

APPROVED
JAN 30 2006

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 06-30

DATE January 30, 2006

BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS

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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: RAMONA HALL - INSTALLATION OF A TREE AND A MEMORIAL PLAQUE
IN HONOR OF EDWARD R. ROYBAL

J. Combs _____	J. Kolb _____
H. Fujita _____	F. Mok _____
S. Huntley _____	K. Regan _____
B. Jensen _____	*M. Shull _____

cm for M.S.

Robert Jensen (for)
General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve the installation of a tree and memorial plaque on the small lawn area adjacent to the main facility entrance at Ramona Hall;
2. Approve the wording of a memorial to Congressman Edward R. Roybal, as described in the body of the report, and its placement on a pedestal next to the proposed tree at Ramona Hall;
3. Authorize Department staff to issue a right-of-entry permit to the Northeast Democratic Club for the maintenance of the plaque; and,
4. Direct staff to install the tree, pedestal, and plaque as indicated.

SUMMARY:

Ramona Hall is located at 4580 North Figueroa Street. The Northeast Democratic Club proposed the installation of a tree and memorial plaque in honor of the late Congressman Edward R. Roybal. The tree and memorial plaque will be installed on the small lawn area next to the entrance to the parking lot.

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Congressman Roybal served the East Los Angeles area for thirteen years as a City Councilman and for thirty years as a United States Congressman. He was the first Hispanic elected to Congress from California since 1879 and a pioneer for equal rights for Hispanic-Americans. Congressman Roybal passed away on October 24, 2005.

Department staff has reviewed the proposal and recommends the installation of the plaque and the tree. The tree would be a Brazilian Butterfly Tree (*Bauhinia Fabaceae*). The plaque would be approximately 8"x10" in size and be made of bronze. It would be mounted on a small concrete pedestal next to the proposed tree and read:

“In honor of Congressman Edward R. Roybal for 30 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Los Angeles. 1962 to 1992. In loving memory of a man who always spoke for those who were often unable to speak for themselves. Dedicated on behalf of all he served by the Northeast Democratic Club of Los Angeles.”

The Northeast Democratic Club will fund the tree and plaque. The maintenance of the plaque will be the responsibility of the Northeast Democratic Club. The maintenance of the tree will be the responsibility of the Department. These issues, as well as insurance requirements and permission to enter the premises at Ramona Hall for later maintenance, will be delineated in the right-of-entry permit.

The Councilmember of this District and Metro Region staff support this project.

Staff has determined that the subject project will consist of the placement of an on-premise sign, which is a minor structure that is accessory to (appurtenant to) the existing park facilities, and therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11 (1) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The Department will fund the installation of the tree and plaque amounting to approximately \$865.00. There will be a minimal expenditure for the maintenance of the tree. The Northeast Democratic Club will fund the purchase of the tree and plaque.

Prepared by Camille D. Walls, City Planner, Planning and Development.