



For Immediate Release
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LA City Council Approves Harvard-Westlake River Park

Project Will Transform Studio City Site into Multi-Benefit Recreation Space Shared by School, Community

STUDIO CITY — The Los Angeles City Council unanimously voted today to approve the Harvard-Westlake River Park, which will transform a 16-acre Studio City site into a multi-benefit recreational space that will be open for use by both the school community and Valley residents.

“When Harvard-Westlake purchased this property in 2017, we committed to building a facility that aligns with our school’s mission of purpose beyond ourselves. It’s been a long road to achieve this critically important milestone, but today’s vote validates our approach,” said Rick Commons, Harvard-Westlake School’s President and Head of School.

“We thank all those who took the time to speak in support of our plans to transform the Weddington property into an athletic facility and sustainable open space that will serve our students and the Studio City neighborhood,” Commons said. “In particular, we want to acknowledge our community partners on River Park, such as Friends of the LA River, Angel City Sports, and the United States Tennis Association, as we look forward to working with them on providing much-needed inclusive programming at the River Park.”

River Park would transform the property currently housing Weddington Golf & Tennis on Whitsett Avenue into an athletic, recreational, and park center that will be used by both the school and public. The school intends to replace the existing par-3 golf course, driving range, and tennis courts with two soccer fields, a running track, a pool, a gymnasium, and eight tennis courts.

Nearly six acres of River Park will be set aside for public use daily from 7 a.m. 9 p.m., including a picnic area, walking path, café, and putting green. The tennis courts will be open to the public in the mornings and evenings when not in use by the school. The swimming pool, running track,

and a soccer field will be open to the public every weekday morning. And all facilities would be available for community use at various times when not in use by the school.

The school has established partnerships with numerous nonprofit organizations to develop educational and recreational programming at River Park, including Angel City Sports, the Boys & Girls Club of Burbank and East San Fernando Valley, the Fernandeno Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, Friends of the LA River, Special Olympics of Southern California, and USTA Southern California.

In addition to its extensive community access, River Park will bring multiple environmental benefits to the Studio City community. River Park's sustainable future for the property includes a stormwater capture system that will clean and reuse runoff water for irrigation purposes, use solar power, add more trees and native landscaping that better support wildlife, and preserve the property as open space.

"We are elated that the City Council has approved River Park and look forward to the next steps toward making this long-held dream a reality," Commons said.

For more details on the Harvard-Westlake River Park, please visit www.hwriverpark.com.

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