

APPROVED

+REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 14-097

DATE April 23, 2014

APR 23 2014

C.D. 4

**BOARD OF RECREATION
& PARK COMMISSIONERS**

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: GRIFFITH PARK – FINAL APPROVAL OF THE INSTALLATION OF A COMMEMORATIVE BENCH AND ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPING AND SITE IMPROVEMENTS TO ACKNOWLEDGE DONORS TO THE ACQUISITION OF CAHUENGA PEAK

R. Adams	<u> </u>	V. Israel	<u> </u>
*R. Barajas	<u><i>Barajas</i></u>	K. Regan	<u> </u>
H. Fujita	<u> </u>	N. Williams	<u> </u>

[Signature]
General Manager

Approved

Disapproved

Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

- Grant final approval for the installation of a commemorative bench and associated landscaping and site improvements in Griffith Park to acknowledge the donors to the acquisition of Cahuenga Peak and related site improvements; and,
- Authorize staff to issue a Right-of-Entry (ROE) permit to the Trust for Public Land (TPL) and their contractor(s) to perform all work related to the Project, as described in the Summary of this Report.

SUMMARY:

Griffith Park is located at 4730 Crystal Springs Drive in the Hollywood area of the City. This 4,281.73 acre park provides a variety of recreational amenities, programs, and activities for the local community.

On May 17, 2010, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) authorized the acquisition and acceptance of 138 acres of open space property known as Cahuenga Peak (Board Report No. 10-124). On June 2, 2010, the Board approved the phased acquisition and conveyance of Cahuenga Peak through a process that proposed that the City of Los Angeles (City) acquire 122 acres of the Cahuenga Peak property as a first phase and the remaining 16 acres as a second phase

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2 NO. 14-097

(Board Report No. 10-130).

On September 7, 2011, the Board granted final approval for the installation of four (4) plaques and landscaping, fencing, and associated site improvements, at four (4) locations in and around Mount Lee and Cahuenga to acknowledge donors to the acquisition of Cahuenga Peak (Board Report No. 11-241). On that same day, the Board also granted conceptual approval for the installation of a commemorative bench and associated landscaping and site improvements in Griffith Park to acknowledge the donors to the acquisition of Cahuenga Peak and related site improvements (Board Report No. 11-242).

As detailed in Board Report No. 11-242, in recognition of the help and support of the Tiffany & Co. Foundation, a private donor who contributed significant funding to the effort to acquire the Cahuenga Peak property, TPL, the non-profit organization that acted as the buying agent for the Cahuenga Peak acquisition and entered into a property sale and gift agreement with the City in order to acquire the entire property and then convey it to the City via grant deed, requested approval to install a commemorative bench and associated landscaping and site improvements in Griffith Park.

After receiving conceptual approval for this project, TPL worked with Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff, the Councilmember of the District 4, and other stakeholders, to identify the appropriate location for the commemorative bench and site improvements, and to further refine the design of the bench. As a result of that process, TPL has developed a final design and location for the commemorative bench, which is described below and illustrated on Exhibits A and B of this Report.

The commemorative bench will be installed along the "Charlie Turner Trail" in Griffith Park, in a location that would provide a vista of the Cahuenga Peak property. The proposed bench design will not impede the current trail right-of-way, as the seating area is sited off the trail, and sufficient clearance for maintenance and emergency vehicles will continue to be provided.

The design includes two (2) L-shaped seat walls constructed of fused natural stone (outside dimension is approximately 9 feet in length). Stones for the seat wall will be selected to reflect the natural environment of Griffith Park, and they would be fused together with a combination of mortar and/or rebar to create one solid piece for each seat wall. Each of the seat walls will have smoothed and polished seating areas carved into the stone (each seating area will be about 6 feet in length), and will provide views of Griffith Observatory, the Pacific Ocean, and Cahuenga Peak. The interior sides and the top of the seat walls will be smooth, and the outside edges will be left rough and natural.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 3 NO. 14-097

A stone monument marker (approximately 6 feet in length) would also be installed in the same area as the bench, and would include text recognizing the donations provided by the Tiffany & Co. Foundation. The text "The Tiffany & Co. Foundation Overlook" would appear on the vertical face of the monument marker and additional acknowledgement text will appear on the top surface of the stone monument. All proposed text would be sandblasted into the stone monument.

The design and location for the seat walls and monument marker is shown on Exhibit A. The proposed text for the monument marker is shown on Exhibit B.

TPL is currently proposing to start construction of the project in November 2014 and complete it by March 2015. TPL will fully fund the cost for the fabrication and installation of the commemorative bench, monument sign, and any associated site improvements.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

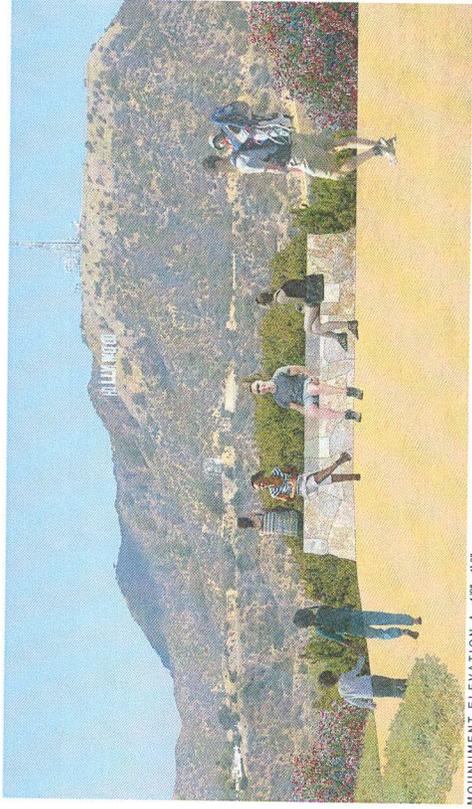
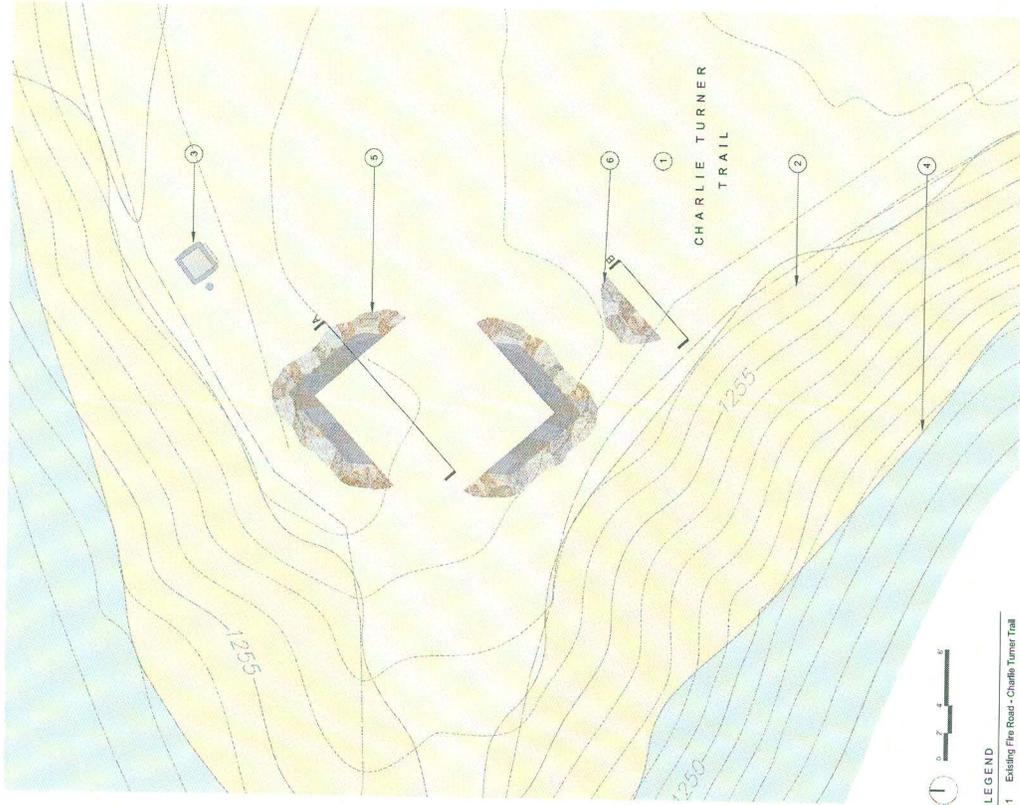
Staff has determined that the subject project is a continuation of an existing project approved on September 7, 2011 (Board Report No. 11-242) that is exempted from CEQA [Class 1(1,3) and Class 11(1,3)]. The work approved by the current Board action will not result in any additional environmental impacts, and therefore, is covered by the existing CEQA exemption. No additional CEQA documentation is required.

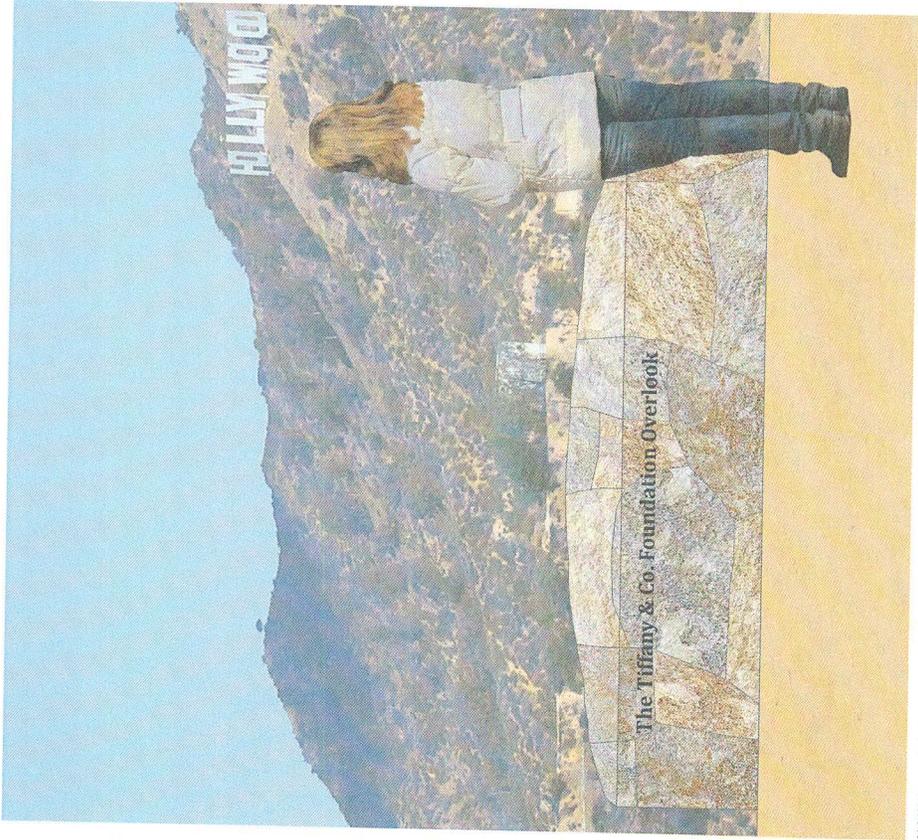
FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The approval of the installation of the commemorative bench and associated site improvements will have a minor fiscal impact on RAP, as the maintenance of the improvements may increase the level of daily maintenance required at this facility.

The estimated costs for the design, development, and construction of the proposed park improvements are anticipated to be funded by funding sources other than RAP's General Fund.

This report was prepared by Darryl Ford, Management Analyst II, Planning, Construction, and Maintenance Branch.





MONUMENT SIGN ELEVATION B - 2" = 1'-0"

The Tiffany & Co. Foundation Overlook

With visionary support from the Tiffany & Co. Foundation and contributions from people worldwide, Cahuenga Peak, the home of the Hollywood sign, was preserved for generations to come.

Please enjoy this magnificent view!

The Trust for Public Land
 Council Member Tom LaBonge
 Los Angeles Parks Foundation
 Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks

DEDICATION TEXT