



Joshua Sweeney
Mayor

Don Caskey
Mayor Pro Tempore

Jared Mathis
Council Member

Erica Pezold
Council Member

Dave Wheeler
Council Member

City of Laguna Hills City Council

Special Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, February 4, 2025 - 4:00 PM

City Council Chamber
24035 El Toro Road
Laguna Hills, CA 92653

In Person Public Comments: Any person wishing to address the City Council only on items listed on this Agenda, is asked to complete a pink “Request to Speak” form available on the table at the back of the Chamber and submit the form to the City Clerk. The Request to Speak form assists the Mayor in ensuring that all persons wishing to address the City Council are recognized and ensures accurate identification of meeting participants in the City Council Minutes. Completion of the form is voluntary. It is City policy to limit public testimony to up to three minutes per person, as determined by the Mayor, and a total time limit of one hour for Public Comments. If you are commenting on an Agenda item, your comments will be heard at the time that item is scheduled on the Agenda. If you are addressing the City Council on an item not listed on the Agenda, the City Council is prohibited by law from discussing or taking any action on that item.

Submission of Electronic Public Comments: Those wishing to make electronic public comments may submit their comments by [email to the City Clerk](#) by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 2025. In the subject line of the email, please state your name and the item number you are commenting on. Any public comment received that does not specify a particular agenda item number will be announced during the general public comment portion of the agenda. All comments received by 2:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting will be provided to the City Council and will be provided for public inspection at the meeting. During the applicable agenda item, the City Clerk will announce the name of the sender and subject matter of all electronic comments received by 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 4, 2025. Email comments will NOT be read by the City Clerk during the meeting. Electronic public comments may only be submitted via email and comments via text and social media (Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), etc.) will not be accepted.

For questions or assistance, please contact the City Clerk’s Office at (949) 707-2635 or via [email](#).

Call to Order

Resolution No. 96-04-09-1 established rules of decorum for public meetings held by the City of Laguna Hills. Resolution No. 96-04-09-1 is available on the table at the back of the City Council Chamber.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Sweeney

Roll Call of City Council Members

Public Comments

Members of the public may address the City Council only on items listed on this Agenda. Public Comments are limited to three minutes per person, as determined by the Mayor, and a total time limit of one hour.

City Council Workshop Items

1 Presentation of Community Outreach Work Efforts for Park Improvements at El Conejo Park, Mackenzie Park, Cabot Park, Veeh Ranch Park, and San Remo Park

Recommendation: That the City Council receive a presentation from David Volz Design Landscape Architects, Inc. on the community outreach results for El Conejo Park and Mackenzie Park and a presentation from RJM Design Group, Inc. on the community outreach results for Cabot Park, Veeh Ranch Park, and San Remo Park.

Adjournment

The next Regular Meeting of the City Council/Planning Agency will be February 11, 2025, at 6:00p.m., in the City Council Chamber, located at 24035 El Toro Road, Laguna Hills, California.

CERTIFICATION

I, JENNIFER LEE, City Clerk of the City of Laguna Hills, do hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Agenda was posted at Laguna Hills City Hall, Laguna Hills Community Center, and the Courtyard at La Paz Center by February 3, 2025, at 5:00p.m.



Jennifer Lee, CMC, City Clerk

It is the intention of the City of Laguna Hills to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act in all respects. If as an attendee or a participant at this meeting you will need special assistance beyond what is normally provided, the City of Laguna Hills will attempt to accommodate you in every reasonable manner. Please contact the office of the City Clerk at (949) 707 2635. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting.

Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the City Council after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the City Clerk's Office at 24035 El Toro Road, Laguna Hills, California, during normal business hours. In addition, such writings or documents will be made available for public review on the City's website at: <https://www.lagunahillsca.gov/supplementalagenda> and at the respective public meeting.



City of Laguna Hills City Council / Planning Agency Staff Report

Date: February 4, 2025
To: Mayor and Council Members
From: Joe Ames, Public Works Director/City Engineer
Issue: Presentation of Community Outreach Work Efforts for Park Improvements at El Conejo Park, Mackenzie Park, Cabot Park, Veeh Ranch Park, and San Remo Park.

Recommendation: That the City Council receive a presentation from David Volz Design Landscape Architects, Inc. on the community outreach results for El Conejo Park and Mackenzie Park and a presentation from RJM Design Group, inc. on the community outreach results for Cabot Park, Veeh Ranch Park, and San Remo Park.

Background:

At the November 21, 2023 City Council meeting, City Council transferred all available Quimby Act Park In-Lieu funds to Capital Improvement Project No. 241, General Park Improvements. The Quimby Act Park In-Lieu funds must be spent by the City on developing new parks, or rehabilitating or enhancing existing parks or recreational facilities/recreational amenities, and must be committed within five years of receiving the funding.

As part of the City staff report, City staff wrote they evaluated the City's 14 existing parks and chose five parks with the highest need for recreational facility rehabilitation and/or enhancements: Cabot Park, El Conejo Park, MacKenzie Park, San Remo Park, and Veeh Ranch Park.

It is anticipated that the renovation of these parks will be predominantly paid for with "Quimby Act funds," which are funds local developers pay as "in lieu" park fees. The City has already received \$2 million in Quimby Act funds and anticipates receiving \$2 million more in 2026.

Subsequently, on January 29, 2024, City staff released Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to solicit proposals from design professionals and qualified firms for park design services for the rehabilitation of the parks.

On May 14, 2024, the City Council awarded a Professional Services Agreement to David Volz Design Landscape Architects, Inc. (DVD) for landscape architectural design services for El Conejo Park and MacKenzie Park and awarded a Professional Services Agreement to RJM Design Group, Inc. (RJM) for landscape architectural design services for Cabot Park, Veeh Ranch Park, and San Remo Park.

One of the goals of these agreements is for DVD and RJM to develop conceptual designs of park improvements at these parks. An essential and first step in this process was for each firm to conduct public outreach for improvements at each of these parks and to compile an inventory and condition assessment of existing park amenities.

DVD held two public workshops at each park as illustrated in the table below to elicit public input for potential park improvements. Additionally, DVD conducted surveys for residents to provide comments and suggestions on park improvements.

Park	Workshop Date
El Conejo Park	Wednesday, July 31 from 6pm to 8pm Saturday, August 10 from 10am to 11:30am

Park	Workshop Date
Mackenzie Park	Thursday, August 1 from 6pm to 8pm Saturday, August 10 from 1pm to 2:30pm

RJM also held two public workshops at each park as illustrated in the table below to elicit public input for potential park improvements. Additionally, RJM conducted surveys for residents to provide comments and suggestions on park improvements.

Park	Workshop Date
Veeh Ranch Park	Saturday, July 20 from 9am to 11am Wednesday, July 24 from 4pm to 6pm
San Remo Park	Saturday, July 27 from 9am to 11am Tuesday, July 30 from 4pm to 6pm

Cabot Park

Saturday, August 3 from 9am to 11am

Tuesday, August 6 from 4pm to 6pm

The Parks and Recreation Commission received presentations from the consulting firms on the results of the public outreach work efforts and park inventories at two Parks and Recreation Commission workshops held on September 16, 2024, and September 18, 2024. At the two workshops, the Parks and Recreation Commission and the public provided feedback on the community requested items listed in the presentations for the consideration of the City Council.

As part of the evaluation process, it was also determined that the existing restroom building at Cabot Park needs renovation and the Cabot Park project may benefit from additional value engineering to determine if the existing age 5-12 playground “super structure” (the upright posts) could be reused to save funds and allow for the renovation of the existing adjoining restroom building. In October and November 2024, City staff worked with RJM Design Group to develop a scope and budget for the restroom building renovation work and with Coast Recreation Group to determine if the age 5-12 playground super structure could be reused. While it was determined that the playground super structure can be reused, City staff concluded the likely cost of renovating the restroom building would not be entirely offset by reusing the age 5-12 playground super structure. Therefore, this additional work will be recommended by City staff for inclusion in the future FY 2025-2027 biennial budget.

Now, as part of receiving a presentation from David Volz Design Landscape Architects, Inc. and RJM Design Group, Inc. on the community outreach results and the Parks and Recreation Commission's recommendations, the next step in the process is for City Council to provide direction to City staff and the consultants on the elements to be included in three potential “low,” “medium,” and “high” construction cost conceptual designs for each park.

Subsequently, the design consultants will return to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the City Council with three conceptual designs and cost estimates for each park. Once the preferred conceptual design is approved by City Council for each park, the consultants will develop final design plans and bid documents.

Fiscal Impact:

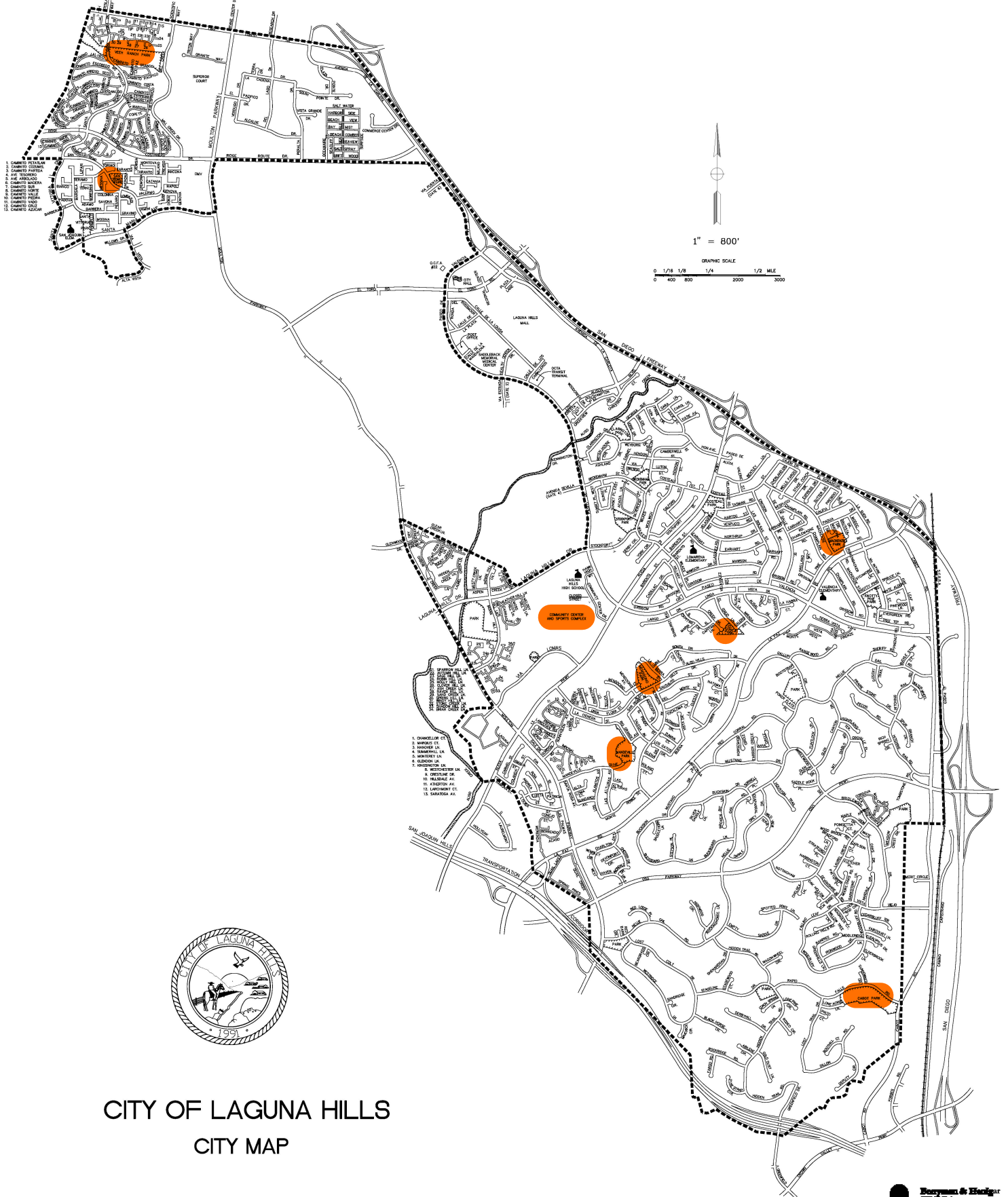
CIP No. 241 (General Park Renovations) is active in fiscal year 2024/2025 and currently has an appropriated budget of \$2,248,209.68, which includes \$2,004,696.68 in Quimby Act Park In-Lieu fees. After factoring in future payments for design services to the

consulting firms, there is an unencumbered balance of \$1,644,563.48 remaining. It is anticipated the City will receive an additional \$2 million in Quimby Act Park In-Lieu fees in April 2026. If those funds are allocated to CIP No. 241, combined with the current unencumbered balance, that would provide near-term funding totaling approximately \$3.6 million for park construction and other design services. Whether this budget is sufficient for the anticipated park improvements is dependent on the chosen conceptual and final design plans.

Attachments:

1. Park Improvements Location Map
2. Summary of Parks & Recreation Commission Comments

1. CAMINITO ROSARIO
2. CAMINITO PLANES
3. CAMINITO ANTERIA
4. CAMINITO WEST
5. CAMINITO DONOSO
6. CAMINITO DAVIA
7. AVENIDA VOLVERDE
8. BAYVIEW COURT
9. CAMINITO FLORES
10. CAMINITO ALBA
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CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS CITY MAP



Cabot Park Community Feedback

What new park amenities would you most like to see in Cabot Park?	Parks & Recreation Commission Recommendation for Inclusion
Field Lighting	No
Baseball Fencing Needs	Maybe
Baseball Enhancements	Maybe
Parking at Maintenance Entrance	No
Fitness Training Circuit	No
Dedicated Soccer/Football Field	No
Restroom Improvements	Yes
Snack Shack Improvements	No
Update Playground	Yes
Splash Pad	No
Lights	Yes
Additional Trees	No
Dog Drinking Fountain	Yes
Native Plants	Yes

(Native Plants)

What existing park amenities would you like to see improved or renovated at Cabot Park?	Parks & Recreation Commission Recommendation for Inclusion
Baseball Field Improvements	Maybe
Restroom Improvements	Yes
Snack Shack Improvements	No
Parking at Maintenance Entrance	No
Update Playground	Yes

Playground Style Recommendation: Sports

Online Survey Requests	Parks & Recreation Commission Recommendation for Inclusion
Shade/Shaded Seating	Yes
Play Area Improvements	Yes
Restroom	Yes
Splash Pad	No
Additional Trees	Yes
Upgraded Light Fixtures	Yes
Parking Issues at Rapid Falls	No
Native Planting	yes
Dog Drinking Fountain	yes

San Remo Park Community Feedback

What new park amenities would you most like to see in San Remo Park?	Parks & Recreation Commission Recommendation for Inclusion
Playground Structure	Yes
Basketball Court	Maybe - Low Priority
Seating (Picnic Tables & Benches)	Yes
Drinking Fountains/Bottle Filling Stations	Yes
Pickelball Court	No
Fitness	Maybe
Shade	Yes
Dog Amenities	No dog run
Pollinator Garden	Maybe
Water Feature	No
Lighting	Yes
Restroom	No
Splash Pad	No

(Native Plants)

Playground Style Recommendation: Rock Climbing

What existing park amenities would you like to see improved or renovated at San Remo Park?	Parks & Recreation Commission Recommendation for Inclusion
Playground equipment improvements	Yes
Tennis Court Updates	Yes (without pickle ball)
Repurpose Volleyball Court	Yes
Swings	Yes
Improve Volleyball Court	No
Renovate everything	No
Seating	Yes
Lighting	Yes
Shade	Yes

Veeh Ranch Park Community Feedback

What new park amenities would you most like to see in Veeh Ranch Park?	Parks & Recreation Commission Recommendation for Inclusion	
Additional Seating	Yes	
Shade	Yes	(Shade sails over playground)
Playground	Yes	
Water Play	No	
Picnic	Yes	limited to picnic benches and not picnic shelters
Exercise Station	Maybe	(Along path)
Parking	No	
Restrooms	No	
Tennis/Pickleball Courts	No	
Climbing Structure	Yes	
Additional Dog Bag Stations	Yes	
Additional Drinking Fountains	Maybe	
Landscaping & Maintenance	Yes	(More Trees)

What existing park amenities would you like to see improved or renovated at Veeh Ranch Park?	Parks & Recreation Commission Recommendation for Inclusion
Playgournd Improvements	Yes
Sports Court Improvements	No
General Park Improvements	Yes

Online Survey Requests	Parks & Recreation Commission Recommendation for Inclusion
Dog Park	No

El Conejo Park Community Feedback

Community Feedback Requests for Improvements at El Conejo Park	Commission Recommendation for Inclusion	
Added Shade throughout Park	Yes	
Shade over Playground	Yes	
More Seating	Yes	
More BBQs	Yes	(addition of 1)
Splash Pad	No	
Add Bathrooms	No	
Improve Sight into Playground	Yes	(landscape maintenance/plants obscure view of playground)
No Bathrooms	Yes	
Pump Track for Bikes	No	
Added Lighting	Yes	
More Owl Boxes	Yes	(with the idea that it should be an eagle scout project)
Roller Hockey/Lacrosse/Skate Park	No	
Less Sand at Playground	Yes	(prefer rubberized surface/no sand at all)
Drinking Fountain with Dog Fountain	Yes	
Update Basketball Court	Yes	(specifically address the drainage and vegetation issue affecting court)
Widen Sidewalk	No	
Dog Runs	No	
Improve Landscape and Irrigation	Yes	
Remove Concrete Creek	Yes	
Fix Broken Concrete	Yes	
No Monkey Bars	Maybe	
New Playground	Yes	
Fitness Equipment Stations	Maybe	
Social Area	Yes	(preserve lawn area)
Add Shade over Seating	Yes	
Playground Accommodate Ages 2-12	Yes	

Style Recommendation:

Treehouse Theme

What playground component is most important?		
1	Large Play Structures	(most popular)
2	Playground Shade	
3	Swings	
4	Climbers	
5	Critters/Spinners	(least popular)

MacKenzie Park Community Feedback

Community Feedback Requests for Improvements at Mackenzie Park	Parks & Recreation Commission Recommendation for Inclusion	
Added Shade with Trees	Yes	
Shade over Playground	Yes	
More Seating	Yes	
Dog Park	Yes	
Splash Pad	No	
Tennis Courts Only	Yes	
Pickleball Courts	No	
Lock Tennis Courts at Night	Yes	(maintenance issue)
Improve Lighting	Yes	
No Sand/Rubber Surface Only	Yes	
Swings/Zip Lines/Climbers	Maybe	
Drinking Fountain with Dog Fountain	Yes	
Fix Broken Concrete	Yes	
Add More Picnic Areas	Yes	
Shade over Seating	Maybe	
No E-Bikes	Yes	(adding signage)
Bike Parking	Yes	
Added Tennis Court Parking	No	
Pump Track for Bikes	No	
Water Feature (ex. Fountain)	No	
Added Dog Bag Stations	Yes	
Volleyball and/or Pickelball Courts	No	
Fitness Equipment Stations	Maybe	

Style Recommendation:

Farm Theme

Community Feedback Question: What playground component is most important?		
1	Large Play Structures	(most popular)
2	Playground Shade	
3	Swings	
4	Climbers	
5	Critters/Spinners	(least popular)