

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

APPROVED
OCT 3 2008

NO. 08-274

DATE: October 3, 2008

C.D. 4

**BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS**

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SUBJECT: GRIFFITH PARK – ACCEPTANCE OF DONATION TO REPLACE SMOKEY BEAR SIGN

R. Adams _____	J. Kolb _____
H. Fujita _____	F. Mok _____
S. Huntley _____	*K. Regan _____
V. Israel _____	M. Shull _____


General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board accept the donation noted in the Summary of this report and that appropriate recognition be given to the donor.

SUMMARY:

Mr. Thomas L. Ford is a private citizen who resides on north Vermont Avenue near a heavily traveled entrance to Griffith Park. Mr. Ford had regularly observed and greatly appreciated the public fire safety reminder associated with a life-size wooden Smokey Bear sign that had been strategically placed at this Griffith Park boundary.

When a portion of the Smokey Bear sign was stolen by unknown suspects early in 2008, Mr. Ford was concerned and contacted the Park Rangers regarding expediting replacement of this valuable fire safety sign. Mr. Ford also expressed his wish to personally contribute to this project to hasten its completion, and generously donated \$200 for this purpose.

Department staff recommends that the Board accept Mr. Ford's generous donation of \$200 towards the replacement of the vandalized Smokey Bear sign at the Vermont Avenue entrance to Griffith Park, and that Mr. Ford receive appropriate recognition. The revitalized sign will be viewed by tens of thousands of visitors each week and will continue to serve as a friendly and immediately recognizable reminder about the importance of vigilant fire safety and protection.

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There is minimal impact to the Department's General Fund as this donation offsets the majority of the cost to replace this sign. The total approximate cost to replace the Smokey Bear sign is \$250, which includes labor.

This report was prepared by Albert Torres, Interim Chief Park Ranger