



STAFF REPORT
9/21/2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Andrew Simmons, P.E., Public Works Director/City Engineer

PREPARED BY: Brianna Greenwood, P.E., Senior Civil Engineer

SUBJECT: Authorize Staff to Advertise the Rancho Las Flores Park Expansion Project, City Project P-31.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize Staff to Advertise the Rancho Las Flores Park Expansion Project, City Project P-31.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No additional appropriations required. The project budget will be brought back after the City receives bids.

BACKGROUND:

On September 8, 2021, the City of Coachella was awarded a Statewide Park Program grant in the amount of \$8,454,600 for a new park. The City's original park site location was on Avenue 52 between La Ponderosa Drive and Hernandez Street for Central Park. After the award, Central Park was deemed ineligible for the grant funds due to eminent domain proceedings for a portion of the park land. City Staff worked cooperatively with Statewide Parks program staff to evaluate alternative park locations within the City that would qualify for the awarded grant. The expansion of Rancho Las Flores Park was eligible for the entire grant amount and the award was transferred for the expansion of Rancho Las Flores Park.

The project will include many new amenities and open spaces for all age groups including the City's first dog park, an amphitheater, sports courts, playground equipment and fitness equipment. There will also be walking paths, open green space and a café building. The park will be complimented by landscaping and lighting throughout the park. The expansion will complete the remaining land at Rancho Las Flores Park.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

In November 2024, a Rancho Las Flores Park Expansion project update was presented to Council with a desert scape value engineering option. City Council moved to seek additional grant funds and to not move forward with the desert scape option. City staff has researched potential grant funds for the Rancho Las Flores Park during this time and has not received additional funds.

The improvement plans without value engineering had an estimated engineer's estimate of approximately \$15 to \$17 million. Staff has worked closely with the design engineers and the statewide parks program to incorporate value engineering efforts to contain the cost of the park at \$12 to \$13 million. Staff recommends authorizing the value engineering options being presented and advertising the project to Bid. The project will deliver a complete park with the amenities and improvements as required by the grant. This will also ensure the project gets delivered within the grant deadline and within budget.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Rancho Las Flores Park Improvements Presentation
2. FY 26/27 CIP Budget Sheet