

**APPROVED**  
AUG 12 2009

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 09-215

DATE August 12, 2009

**BOARD OF RECREATION  
and PARK COMMISSIONERS**

C.D. 14

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: **ARROYO SECO PARK – HERMON PARK - CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL OF  
INSTALLATION OF SCULPTURES AND PLAQUE**

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Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_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 grant conceptual approval for the installation of three sculptures and a plaque at Arroyo Seco Park - Hermon Park.

SUMMARY:

Hermon Park is a sub-area of the larger Arroyo Seco Park. The dog park at Hermon Park in the Arroyo Seco Park is a valued community asset. The Friends of Hermon Dog Park, a local support group for this park area, was successful in obtaining a Public Works Community Beautification \$10,000 Grant from the City of Los Angeles for the installation of a public art project. This public art project consists of three large, brightly colored steel sculptures of dogs, done in an origami style called "Dog'ami."

The art installation would be located at the north end of Hermon Park, on a narrow grassy strip located between the Dog Park, Pasadena Freeway (I110) ramp and Avenue 60 (see Attachments A-C). The plaque dedicating the public art will be placed at the entrance to the dog park (see Attachment D). The proposed plaque is a solid brass, 9"x12" marker to be installed on a boulder supplied by the applicant.

"Dog'ami" is a permanent outdoor installation of sculptures consisting of three one-ton, eight foot, steel, painted origami dogs. The sculptures will be sealed with a graffiti-resistant coating. Each of the three sculptures is inspired by a real dog and bears its name. Two of the three sculptures were proposed by the artist and are depicted in an artist rendering (see Attachments E-F). The third sculpture is inspired by a dog that was chosen through a community outreach effort and is shown in an artist rendering (see Attachments G-H).

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The “Dog’ami” proposal was presented to, and approved by, the Cultural Affairs Commission on May 21, 2009. The Cultural Affairs Commission also accepted these proposed artworks into the City Art Collection.

Many residents, community members and patrons have expressed their support for this proposal. On September 24, 2008, at a noticed meeting of the Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council, its Board of Representatives voted unanimously to support the “Dog-ami” grant application and also agreed to pay for the dedication plaque. The sculptures will be paid for by a combination of the Community Beautification Grant and community donations.

Initial community outreach through a formal meeting with local residents and park patrons is scheduled for August 5, 2009. Results of all community outreach will be included in a subsequent report to the Board if this matter is granted conceptual approval at today’s meeting.

In order to ensure vibrancy and protection of the metal used in the sculptures, the Friends of Hermon Dog Park have committed to reapply protective paint to the sculptures every five years at an estimated cost of \$1,000. The Hermon Advance Team, a community group, includes a monthly “Clean Team” that cleans parkways and bridges. This group will provide ongoing graffiti removal of the sculptures as part of its commitment to address graffiti abatement. The ongoing maintenance needed for the sculptures and plaque will be formalized in an agreement between the Department and the applicant.

As with all public art installations, safety is a primary concern. It is possible that the sculpture proposal may need to be modified through the community outreach process or through Department input. Modifications to the proposal may include sculpture size, material, and/or installation. Any modifications to the proposal would be detailed in the subsequent report to your Board.

Staff has determined that the subject project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11 (6), of the City CEQA Guidelines.

The Councilmember of the District and Metro Region management and staff have no objection to this project at Hermon Park in the Arroyo Seco.

### FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Installation of these items will have negligible impact on the Department’s General Fund, as the cost of the sculptures and plaque will be funded by the Beautification Grant, the Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council, and community donations. Required maintenance for the upkeep of the sculptures and the plaque will be the responsibility of the Friends of Hermon Dog Park and the

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PG. 3            NO. 09-215

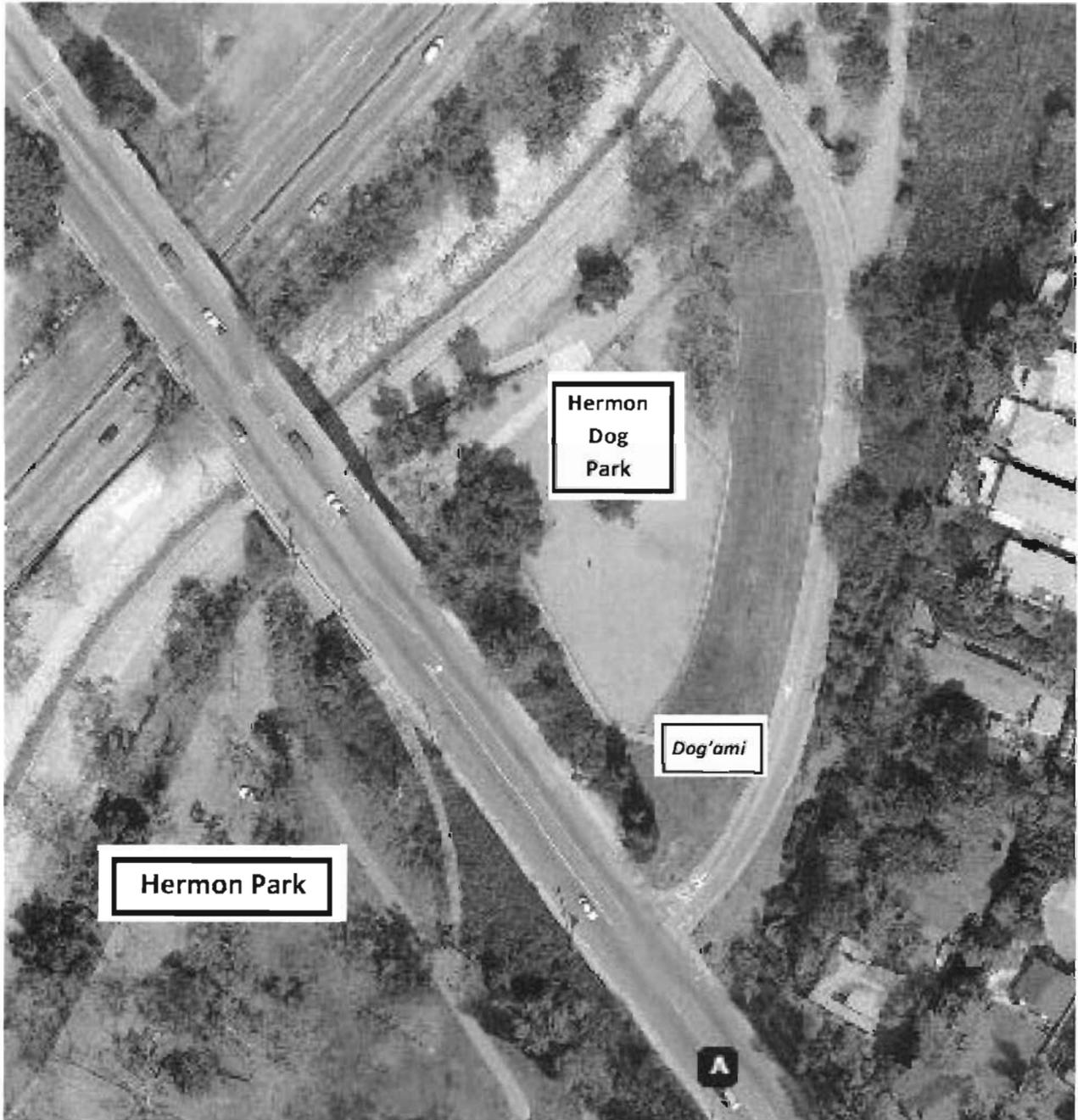
Hermon Advance Team. An agreement addressing issues regarding installation and required maintenance of the plaque and sculptures will be developed by staff.

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

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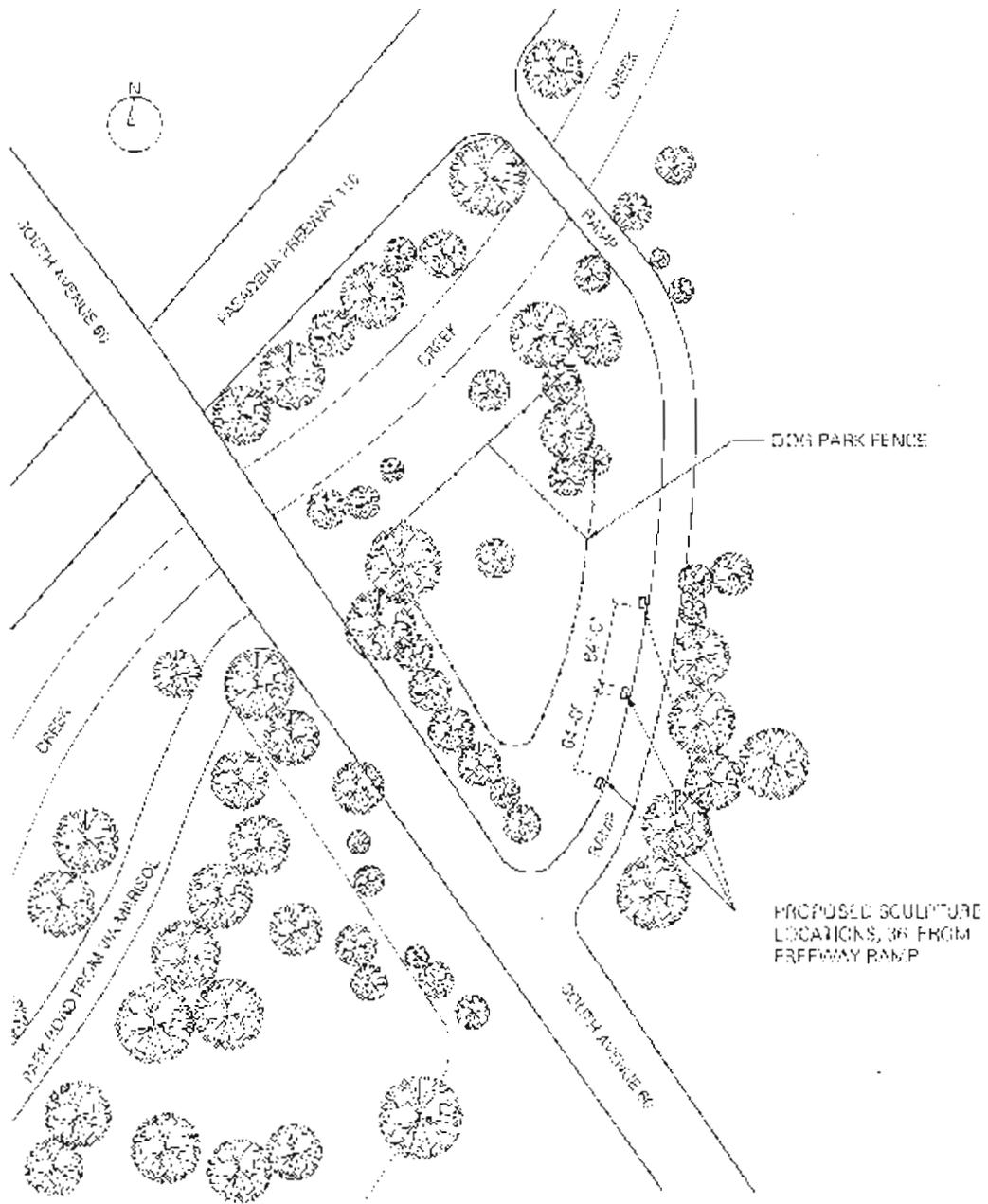
Attachment A

Dog'ami Sculpture Site



Attachment B

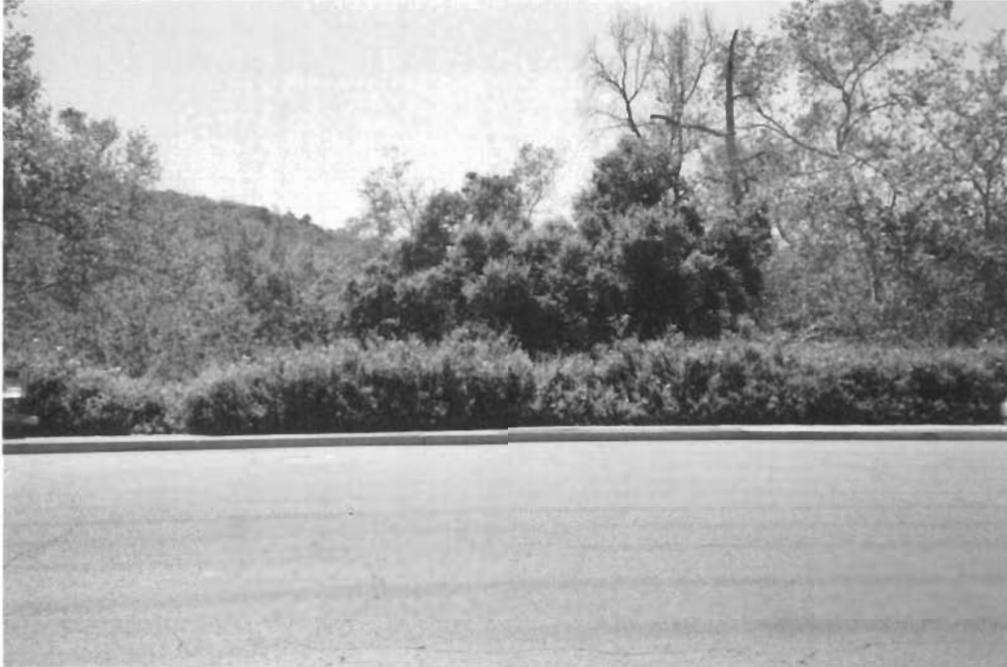
# Dog'ami Site Plan



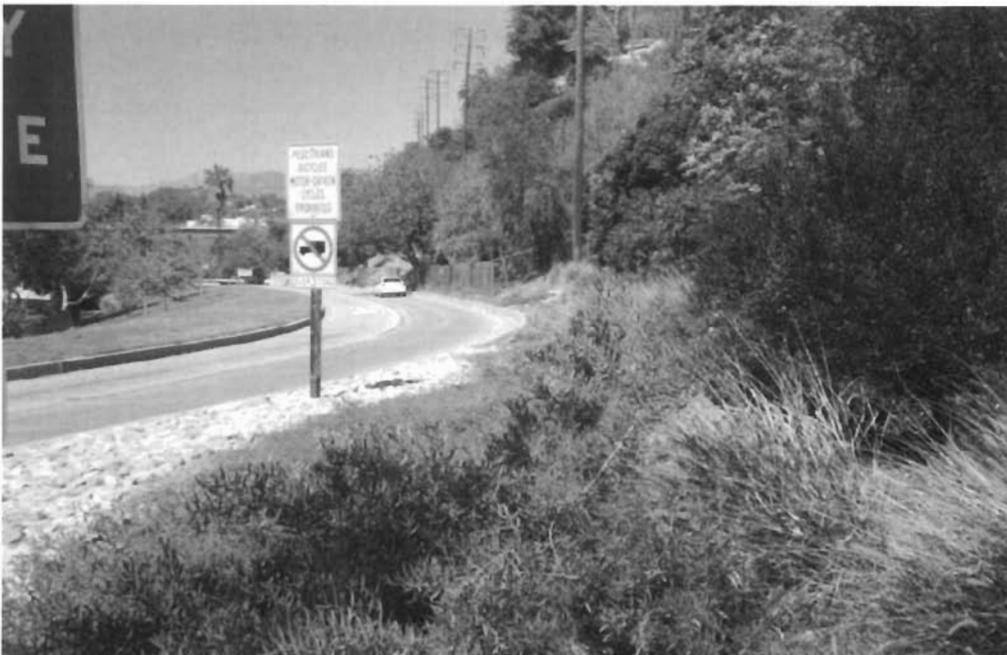
SITE PLAN, 5868 VIA MARISOL, LOS ANGELES, CA 90042  
SCALE: 1" = 100'  
MARCH 23, 2005

Attachment C

**Material and color samples of surrounding architecture,  
mostly park and Caltrans**



**View to the south from Dog'ami site across Avenue 60**



**Northwest view of Dog'ami site from Avenue 60 (across offramp)**

## Proposed Dedication Plaque

For our Dog'ami sculptures of the Pomeranian Foxy, representing family belonging; Romeo, a greyhound, representing a new life through rescue and adoption; and Bella, a Cocker Spaniel that represents the Hermon Dog Park community; we thank sculptor-artist Gerardo Hacer, the City of Los Angeles Office of Community Beautification, Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council, our Councilman José Huizar, and the community that supported us.

Friends of Hermon Dog Park

November 2009



12"

9"

Attachment E

**Artist Rendering 1**

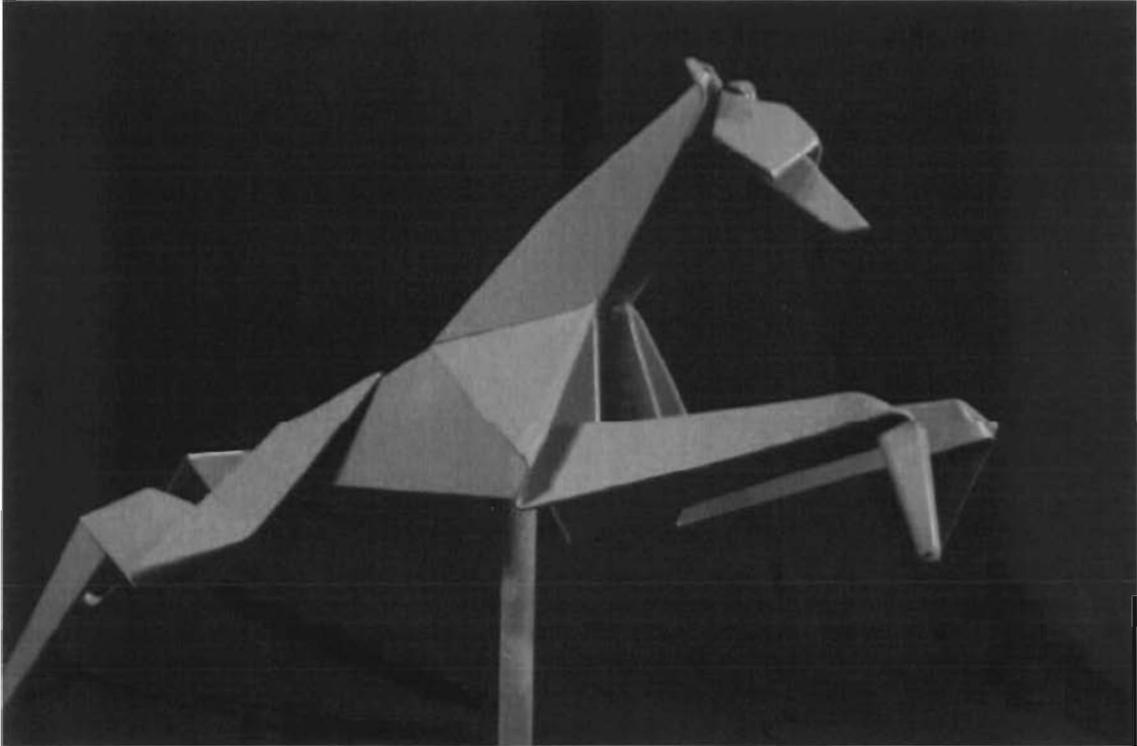


Artist rendering of Dog'ami in Hermon Park from Ave 60 on ramp to the 110 North.

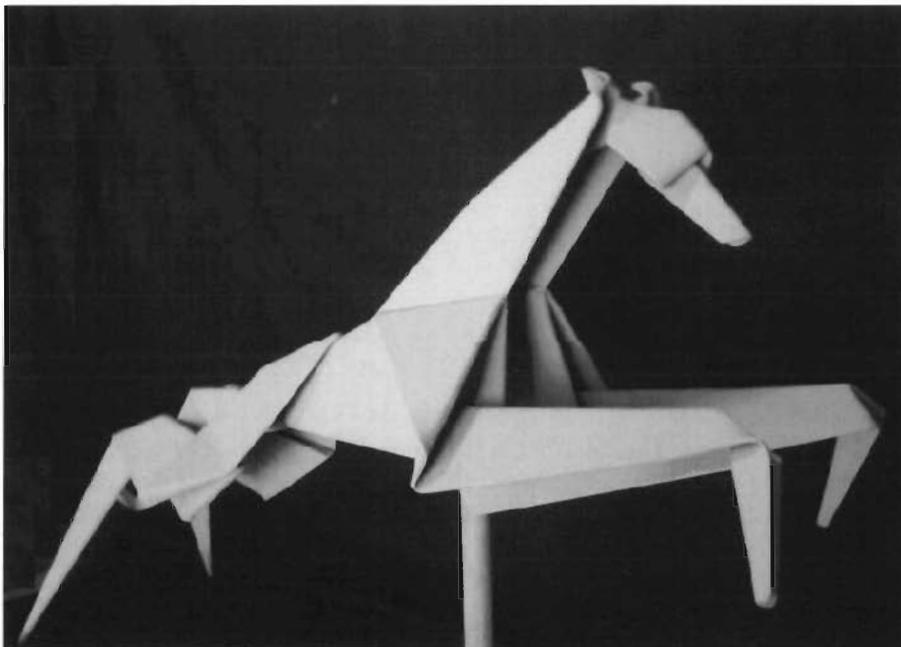


Artist rendering of "Foxy" as seen from Hermon Dog Park as part of Dog'ami in Hermon Park.

## Artist Rendering 2



Artists' model of "Romeo", one of three proposed steel sculptures.



Second view of artists' model of "Romeo," one of three proposed steel sculptures.

Attachment G

**“Bella” Model for the Third Sculpture**



Attachment H

**“Bella” Sculpture Model and Sketch**

