\$150,000	Q1 2023	Q3 2023
TOTAL					\$350,000		

*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.

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION BOND CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE****Margaret Fuentes, Chair**

LAUSD Student Parent

D. Michael Hamner, Vice-Chair

American Institute of Architects

Jennifer McDowell, Secretary

L.A. City Mayor's Office

Susan Linschoten, Executive Committee

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

Scott Pansky, Executive Committee

L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce

Jeffrey Fischbach

CA Tax Reform Assn.

Chris Hannan

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

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Early Education Coalition

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Early Education Coalition

Chad Boggio (Alternate)

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

Connie Yee (Alternate)

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

Vacant31st District PTSA**Vacant**

Assoc. General Contractors of CA

Vacant

CA Charter School Association

Vacant

Tenth District PTSA

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RESOLUTION 2022-35**BOARD REPORT NO. 011-22/23**

**RECOMMENDING BOARD APPROVAL TO DEFINE AND APPROVE THREE
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 three Sustainable Environment Enhancement Developments for Schools (SEEDS) projects at Manchester Avenue Elementary School, Sheridan Street Elementary School, and Park Avenue Elementary School, and amend the Facilities Services Division (Facilities) Strategic Execution Plan (SEP) to incorporate therein, as defined in Board Report No. 011-22/23, a copy of which is attached hereto in the form it was presented to the BOC and is incorporated herein by reference, which has a total combined budget of \$350,000; 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; 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 ("SEEDS+" funding) 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

**RESOLUTION 2022-35
RECOMMENDING BOARD APPROVAL TO DEFINE AND APPROVE THREE SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT ENHANCEMENT DEVELOPMENTS FOR SCHOOLS (SEEDS) PROJECTS AND AMEND THE FACILITIES SERVICES DIVISION STRATEGIC EXECUTION PLAN TO INCORPORATE THEREIN**

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

WHEREAS, Sheridan Street Elementary School and Park Avenue Elementary School will receive \$100,000 for their SEEDS projects, and Manchester Avenue Elementary School qualifies for an additional \$50,000 in “SEEDS+” funding to receive \$150,000 for its project. 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 recommends the Board of Education define and approve three SEEDS projects at Manchester Avenue Elementary School, Sheridan Street Elementary School, and Park Avenue Elementary School, with a total combined budget of \$350,000, and amend the Facilities SEP to incorporate therein, as defined in Board Report 011-22/23, 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 School District Board of Education and posted on the Oversight Committee’s website.
3. The District 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 Oversight Committee and the District.

ADOPTED on August 11, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: 8

ABSTENTIONS: 0

NAYS: 0

ABSENCES: 3

/Margaret Fuentes/

Margaret Fuentes
Chair

/Michael Hamner/

D. Michael Hamner
Vice-Chair

Bond Oversight Committee

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