

APPROVED
OCT 18 2006

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 06-301

DATE October 18, 2006

BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS

C.D. 13

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: LAKE STREET PARK – WORLD WAR II VETERANS MEMORIAL AND
MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH SEARCH TO INVOLVE PILIPINO
AMERICANS (SIPA)

J. Combs	_____	J. Kolb	_____
H. Fujita	_____	F. Mok	_____
S. Huntley	_____	K. Regan	_____
B. Jensen	_____	*M. Shull	<u>On f. M.S.</u>

[Handwritten Signature]
General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve the design and construction of the proposed World War II Filipino veterans memorial in accordance with City Contract No. 109597, executed on March 15, 2006, between the Department and the project's artist, and the subsequent placement of the memorial at the Lake Street Park;
2. Approve the proposed maintenance agreement, substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, subject to approval of the Mayor and City Council and of the City Attorney as to form;
3. Direct the Board Secretary to transmit the proposed maintenance agreement to the Mayor, in accordance with Executive Directive No. 3; and City Attorney for review as to form; and,
4. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the maintenance agreement upon obtaining the necessary approvals.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2

NO. 06-301

SUMMARY:

The City is reported to have the largest number of persons of Philippine ancestry living outside their homeland with a substantial community in the area known as the "Temple-Beverly corridor." In July 2002, the City Council designated this two square-mile area as "Historic Filipinotown." Three years later the Office of Council District Thirteen initiated a project to honor Filipino veterans of World War II with a memorial to be placed at the Department's Lake Street Park, located at 227 N. Lake Street. The City Council approved this project on June 17, 2005 (C. F. 03-1251). Ms. Cheri Gaulke, a local artist, was chosen to design and oversee the memorial's placement (City Contract No. 109597). A public meeting to discuss the project was held on February 1, 2006, and the City's Cultural Affairs Commission approved the design on March 3, 2006. The required permit and plan check have been obtained from Building and Safety.

The non-profit organization, Search to Involve Pilipino Americans (SIPA), has volunteered to maintain the memorial at their sole cost, hence the need for Board approval of the proposed maintenance agreement. It is anticipated that the memorial will be dedicated either on or soon after Veterans Day, November 11, 2006. It will become the City's property, having been financed with \$75,000 from a Community Development Block Grant. Because of the intended placement of the memorial parallel and close to Lake Street, it is also considered a streetscape beautification project. Accordingly, an additional \$15,000 was paid from the Council Office's allocation of the Public Works Street Furniture Revenue Fund, No. 43D, of which \$10,000 was authorized to be paid to Recreation and Parks (Dept. 88, Fund No. 205, Account No. YM10) as a security deposit (C. F. 05-1073-S17).

The memorial will honor the struggles, victories and patriotism of Filipino World War II veterans who fought alongside American soldiers for the liberation of their homeland. The memorial will consist of five black granite monoliths ranging from five to seven feet tall and from three to four feet wide. Four of the monoliths have trapezoidal shapes; one is a vertical rectangle. Between two of the monoliths will be placed a sheet of dichroic glass that shifts in appearance as the viewer moves in relation to it. (Dichroic glass contains specks of metal oxides which create an "interference" layer that causes the color and intensity of transmitted and reflected light to change with the angle of view, creating a shimmering effect.) In the context of the memorial, the glass serves as a contemporary form of the traditional eternal flame.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 3

NO. 06-301

On the Lake Street side will be etched the word "Valor," one letter per monolith, with an accompanying map of the Philippines. Five free-standing, in-ground lights will be installed to illuminate the monoliths. The side of the monoliths facing the park will have pictures and text. Three of the monoliths memorialize wartime struggles leading to victory; the monolith at the far left chronicles the islands' colonial and American Commonwealth status, and the monolith on the far right chronicles the continuing post-war involvement with justice and equity. On this side of the memorial will also be placed two black granite benches, one having the word "Valor" engraved on the side facing the park and the other having the word "Kagitingan", which is the equivalent in Tagalog, the Philippine language.

The SIPA was founded in 1972 and is a key service provider to their constituents. It is part of a consortium of five long-standing organizations that serve the City's diverse Asian-Pacific community. The groups are partly funded from corporate and public-sector grants. SIPA and the other groups offer economic and social services and provide a forum for preserving cultural connections while fostering personal self-development and outreach.

The proposed maintenance agreement has an initial term of ten years with an option to extend for five additional years. It can be terminated for default or by either party's providing 60 days written notice. SIPA will maintain and perform routine repairs of the monument at their sole cost; they may perform other work with Metro Region's approval. SIPA will also remove graffiti from the monument. The City is not obligated to provide any security for the monument beyond what is normally provided at the Community Center. Any requests for filming at the monument must be processed through the Department's Film Office. The Region overseeing the facility must approve any special event planned for the site as well as any related signage or banner. SIPA will reimburse the ongoing electrical costs of any lights installed at the memorial. The insurance and indemnification wording were approved by the City's Risk Manager.

Staff determined that the recommended action of the Board, consisting of approving a memorial and a maintenance agreement, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class (14) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

The Office of Council District Thirteen, the Assistant General Manager of Operations East and the Superintendent of Metro Region concur with staff's recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There is no anticipated impact to the Department's General Fund as a result of executing this maintenance agreement or of having the veterans memorial installed at the Lake Street site.

Prepared by Joan Reitzel, Senior Management Analyst, Real Estate and Asset Management.