



COUNCILMEMBER PROPOSAL REQUEST SUBMISSION

Process as outlined in the Council Rules of Procedure, Chapter 12.

Submission Date: Jan 5, 2026

SUBJECT (brief summary): William Land Park Public Safety, Bike and Pedestrian Safety and Review of Current and Future Uses.

Councilmember Sponsor: Rick Jennings (D7), Eric Guerra (D6), Phil Pluckebaum (D4)

Assigned Council Staff Member: Dennis Rogers (D7), Philip Norton (D6), David Gull (D4)

Proposal Summary/Recommendation *(Provide a brief description of the proposal):*

William Land Park (WLP) is an over 200 acre regional park and is the City's primary gathering location for communal events, family focused attractions, youth sports and general park activity. WLP was developed in the early 20th Century with the infrastructure and park development choices reflecting that period. Today, current and potential demands on WLP require the City of Sacramento to review uses and infrastructure in the context of modern standards to address the needs of all users of this significant community asset.

WLP CAN BE DIVIDED INTO SEVERAL ZONES/USES.

- The bulk of WLP acreage is the WLP Golf Course.
- The Southwest area of the WLP near Land Park Drive and Sutterville Road comprised of the Sacramento Zoo, Funderland and Fairytale Town and attendant uses.
- The Panhandle area of WLP, which is more akin to a neighborhood park with a splash pad, playground and more passive uses like picnicking or unstructured play.
- The area roughly bounded by Land Park Drive and West Land Park Drive/13th Street has significant recreational sports fields.
- A passive use area in between Land Park Drive and Freeport Blvd bounded by 13th Ave and 14th Avenue
- The WLP Village Green (home to many permitted community and regional events.)

A SHORT CONTEXT OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

Traffic & Bike/Pedestrian Safety

The various areas and distinct uses within WLP have developed over time. The City of Sacramento was much smaller and the cars of that time were fewer and much slower. The transportation infrastructure bisects and significantly impacts WLP with cut through and nonpark related traffic. There are significant safety issues related to walking and biking within WLP that compel WLP users to drive to avoid them. There are complaints of speeding, unsafe street racing and a disregard for park users. The current street grid within the WLP which may have been appropriate at the time, would not be recommended for approval today.

The grid pattern of the Land Park Neighborhood suffers from some of the same issues that WLP suffers. The streets are narrow and have few if any cul-de-sacs. The narrow streets combined with the number of cars and their speed that was not envisioned when WLP was designed and built creates a very hostile and unforgiving environment for children to bike/roller-skate/rollerblade/skateboard. WLP, in particular the Pan Handle area functions as the de facto neighborhood park for the Land Park, Upper Land Park and parts of South Land Park communities. There needs to be more opportunity for children, families and individuals to experience car-free sections of WLP. The focus should be on people experiencing WLP, not cars driving as quickly as possible through WLP.

Park Safety

Because of WLP's size and development pattern it is difficult to secure and monitor WLP during nonpark hours. WLP does not have significant interior lighting. There are significant areas of the park like the areas around the WPA Rock Garden and the parking area behind Fairytale Town that are difficult to patrol with limited Ranger and SPD staffing. Homeless park in various areas of the park. While the bathrooms within WLP are currently locked at sunset, they were left open 24 hours a day and unfortunately there was a fatality in the bathroom near the splash pad/playground in the Pan Handle before the bathrooms were locked each night. Prior to the bathroom being locked at night there was continual illicit activity. WLP needs a comprehensive review focused on public safety.

REQUEST

- 1- Creation of a working group that is made up of a representative of all WLP users including the Zoo, Fairytale Town, Funderland, WLP Golf Course, all youth sports programs, neighbors and neighborhood associations(LPCA & ULPN), WLP support groups (LPVC) and a representative of permit users of WLP to help the City look at the current uses and help advise on any proposed uses.
- 2- Have SPD, in conjunction with YPCE, complete a CEPTED of the entire park, with particular emphasis on technology deployment (cameras) and how to secure the park at night.
- 3- Have public works review the transportation infrastructure with a particular focus on enhancing pedestrian and bike safety. The focus of the study should be on prioritizing movement within WLP by walking and biking while limiting vehicular traffic not directly related to activity within WLP.
- 4- Create a 24 month "car free" pilot by closing 12th Ave between Riverside/13th Street and Close 13th Street between 11th Ave/13th Ave to vehicular traffic. The road would still be able to be opened for permitted use. In addition, look at removing vehicular traffic from the inner lane of 14th Ave/18th St/19th St to create a car free loop around holes 2, 6, 7 & 8 at WLP Golf Course.
- 5- Evaluate the current revenue of WLP with a particular focus on allocating revenue produced in WLP to the public safety improvements identified by the CEPTED and pedestrian/bike safety improvements identified in the public works study.

Rationale for Recommendation (*Identify the issue(s) that this proposal will address*):

Bike and Pedestrian Safety (Vision Zero)
Public Safety (CEPTED)

Applicable Council Priority Goal:

Public Safety, Homelessness, Climate Action, Vision Zero

Recommended Priority Level:

- ☒ 0-30 days
- ☐ 30-60 days
- ☐ Greater than 60 days

City Council Committee Review Recommended:

- ☐ Budget and Audit Committee (B&A)
- ☒ Law and Legislation Committee (L&L)
- ☐ Personnel and Public Employees Committee (P&PE)
- ☐ Racial Equity Committee (RE)
- ☒ City Board, Commission, or Committee Review Recommended (*list advisory body(ies)*):

Park and Community Enrichment

Do any of the following Council Policy Considerations apply? If so, give a brief explanation:

- ☐ DEI:
- ☒ Climate Action:

The reduction of vehicle uses in favor of bike and pedestrian uses supports the Council's Climate Action Goals.

Financial Considerations:

There will be potential fiscal considerations as yet unknown until the studies are completed.

Attachments to Support Summary/Recommendation:

(Please attach and explain council staff research that has been done on this proposal; Include all information received from outside careholders, drafts or examples compiled).

1.

Mayor's Review:

Date Reviewed:

Committee Review Required:

- ☐ Budget and Audit Committee (B&A)
- ☐ Law and Legislation Committee (L&L)
- ☐ Personnel and Public Employees Committee (P&PE)
- ☐ Racial Equity Committee
- ☐ City Board, Commission, or Committee Review (*list advisory body(ies)*):

Committee Review Exception Applies:

- ☐ Urgent matter that requires quick council action.
- ☐ A matter related to a pending council matter.
- ☐ A matter that on its face falls fully outside the jurisdiction of the City.
- ☐ A matter within the City Manager's executive function that does not need council authorization.

Department(s) Collaboration Needed:

Mayor's Additional Direction:

Mayor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

City Council Standing Committee Scheduling:

Transmitted for addition to the following agenda(s) for committee review to initiate staff work on the proposal:

Standing Committee	Tentative Agenda Date
Budget and Audit Committee (B&A)	
Law and Legislation Committee (L&L)	
Personnel and Public Employees Committee (P&PE)	
Racial Equity Committee (RE)	

Proposal will also be made part of the Councilmember Proposal Tracking Log.

City Clerk's Additional Comments:

City Clerk's Signature: _____ Date: _____