



PRESS RELEASE
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MANHATTAN BEACH UNVEILS NEW POLLIWOG PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT
City leaders gather to celebrate project completion

Manhattan Beach, CA (September 26, 2023) – New, state-of-the-art playground equipment was unveiled today at Polliwog Park, marking the completion of the multi-year project to replace the old sunken galleon playground and equipment that anchored Polliwog Park for many years. The newly revitalized area includes approximately 12,500 square feet of playground with new resilient safety surfacing, 3,000 square feet of shade structure coverage, 5,000 square feet of walkways and an additional 4,000 square feet of park walkway rehabilitation.

“This is an exciting day for Manhattan Beach! This playground has been a beloved part of Polliwog Park for over 50 years,” said Mayor Richard Montgomery. “We believe that parks do make life better! This playground is where community is built—where you run into your neighbors, or head to the park playground for a meet-up.”

The original playground in Polliwog Park was built by members of a City service group in the 1970s, and included a large sunken wooden galleon. The original play structures were replaced in 2003, and after 17 years of use, the playground equipment and padded surface reached the end of useful life. The newly installed equipment honors the playground’s history with a new galleon ship and other nature based play elements including a bioswale to aid in drainage after storm events and a natural play area with boulders.

Funding for the project was comprised of Los Angeles County grant funds totaling \$750,000, \$200,000 from California State Parks Proposition 68 funding, and \$2,000,000 from the City of Manhattan Beach Capital Improvement Project funds. The project also showcases the City’s partnership with the Manhattan Beach Unified School District who owns the Polliwog Park land upon which the new playground is located.

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