

APPROVED
AUG 08 2012

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 12-235

DATE August 8, 2012

BOARD OF RECREATION
& PARK COMMISSIONERS

C.D. 15

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: POINT FERMIN LIGHT STATION – APPLICATION TO TRANSFER OWNERSHIP TO DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

R. Adams	_____	K. Regan	_____
H. Fujita	_____	*M. Shull	<u>msf</u>
V. Israel	_____	N. Williams	_____

*As a member
see attached*

Kenneth [Signature]
General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) to apply to the United States Department of the Interior for the acquisition of Point Fermin Light Station, San Pedro, Los Angeles California (GSA Control No. 9-U-CA-1684).

SUMMARY:

The United States Department of the Interior National Park Services (NPS) published a Notice of Availability dated May 2, 2012 indicating that the Point Fermin Light Station is available for transfer of ownership at no cost. The Department responded with a Letter of Interest dated May 4, 2012 and received the application packet with a cover letter dated July 12, 2012. This report is presented to the Board in order to receive authorization to pursue acquisition of the Point Fermin Light Station accordingly.

HISTORY:

The land for the graceful Victorian-style Point Fermin Light Station (Lighthouse) and the surrounding landscaped grounds was originally donated by Jose Diego Sepulveda.

The Lighthouse was built in 1887 on a cliff at the southern most tip of the City of Los Angeles in response to the growing commerce along San Pedro Bay. It is one of the oldest lighthouses on the west coast. The first and last lighthouse keepers were women and the beam from the Lighthouse could be seen 22 miles out to sea. The Lighthouse was turned off during World War II (WW II)

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and served as a lookout tower. After WW II advances in technology caused the lighthouse to become obsolete.

Since 1927, the Department has continuously maintained a lease of the (Lighthouse) with the U.S. Coast Guard. The Lighthouse is designated as a historical landmark and forms an integral part of Point Fermin Park. The Department seismically retrofitted and refurbished the Lighthouse and operates the Lighthouse as a maritime museum offering tours to the public on a regular basis at no cost.

The Department's Point Fermin Lighthouse Historic Site and Museum Mission Statement:

“The mission of the Point Fermin Lighthouse Historic Site and Museum is to educate and inform the public about the Lighthouse's role in the history of California, its place on the southern California coast line, and its influence on San Pedro and its people, emphasizing its function as a navigational beacon, its lighthouse keepers, and its inhabitants through preservation, exhibition, and public programming.”

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The Department currently includes the maintenance and operation costs of Point Fermin Light Station in the annual budget and the Harbor Department reimburses the Department for the maintenance cost. Upon completion of this acquisition, it is anticipated that we will no longer be reimbursed by the Harbor Department. Therefore, the Department will include the maintenance and operational costs of this facility in its annual budget requests.

This report was prepared by Gregory Clark, Management Analyst II in Real Estate and Asset Management, Planning and Construction Division.

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 8, 2012

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

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AND PARKS

The above item was described and presented to the Board by Department staff, and the Board further discussed the item in detail. Public comment was invited on the item; however, no request for public comment was received.

President Sanders recommended that the report be amended to provide that approval of the report be subject to a Bureau of Engineering geological report that is satisfactory in the opinion of Department of Recreation and Parks management.

It was moved by Commissioner Stanley, seconded by Vice President Alvarez, that the General Manager's Report be approved as amended. There being no objections, the Motion was unanimously approved.