

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Wednesday, Sept. 25, 2024

City of San Diego Kicks Off Next Phase of Construction at Mira Mesa Community Park

\$55 MILLION PROJECT INCLUDES NEW AQUATIC COMPLEX AND ALL-WHEEL PLAZA

SAN DIEGO – Today San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria and City Councilmember Kent Lee joined City staff and community members to celebrate the start of construction on the second phase of a major improvement project at Mira Mesa Community Park.

"The Mira Mesa community has waited more than 20 years for these park improvements, and I'm proud to say that we are finally getting it done," said San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria. "Today, we are breaking ground on the next phase of the Mira Mesa Community Park improvements, bringing long-overdue amenities like an aquatic complex, a plaza designed for bikes, skateboards, scooters and wheelchairs, and upgraded recreation facilities. We are delivering on our promise to ensure every San Diegan has access to quality parks and recreational facilities."

The project will redevelop the existing park space to include a new aquatic complex, an all-wheel plaza, two children's play areas, two multi-use sports courts, open grass areas, a public art piece, a parking lot, ADA-accessible walkways, lighting, landscaping and irrigation. The aquatic complex will have a 14-lane competition pool, an activity pool and a splash pad and the all-wheel plaza allows access for skateboarders, roller skaters and riders of scooters, bikes and wheelchairs.

With a total cost of \$55 million, the park project also includes renovations to the existing Mira Mesa Recreation Center, like installing new heating ventilation and air conditioning, replacing damaged wood and finishes, and repainting the building's exterior.

"Our community has been looking forward to these park upgrades for so long, and now we can finally see progress being made," said City Councilmember Kent Lee. "From a new competition-sized aquatic complex and much-needed renovations to the recreation center to upgraded playgrounds and ball fields as well as new public plazas, Mira Mesa is receiving the investments it has long deserved. I am grateful for the work and advocacy of local community leaders and excited to break ground on this important project."

Mira Mesa Community Park is more than 28 acres and is divided into two areas by New Salem Street. An approximately 11-acre park sits north of New Salem Street and was improved as part of Phase I of the Mira Mesa Community Park Improvements project. The work was completed in 2018 and included new baseball fields, a children's play area, a comfort station and a parking lot.

The remaining 17-acre park south of New Salem Street is being redeveloped in Phase II of the project. A third phase of this project is being planned and is expected to focus on expanding the size and amenities of the Mira Mesa Recreation Center. There's currently no timeline for Phase III as a funding source has not yet been identified.

"We are thrilled to get the second phase of the Mira Mesa Community Park Improvements project under construction and move one step closer to delivering these much-needed upgrades to this community," said Luis Schaar, Acting Director of the Engineering and Capital Projects Department. "This project couldn't have reached this stage without significant community support and input during the design phase. We can't wait to bring their vision to life with amenities for all ages, like the aquatic complex and all-wheel plaza, which will serve residents for decades to come."

Construction is expected to be completed in the summer of 2026. For additional information regarding the Mira Mesa Community Park Phase II project, visit sandiego.gov/MiraMesaCP.

The City's Parks and Recreation Department manages over 40,000 acres of park assets, including more than 400 parks, 26 miles of shoreline, 60 recreation centers, 15 pools, 13 skate parks and plazas and three golf courses. For additional information regarding the City's park system, visit the <u>Parks and Recreation webpage</u>.



###