

**APPROVED**  
APR 15 2009

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 09-105

DATE April 15, 2009

**BOARD OF RECREATION  
and PARK COMMISSIONERS**

C.D. 9

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: **SOUTH PARK – INSTALLATION OF A TREE AND MEMORIAL PLAQUE IN HONOR OF LOIS MEDLOCK**

R. Adams	_____	J. Kolb	_____
H. Fujita	_____	F. Mok	_____
S. Huntley	_____	K. Regan	_____
V. Israel	_____	*M. Shull	<u><i>[Signature]</i></u>

*[Signature]*  
General Manager

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board:

1. Approve the installation of a tree and a memorial plaque in honor of Lois Medlock adjacent to the bandshell in South Park;
2. Approve the wording on the memorial to Mrs. Medlock, as described in the body of this report, and its placement on the side of the bandshell;
3. Authorize Department staff to issue a right-of-entry permit to Council District 9 for the maintenance of the plaque; and,
4. Direct staff to install the tree and plaque as indicated.

**SUMMARY:**

South Park Recreation Center is located at 345 East 51<sup>st</sup> Street, in the Southeast Los Angeles community. This facility is an 18.16 acre community park, which includes a baseball diamond, basketball courts, children's play area, picnic areas, seasonal pool, tennis courts, bandshell and childcare center. South Park Recreation Center is a CLASS Park which also offers programs such as youth sports, kick boxing, aerobics, dance, senior activities, summer day camp, and teen club.

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Council Office 9 has proposed the installation of a tree and a memorial plaque in honor of the late Mrs. Lois Medlock. The tree will be installed adjacent to, and the plaque installed on the side of, the bandshell.

Mrs. Lois Medlock was a leading community activist who spent more than 50 years working to preserve and improve her South Los Angeles neighborhood. Mrs. Medlock served as an effective community organizer who fought against negative developments in her neighborhood, proposed freeway/rail lines and advocated positive improvements to enhance the area. Mrs. Medlock moved to Los Angeles with her husband in 1945. In 1953 the Medlocks purchased their South Park home, where Mrs. Medlock resided until she recently lost her battle with cancer in October, 2008.

Department staff has reviewed the proposal and recommends the installation of the plaque and the tree. The tree is a Cape Chestnut Tree (*Calodendrum capense*), native to South Park and which the Department had on hand, as a tree designated for South Park as part of the tree replacement program. The plaque would be approximately 8"x10" in size and be made of bronze. It would be mounted on the side of the bandshell, next to the proposed tree, and would read:

“Councilwoman Jan Perry planted this tree in South Park in memory of Lois Medlock to recognize her 50 years of service to the park (Date)”

Council District 9 will fund the plaque and installation costs. The maintenance of the plaque will be the responsibility of Council District 9. The maintenance of the tree will be the responsibility of the Department. These issues, as well as permission to enter the premises at South Park for later maintenance, will be delineated in the right-of-entry permit.

The Councilmember of this District and Pacific Region staff support this project.

Staff has determined that the subject property will consist of the placement of an on-premise sign, which is a minor structure that is accessory to (appurtenant to) the existing park facilities, and therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11 (1) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

### FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There will be minor expenditure for tree maintenance only.

This Report was prepared by Camille Walls, City Planner, and Melinda Gejer, City Planning Associate, Planning and Development.