

## Port Offers \$7 Million in Grants for Large Park Projects

### Seeking impactful projects achieving substantial environmental benefits

Aug. 21, 2023

The Port of Long Beach Community Grants Program is accepting proposals from government agencies and 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations to fund large, impactful environmental projects at the area's existing and future public parks and open spaces.

This solicitation, which at \$7 million is the highest amount offered to date, represents a unique opportunity to fund proposals capable of achieving substantially greater environmental benefits in the neighborhoods most affected by

Port operations. Eligible applicants will propose open space and "multi-benefit" parks projects, which support the community and the environment. Fundable project elements include trees and vegetation, irrigation, stormwater systems, noise buffers, paved areas creating access to the park and support facilities.

Prospective applicants should describe projects at a high level and allow program staff to determine eligibility. Eligibility for this solicitation is defined by the Community Infrastructure guidelines. To view project guidelines and the pre-solicitation workshop presentation held on Aug. 9, go to [www.polb.com/grants](http://www.polb.com/grants) and select Program Overview. A conference call to answer questions about the solicitation will be held from 4-5 p.m. on Wednesday Sept. 13, and [can be joined by clicking here](#) or calling (323) 451-1087 and entering conference identification 133 721 215#.

Concept papers must be submitted online by 4 p.m. Monday, Oct. 2. [To apply, use this link.](#)

The [award-winning Community Grants Program](#) is a more than \$46 million effort to fund projects that help those in the community who are most vulnerable to port-related environmental impacts. These projects are [expanding asthma services](#), controlling stormwater runoff through [the building of permeable parking lots](#), and [creating open space buffers](#) between port operations and communities, to name a few. Combined with a previous program started in 2009, the Port of Long Beach has set aside more than \$65 million, making it the largest voluntary port mitigation initiative in the country. To date, \$38.9 million has been committed.

The Port of Long Beach is a global leader in green port initiatives and top-notch customer service, moving cargo with reliability, speed and efficiency. As the premier U.S. gateway for trans-Pacific trade, the Port handles trade valued at \$200 billion annually and supports 2.6 million jobs across



the United States, including 575,000 in Southern California. In 2022, industry leaders named it “The Best West Coast Seaport in North America” for the fourth consecutive year. During the next 10 years, the Port is planning \$2.2 billion in capital improvements aimed at enhancing capacity, competitiveness and sustainability.

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*Caption: The Port of Long Beach Community Grants Program offers funding for projects – like this low impact development zone at DeForest Park to manage stormwater runoff – that reduce impacts associated with goods movement. Photo courtesy of the Conservation Corps of Long Beach.*

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