




**Councilmember Vivian Moreno
City of San Diego
Eighth District**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 22, 2025
TO: Honorable Mayor Todd Gloria
FROM: Councilmember Vivian Moreno 
SUBJECT: Grove Neighborhood Park Phase I

The Fiscal Year 2026 proposed budget included the Grove Neighborhood Park CIP# S22002 which provides for the design of an 11.53-acre neighborhood park to be completed in two construction phases. Phase I of the project was set to include children's play areas, picnic areas with shelters, new walkways, public art, utilities and landscaping improvements. However, in the city's Fiscal Year 2026 Adopted Budget document, the Phase I scope has been revised to not include these amenities and instead focus on right-of-way improvements (see Attachment 1).

Grove Neighborhood Park was promised to the community 40 years ago. In recent years, a General Development Plan was discussed and approved at several community meetings. This left residents with the hope of Grove Neighborhood Park coming to fruition, as they have been park deprived for so long. However, while families in the community had visions of a park with children's play and picnic areas, the recent changes made to the scope of Phase I does not included these amenities and left residents with mainly right-of-way improvements instead.

This change was not done in collaboration with my office, nor was it shared with community-led boards such as the Otay Mesa Community Recreation Group or the Otay Mesa-Nestor Community Planning Group. This is not acceptable. The residents of Otay Mesa-Nestor have waited decades for this park to be built. This is a park project, not a transportation or streets project. The residents of Otay Mesa-Nestor deserve to have Grove Neighborhood Park built with

the park amenities any other community in the city would expect to see in the construction of a new park.

In previous budgets, various types of funding, including Development Impact Fees and Climate Equity Funds, were utilized to move the Grove Neighborhood Park project forward. Recently, Assemblymember David Alvarez successfully secured \$4.3 million in funding to be included in the State of California's Fiscal Year 2025-2026 budget for Phase I of Grove Neighborhood Park. Ensuring these funds result in a park with actual park amenities for residents to utilize is critical.

I respectfully request that staff work with my office to include park amenities in Phase I, which was anticipated when the City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Thank you for your prompt action on this important matter.

CC: Honorable Assemblymember David Alvarez
Andy Field, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Rania Amen, Director, Engineering & Capital Projects
Dotty Giffen, Chair, Otay Mesa Community Recreation Group
Albert Velasquez, Chair, Otay Mesa-Nestor Community Planning Group

FY26 DRAFT BUDGET CIP DESCRIPTION

Parks & Recreation

Grove Neighborhood Park / S22002

Parks - Neighborhood

Council District:	8	Priority Score:	62
Community Planning:	Otay Mesa - Nestor	Priority Category:	High
Project Status:	Continuing	Contact Information:	Genova, Darren
Duration:	2022 - 2029		619-533-4601
Improvement Type:	New		dgenova@sandiego.gov

Description: This project provides for the design of a 11.53-acre neighborhood park to be completed in two construction phases. This CIP will construct Phase 1 of the project and a new CIP will be created to complete final design and construction of Phase 2. Park amenities, to be constructed in Phase 1, include children's play areas, picnic area with shelters, new walkways, public art, utilities and landscaping improvements. Preliminary Engineering was completed under P18010 and the project was converted to a standalone in Fiscal Year 2022. This project was renamed from "Southwest Neighborhood Park" in Fiscal Year 2024.

Justification: This project provides population-based park acreage in accordance with the City's General Plan standards to accommodate the park and recreational needs of the residents within the Otay Mesa Nestor community.

Operating Budget Impact: This facility will require an on-going operational budget for personnel and non-personnel expenses upon project completion.

Relationship to General and Community Plans: This project is consistent with the Otay Mesa Nestor Community Plan and is in conformance with the City's General Plan.

Schedule: Design began in Fiscal Year 2022 and is anticipated to be completed in Fiscal Year 2026. Construction is anticipated to begin in Fiscal Year 2026 and be completed in Fiscal Year 2027, contingent upon the identification of funding.

Summary of Project Changes: The project description and operating budget impact have been updated for Fiscal Year 2026. The total project cost has decreased by \$16.8 million due to removal of project scope, which will be developed into a new CIP at a later date.

Expenditure by Funding Source

Fund Name	Fund No	Exp/Enc	Con Appn	FY 2026	FY 2026 Anticipated	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	Future FY	Unidentified Funding	Project Total
CIP Contributions from General Fund	400265	\$ 676	\$ 93,169	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 93,846
Citywide Park DIF-Park Def. COC	400891	235,634	394,089	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	629,723
Climate Equity Fund	100015	1,178,690	1,766	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,180,455
Debt Funded General Fund CIP Projects	400881	-	3,856,037	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,856,037
Otay Mesa/Nestor Urb Comm	400125	-	19,960	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19,960
Unidentified Funding	9999	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,269,979	4,269,979
Total		\$ 1,415,000	\$ 4,385,021	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,269,979	\$ 10,950,000

Operating Budget Impact

Department - Fund	FTEs	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030
Parks & Recreation - GENERAL FUND		0.00	0.63	2.50	2.50	2.50
Parks & Recreation - GENERAL FUND	Total Impact \$	-	722,802	650,918	650,918	650,918

FY26 ADOPTED BUDGET CIP DESCRIPTION

Parks & Recreation

Grove Neighborhood Park / S22002

Parks - Neighborhood

Council District:	8	Priority Score:	62
Community Planning:	Otay Mesa - Nestor	Priority Category:	High
Project Status:	Continuing	Contact Information:	Genova, Darren
Duration:	2022 - 2029		619-533-4601
Improvement Type:	New		dgenova@sandiego.gov

Description: Construction of an 11.53 acre neighborhood park to be completed in Phases. Phase I is to consist of improvements to the street right-of-way including curb & gutter, sidewalk, drainage, lighting, and other associated improvements. Future phases will be determined at a later date in a separate project. Preliminary Engineering was completed under P18010 and the project was converted to a standalone in Fiscal Year 2022. This project was renamed from "Southwest Neighborhood Park" in Fiscal Year 2024.

Justification: This project provides population-based park acreage in accordance with the City's General Plan standards to accommodate the park and recreational needs of the residents within the Otay Mesa Nestor community.

Operating Budget Impact: This facility will require an on-going operational budget for personnel and non-personnel expenses. Operational costs for the project will be revised as all amenities and unique site characteristics are considered.

Relationship to General and Community Plans: This project is consistent with the Otay Mesa Nestor Community Plan and is in conformance with the City's General Plan.

Schedule: Design began in Fiscal Year 2022 and is anticipated to be completed in Fiscal Year 2026. Construction is anticipated to begin in Fiscal Year 2027 and be completed in Fiscal Year 2028.

Summary of Project Changes: The project description, operating budget impact, and schedule have been updated for Fiscal Year 2026. The total project cost has decreased by \$19.1 million due to removal of project scope, which will be developed into a new CIP at a later date.

Expenditure by Funding Source

Fund Name	Fund No	Exp/Enc	Con Appn	FY 2026	FY 2026 Anticipated	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	Future FY	Unidentified Funding	Project Total
CIP Contributions from General Fund	400265	\$ 676	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 676
Citywide Park Development Impact Fee	400883	-	800,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	800,000
Citywide Park DIF-Park Def. CDC	400891	329,520	2,081,312	2,030,716	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,441,547
Citywide Park DIF-Park Def. Unrstd	400892	-	569,999	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	569,999
Climate Equity Fund	100015	1,180,455	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,180,455
Debt Funded General Fund CIP Projects	400881	-	723,099	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	723,099
Otay Mesa/Nestor Urb Comm	400125	34,155	60,805	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	94,960
Total		\$ 1,544,806	\$ 4,235,214	\$ 2,030,716	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,810,737