

APPROVED

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 12-249

DATE September 5, 2012

SEP 05 2012

C.D. 4

**BOARD OF RECREATION
& PARK COMMISSIONERS**

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: GRIFFITH PARK – AUTRY MUSEUM OF WESTERN HERITAGE –
INSTALLATION OF STATUE

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

[Signature]
General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board grant final approval for the installation of the statue “Special Delivery” at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage located within Griffith Park.

SUMMARY:

Griffith Park is a regional park of over 4,000 acres and is bounded by Los Feliz Boulevard, the 134 Freeway and the 5 freeway. Griffith Park has many unique features including golf courses, the Greek Theatre, the Griffith Observatory, pony rides, the Travel Town Museum and the Autry Museum of Western Heritage. Griffith Park is a regional resource and a destination for residents of the City of Los Angeles and beyond.

On January 26, 2011, the Department of Recreation and Parks (Department) was contacted by the Autry Museum of Western Heritage (the Autry) with a request to install a statue on the exterior of the Museum. The statue is titled ‘Special Delivery’ and is a tribute to the Pony Express rider. ‘Special Delivery’ features a horse and rider as well as an individual reaching to hand the rider a mail pouch which contains Lincoln's Inaugural Address. The mochila is thrown across the saddle, two loaded cartridge belts cross the torso of the rider who is reaching for a pouch being held out by an individual who could be a station master. Images of the statue, maps and photos of the exact location are attached to this report and incorporated herein as Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

The statue was personally commissioned by Baron Hilton in 1994 and was previously on display at the Hilton Hotel in Reno, Nevada. The artist is Douglas Van Howd of Auburn, California. There is a plaque on the base of the statue which reads:

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“SPECIAL DELIVERY”
by Sculptor Douglas Van Howd

The Pony Express was created on April 3, 1860, to move mail from St. Joseph, MO, to Sacramento, CA, a distance of 1960 miles. The Pony Express consisted of 190 stations, 500 select horses, and 80 experienced riders who averaged 75 miles a day and were paid \$25 per week. The mail cost \$1 to \$5 per ounce and was carried in a leather vest or mochila designed for a quick change. The most famous ride was in March 1861 when Abraham Lincoln became President. The news and Inaugural Address was to reach the west by Pony Express "Special Delivery". While the average ride took 9 to 10 days, this news was delivered in a record 7 days 17 hours.

Van Howd Studios, Auburn, California

The Autry is proposing to place the statue in front of the museum to the right of the entrance. A detail of the proposal is attached to this report as Exhibit B. The Commission granted a conceptual approval for this project on March 2, 2011. Since that time the statue request was presented to the Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council which was granted a sixty (60) day public comment period. No public comments have been received.

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.

Council District 4 and West Region management and staff support this project at the Autry Museum of Western Heritage within Griffith Park.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There shall be no cost to the Department as the costs of installation, maintenance, and removal shall be the responsibility of the Autry Museum.

This Report was prepared by Melinda Gejer, City Planning Associate, Planning, Construction and Maintenance Division.

Exhibit A

"Special Delivery"

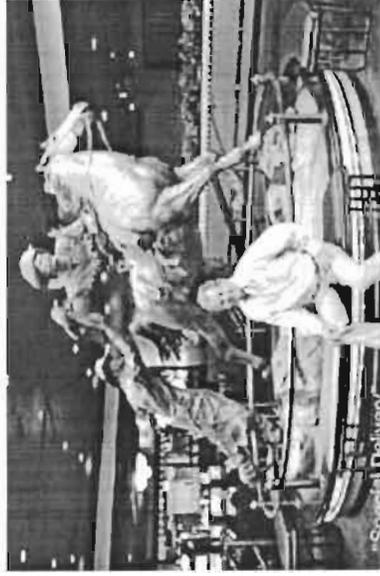




"Special Delivery" – Additional Images



Exhibit B



SCULPTURE - Special Delivery

City National
SCULPTURE
INSTALLATION
PROPOSAL

Travis Wood

South Union

Tunnel

proposed installation

BUS DROP OFF

VISITOR PARKING

STAFF PARKING

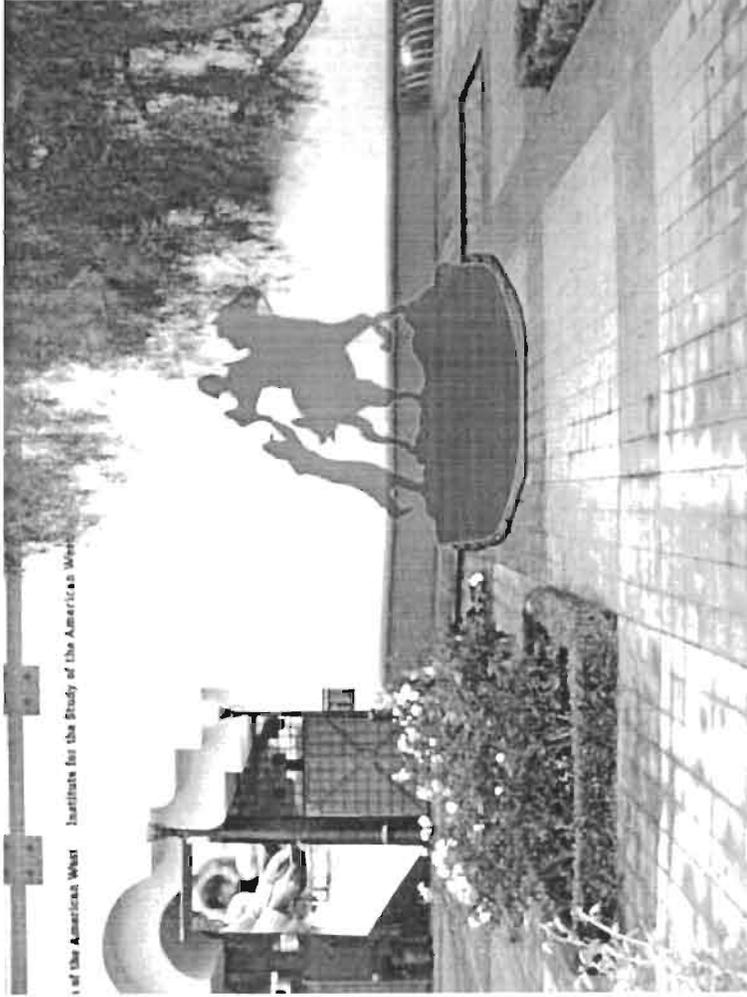
HANDICAP PARKING

PARKING

Exhibit - E



EXISTING



SCULPTURE
INSTALLATION
SPRING 2014
PROPOSAL
MUSEUM

OPTION 1
MUSEUM ENTRANCE

INSTALLATION NEEDS

- Remove 1 tree (already dying) & 1 rose planter
- Fill planters with mulch (as with Crazy Horse); add seating (existing benches)
- Addition of low barrier around sculpture
- Develop labeling solution
- Add lighting for night
- Location is visible by parking lot camera for nighttime security
- Good visibility for public/decent visibility for school groups

PROPOSED

EXHIBIT F

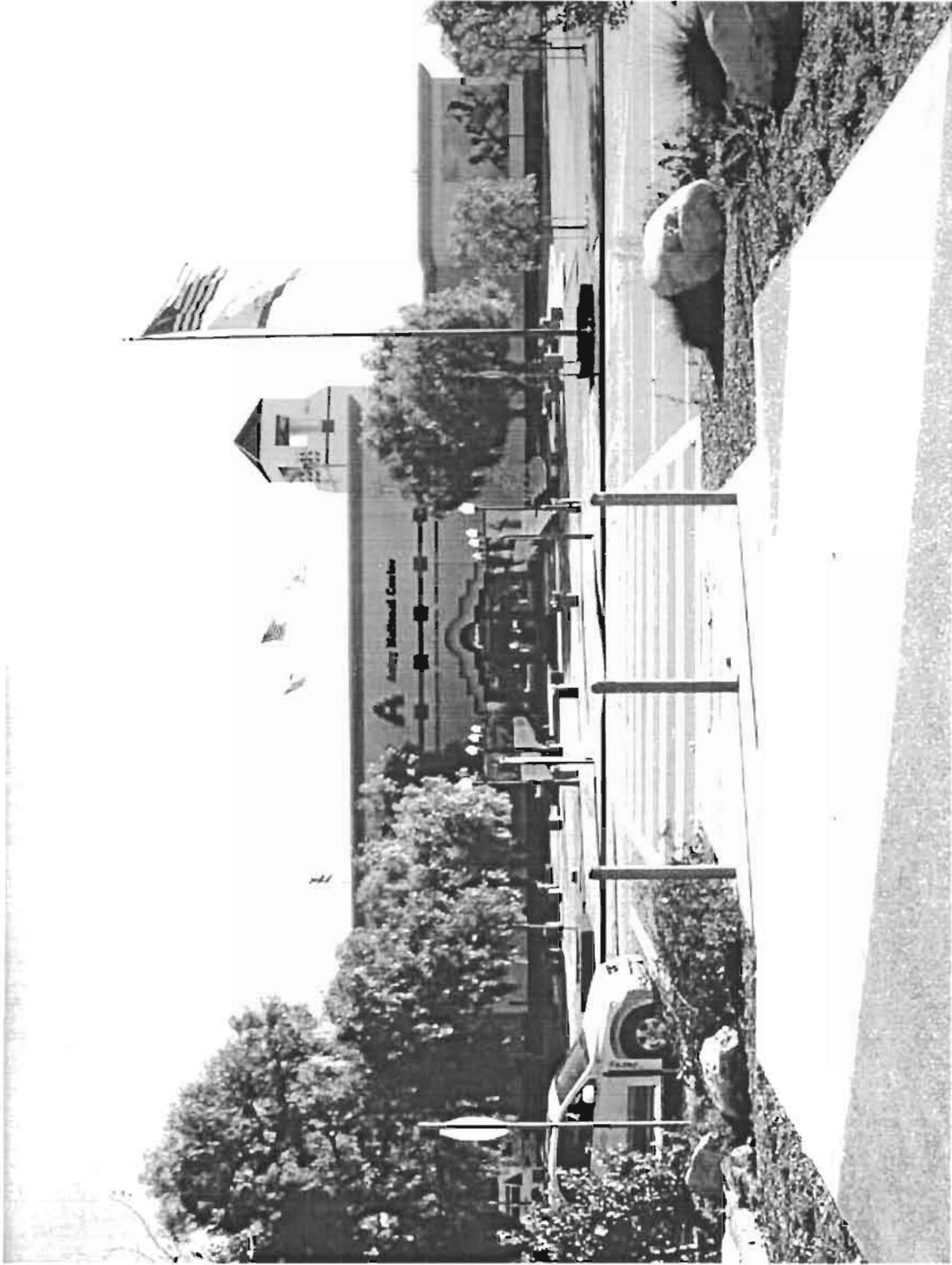
SCULPTURE
INSTALLATION

SPRING 2010

PROPOSAL

10/10

10/10



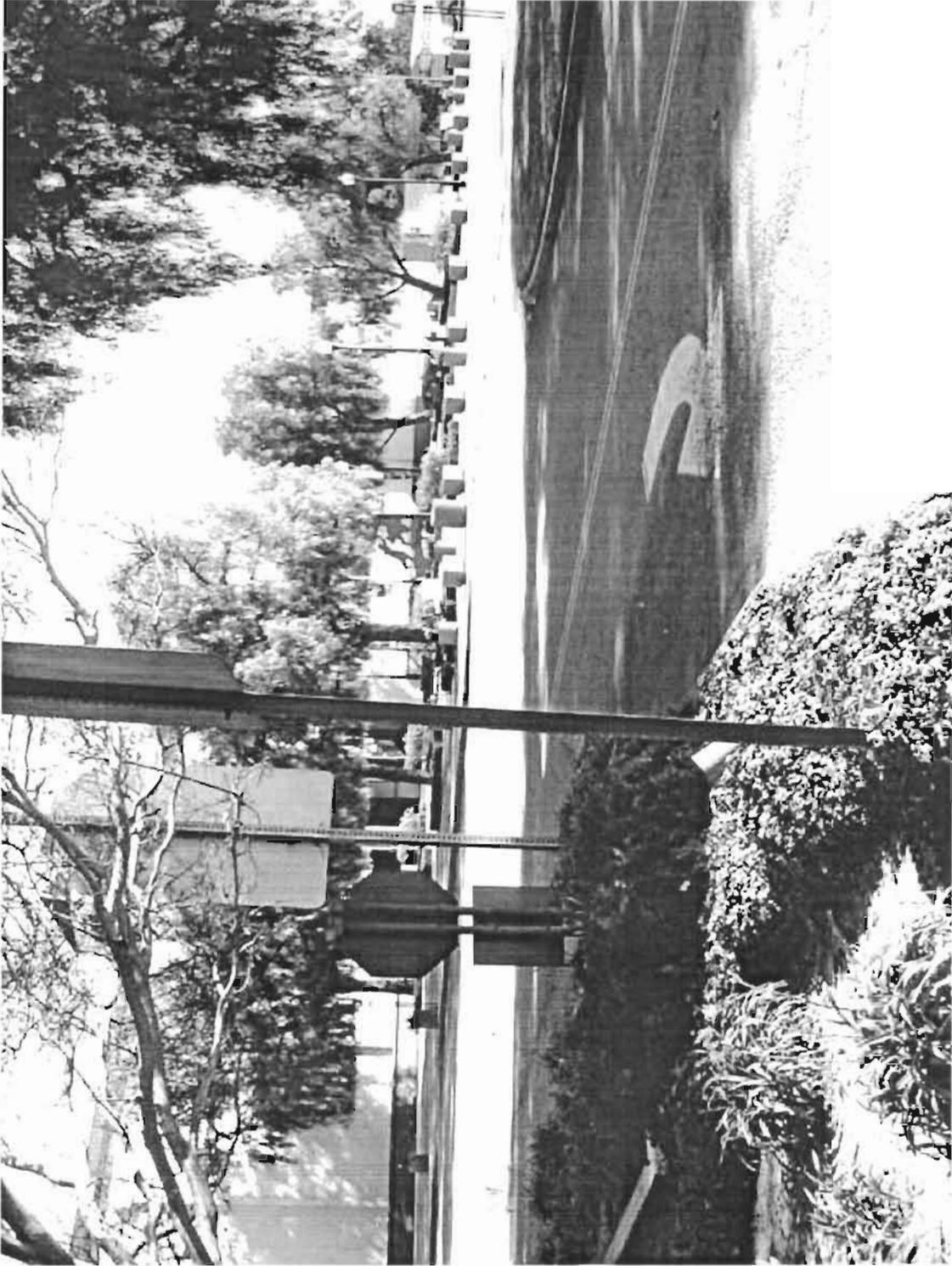
VIEW FROM ZOO WALKWAY

Exhibit B

City of Houston Project
SCULPTURE INSTALLATION
SUBMIT DELIVERABLE
PROPOSAL
Draw: 10/1/10



VIEW FROM SOUTH PARKING LOT/
DRIVING NORTH ON WESTERN HERITAGE WAY



VIEW FROM NORTH PARKING LOT/
DRIVING SOUTH ON WESTERN HERITAGE WAY

SCULPTURE
INSTALLATION
SPECTATOR ENTRY
PROPOSAL