

APPROVED

SEP 03 2014

BOARD OF RECREATION
AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 14-222

DATE September 3, 2014

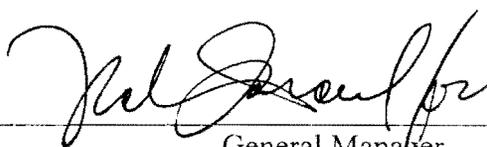
C.D. 15

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: POINT FERMIN LIGHTHOUSE - EXTENSION OF LOAN OF FRESNEL LENS BY
THE UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

R. Adams _____
R. Barajas _____
H. Fujita _____

V. Israel _____
*K. Regan _____
N. Williams _____



General Manager

Approved Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Retroactively approve the extension of the current loan of the Fresnel Lens at the Point Fermin Lighthouse from the United States Coast Guard for a period of five (5) years with the five-year term starting November 13, 2013, and;
2. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit the loan agreement to the City Attorney for approval as to form, and;
3. Authorize the General Manager, or his designee, to execute the loan agreement, substantially in the form on file in the Board Office subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form.

SUMMARY:

The Fresnel Lens is a large glass structure of prisms that was placed around the Point Fermin Lighthouse's oil lantern to help magnify and focus the lantern's beam in the lighthouse tower. After World War II, the lens was removed from Point Fermin Lighthouse and ultimately wound up in the possession of a private entity. With much research and persistence by Point Fermin Lighthouse curator, Kristin Heather (a Department of Recreation and Parks employee), the Fresnel Lens was located. A lens expert positively identified the Fresnel Lens as the one from the Point Fermin Lighthouse and the owner agreed to allow its return to the lighthouse. In November 2006, the Fresnel Lens returned to the Point Fermin Lighthouse with help from curator Kristin Heather, the Point Fermin Lighthouse Society, and the United States Coast Guard (USCG). On December 16,

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2006, the lens went on display for all of Los Angeles to see for the first time since December 7, 1941; the last day it was in operation.

Since the lens now belongs to the USCG, it is on display by their permission through a loan. Approval of this loan renewal of the Fresnel Lens will allow Point Fermin Lighthouse to keep its original lens on public display. This lens is a rare artifact and symbol of Los Angeles that directly interprets the history of the Port of Los Angeles, as well as San Pedro.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT.

There is no direct fiscal impact to the Department's General Fund upon approval of this loan.

This report was prepared by Kristen Heather, Historic Site Curator, Pacific Region.