

APPROVED
NOV 06 2019

BOARD OF RECREATION
AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD REPORT

NO. 19-228

DATE Novemeber 06, 2019

C.D. 12

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: OAKRIDGE ESTATE PARK – FINAL CONSIDERATION OF PLAQUE INSTALLATION TO COMMEMORATE THE HISTORY OF THE PARK – CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION FROM THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) PURSUANT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 1, CLASS 11(1) [PLACEMENT OF ON-PREMISES SIGNAGE ACCESSORY TO EXISTING FACILITIES] OF THE CITY CEQA GUIDELINES AND ARTICLE 19, SECTION 15311(a) OF THE CALIFORNIA CEQA GUIDELINES

AP Diaz	_____	S. Piña-Cortez	_____
H. Fujita	_____	* C. Santo Domingo	_____ <i>DS</i>
V. Israel	_____	N. Williams	_____

[Signature]

General Manager

Approved X Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION

1. Grant final approval for the Oakridge Estate Park - Plaque Installation (Project), as described in the Summary of this Report;
2. Authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff to issue the appropriate Right of Entry (ROE) Permit for the installation of the Project;
3. Determine that the proposed Project is exempt from the provision of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11(1) [Placement of On-Premises Signage Accessory to Existing Facilities] of the City CEQA Guidelines and Article 19, Section 15311(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines;
4. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee or designee to prepare a check to the Los Angeles County Clerk in the amount of \$75.00 for the purpose of filing a Notice of Exemption (NOE); and,
5. Authorize RAP's Chief Accounting Employee or designee to make technical corrections as necessary to carry out the intent of this Report.

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SUMMARY

Oakridge Estate Park is located at 18650 Devonshire Street in the Northridge community of the City. This 9.47-acre park contains the Oakridge Residence (Oakridge Estate), which is City of Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument #484, as well as an approximately 8-acre passive park area containing natural grass areas, hiking trails, playground equipment, picnic tables and walking paths. The 8 acre passive park was opened to the public in December 2018. Approximately 792 City residents live within a one half (½) mile walking distance of Oakridge Estate Park.

PROJECT SCOPE

RAP has received a request from Patricia LoPreste, a community volunteer with the Oakridge Residence Park Advisory Board and Friends of Oakridge, to install an expository plaque at Oakridge Estate Park that describes the history of the property to park visitors.

The text of the proposed plaque explains the history of the Oakridge Residence and Oakridge Estate Park. Oakridge Estate Park was originally part of the Marwyck Ranch – a Thoroughbred breeding and training operation owned by actors Barbara Stanwick and Zeppo Marx. The Oakridge Residence and the surrounding property was later sold to comedian Jack Oakie. The property was purchased by RAP in 2009 for use as a public park.

The plaque will be manufactured of bronze with a satin clear coat to facilitate graffiti removal and installed on a dark post mount. The plaque was designed to look similar to an existing plaque on the Oakridge Residence. A graphic illustrating the proposed text, mount, and layout of the plaque is attached as Exhibit A.

The plaque is proposed to be installed south of the parking lot, near the entrance to the walking paths that lead into the passive park area. The proposed location of the plaque installation is attached as Exhibit B.

The Project was presented to RAP's Facility Repair and Maintenance Commission Task Force on September 4, 2019, at which time it was recommended that the proposal be forwarded to the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) for consideration.

The Office of Historic Resources has reviewed the proposed plaque and affirmed that the installation of the plaque will not require additional approvals from their office.

The Office of Council District 12 is in support this project at Oakridge Estate Park.

PROJECT FUNDING

The cost of the manufacture and installation of the plaque will be borne by the Project applicant, Ms. LoPreste. Funding for the plaque and its installation was provided by the Northridge West Neighborhood Council, within which boundaries the park resides, the Northridge East Neighborhood Council, whose boundaries begin one-half mile to the east at Reseda Boulevard, and a number of other donors.

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Additionally, Ms. LoPreste has secured a maintenance commitment from the Northridge Beautification Foundation and the Northridge East Neighborhood Council for the maintenance of the sign. Ms. LoPreste has also signed the appropriate Waiver of Rights which allows for the removal of the plaque if it is not maintained to the satisfaction of RAP.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The proposed Project consists of the installation of a plaque in an existing public park. Therefore, RAP Staff recommends that the Board determines that the project is categorically 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 and Article 19, Section 15311(a) of the State CEQA Guidelines. RAP Staff will file a Notice of Exemption (NOE) with the Los Angeles County Clerk within five (5) working days of the approval of this report.

FISCAL IMPACT

There will be minimal fiscal impact as the cost of manufacture, installation, and maintenance of the Project shall be borne by the Project applicant.

STRATEGIC PLAN INITIATIVES AND GOALS

Approval of this Board Report advances RAP's Strategic Plan by supporting:

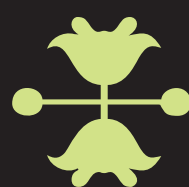
Goal No. 2: Offer Affordable and Equitable Recreational Programming
Outcome No. 4: Connect more Angelinos to the diverse cultural programs in the park system.
Result: An installation which describes the history of Oakridge Estate Park and serves an educational tool for park users and the local community.

This Report was prepared by Darryl Ford, Acting Superintendent, Planning, Construction and Maintenance Branch, Department of Recreation and Parks.

LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Exhibit A – Plaque Design and Language
- 2) Exhibit B – Plaque Location

The Oakridge Estate Park



**Dedicated to the Citizens of Los Angeles in 2018
Council District 12**

This historic 8-acre site was once part of Marwyck Ranch, a famous 130-acre Thoroughbred breeding farm, co-owned by actors Barbara Stanwyck and Zeppo

Marx. The mansion visible atop the hill was built for Stanwyck in 1937.

Comedian Jack Oakie purchased the house on 9.5 acres in the early 1940s and named it Oakridge. Victoria Oakie was instrumental in obtaining the Historic Cultural-Monument designation in 1990 (#484).

In 2009, the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks purchased Oakridge ensuring its preservation for future generations.

Plaque donated by Northridge West and Northridge East Neighborhood Councils.





16"x 20" CUSTOM CAST BRONZE PLAQUE

4"x 4" SQ. TUBE PAINTED BLACK

36"

GROUND LEVEL

24" DEEP CONCRETE FOOTING

Front and Side Elevations

Scale: 1" = 1'-0"

A Oakridge Estate Historic Plaque

Qty: (1)

Scale: 3" = 1'-0"

Specifications:

Overall Size: 20" (h) x 16" (w)

Materials:

Plaque: Custom cast 5/16" bronze plaque

Raised Copy Finish: Horizontal brushed bronze w/satin clear coat

Background Texture: Classic leather

Design Details: Plaque to have single line border and custom hexagonal-like shape per art sample.

Letters to Read: To match copy of customer supplied "Final Approved Draft" document.

Installation: Post mounts mounted to back of plaque with machine screws at 45 degree angle at a height of 36".

Post mount installed to customer specified ground surface at depth of 24" with poured concrete base.

Installation Height: Ground level

PREMIUM SIGN SOLUTIONS



18314 Oxnard St #3
Tarzana, CA 91356
818-578-6234
premiumsignsolutions.com

Project
**Oakridge Park
Historic Plaque**

Address:

18650 Devonshire Street
Northridge, CA 91324

Project Manager:

Chris O'Connell
818.578.6234
chris@premiumsignsolutions.com

Designer:

NickCastil

Scale:

As noted

Design No.:

Date:

July 18, 2019

Revisions:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

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Note: The Colors depicted here are a graphic representation. Actual colors may vary. See color specifications.

EXHIBIT B



Devonshire St



SITE PLAN / VICINITY MAP

Scale: NTS

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