

APPROVED  
OCT 19 2011

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 11-288

DATE October 19, 2011

BOARD OF RECREATION  
and PARK COMMISSIONERS

C.D. 1

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: MACARTHUR PARK – RENOVATION OF PLANTING AREA BY THE FRIENDS OF MACARTHUR PARK

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

*[Signature]*  
General Manager

Approved *[Signature]*

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

Withdrawn \_\_\_\_\_

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve a proposed project in MacArthur Park to renovate an existing hillside planting area adjacent to the children's playground as described in the Summary of this Report; and,
2. Direct staff to issue a Right-of-Entry Permit for the private contractor, hired by The Friends of MacArthur Park, to enter the park to install the project, provided that proper insurance is filed with the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) prior to entering the park.

SUMMARY:

The Friends of MacArthur Park, a community group formed specifically for this project, has been awarded a Community Beautification Grant by the City of Los Angeles, Board of Public Works, Office of Community Beautification for the renovation of an existing planting area in MacArthur Park, located at 2230 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street in the First Council District. The grant award is in the amount of \$9,993.08, and will be used for project installation. Matching funds will pay for the garden design and will be applied toward soil preparation, planting and maintenance. This project is located on an existing terraced hillside adjacent to the children's playground (Exhibit A).

The proposed hillside area has been prone to erosion caused by overuse by park patrons which has resulted in excessive dust being blown into the adjacent children's playground. This project will mitigate this dusty situation by planting native ground covers, plants and trees amongst a shredded bark mulch planting area. This project will also be an educational opportunity to learn about California native plants for park visitors. (Concept - Exhibit B).

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The Community Beautification Grant requires The Friends of MacArthur Park to maintain the project area for a period of one (1) year. The Friends of MacArthur Park will water the native plant materials from an existing hose bib and weed the planting area for one year, during which time the native materials will become established and require no further irrigation. No new irrigation system will be necessary in the renovation area. The Friends of MacArthur Park will register with RAP as volunteers prior to performing maintenance work.

### Installation Oversight:

No contribution will be required from Department's General Fund, other than project oversight. The installation of the planting area will be monitored by a landscape architect from RAP's , Planning, Construction and Maintenance Division to ensure that the Department's standards are met.

### Environmental:

Staff has determined that this project will consist solely of the renovation and enhancement of an existing landscaped area in the park. Therefore, the project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1d, Class 4, Category 3 of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Staff has discussed the proposed project(s) with the Superintendent of the Metro Region, and the Offices of Councilmember Ed P. Reyes, of the First Council District, and each supports the project and concurs with staff's recommendations. This project has wide community support and Councilmember Reyes has written a letter of support for this project to the General Manager.

### FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

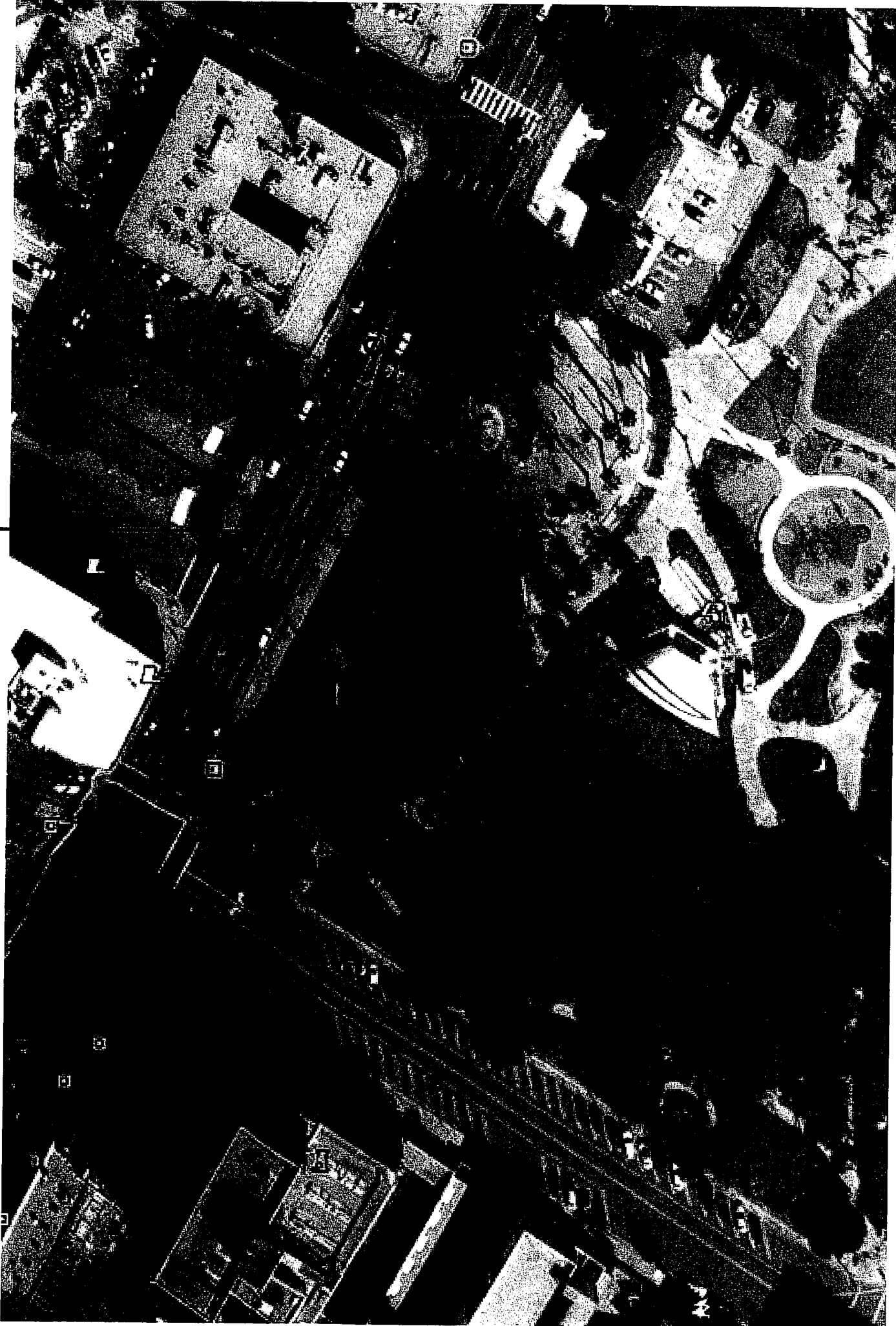
This project should have no fiscal impact on the Department's General Fund, as the costs of the renovation of the planting area will be funded entirely through the Community Beautification Grant and the Friends of MacArthur Park matching funds.

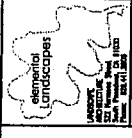
Future maintenance expenses for the Department will be reduced in the first year of the project as the upkeep of the planting area will be performed by the Friends of MacArthur Park. After the first year, maintenance will be performed by staff per their regular schedule.

This report was prepared by Tom Gibson, Landscape Architect I, Planning, Construction and Maintenance Division.

**Project Location  
MacArthur Park**

**Exhibit A**

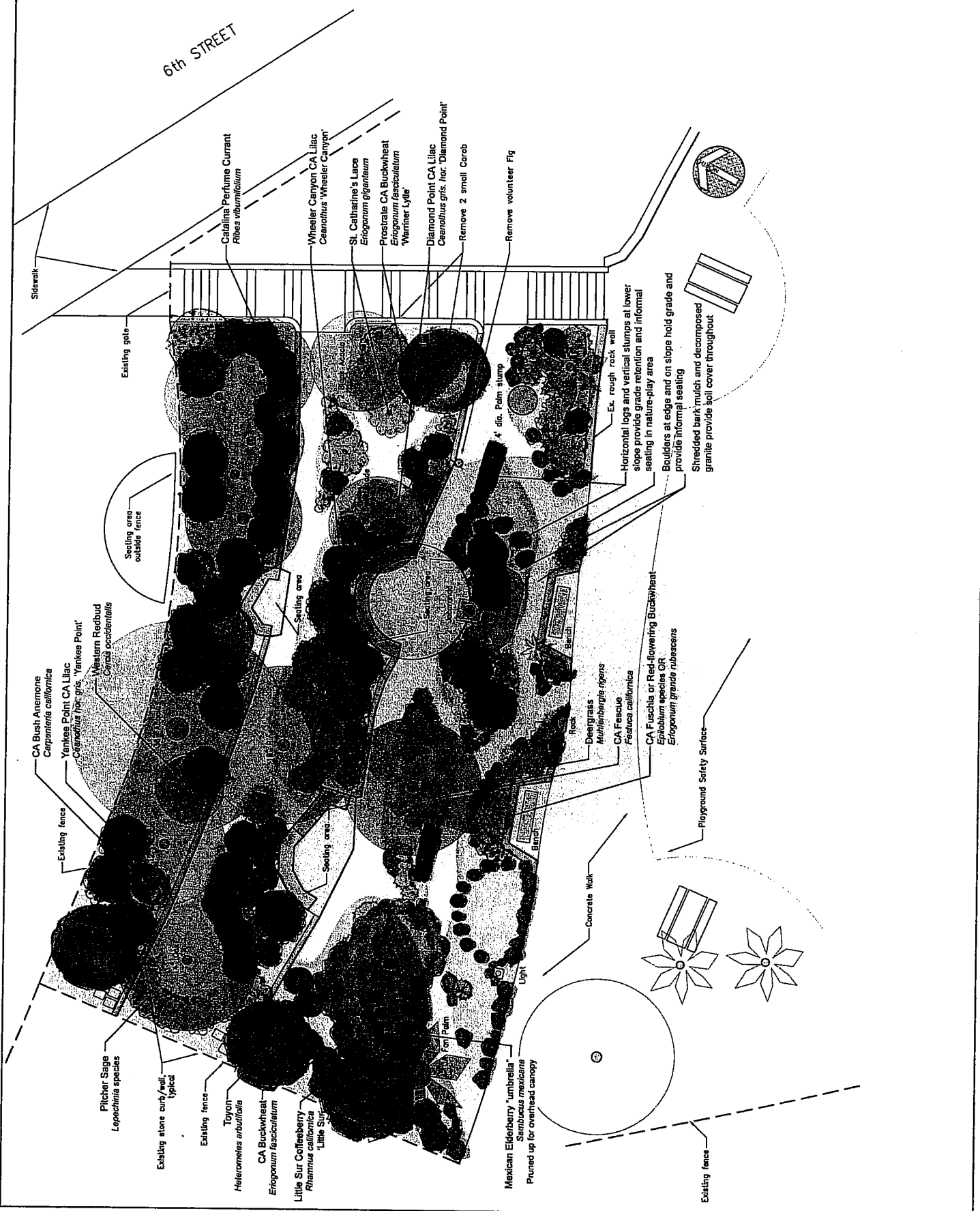




Prepared for:  
Theodore Payne Foundation  
12345 Main Street  
San Valley CA 91352

Native Plantings at MacArthur Park Playground  
2230 West 6th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90057

Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0"
Date: 1 May 10
Drawn by: AM
Sheet Title: CONCEPT SKETCH
Sheet No.: 1



Sidewalk

6th STREET

Existing gate

Seating area - outside fence

Seating area

Seating area

Seating area

Light

Playground Safety Surface

Existing fence

CA Bush Anemone  
*Carpenteria californica*

Yankee Point CA Lilac  
*Ceanothus 'Yankee Point'*

Western Redbud  
*Cercis occidentalis*

Pitcher Sage  
*Lepochinchia* species

Existing stone curb/wall  
Typical

Existing fence

Tejocote  
*Heteromeles arbutifolia*

CA Buckwheat  
*Eriogonum fasciculatum*

Little Star Coffeeberry  
*Rhamnus californica*

Little Star  
*Rhamnus californica*

Remove 2 small Carob

Remove volunteer Fig

Mexican Elderberry "umbrella"  
*Sambucus mexicana*  
Pruned up for overhead canopy

Concrete Walk

Rock

Deergrass  
*Hesperolobos rigens*

CA Fescue  
*Festuca californica*

CA Fuchsia or Red-flowering Buckwheat  
*Eriogonum grande rubescens*

CA Fuchsia or Red-flowering Buckwheat  
*Eriogonum grande rubescens*

Horizontal logs and vertical stumps at lower slope provide grade retention and informal seating in nature-play area

Boulders at edge and on slope hold grade and provide informal seating

Shredded bark, mulch and decomposed granite provide soil cover throughout

Ex. rough rock wall

4" dia. Palm stump

Bench

Bench

Bench

Bench

Bench

Bench

Bench

Bench