The Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County said Tuesday that it was set to receive a $1-million grant that would go toward what it is calling a new “landmark” permanent exhibition.

“Under the Sun: Los Angeles, California and the World” is scheduled to open in 2012 and will broadly explore the history of Southern California, including ways in which diverse communities interacted with the land to shape the area.

The museum said that the new grant is coming from the James Irvine Foundation. The foundation previously provided support for the museum’s 2004 exhibition “L.A.: light/motion/dreams.”

“Under the Sun” will build upon the 2004 show, according to the museum, and will be the final component of a new suite of exhibitions at the museum, which is undergoing extensive renovations.

— David Ng