

APPROVED
JUL 14 2010

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 10-198

DATE July 14, 2010

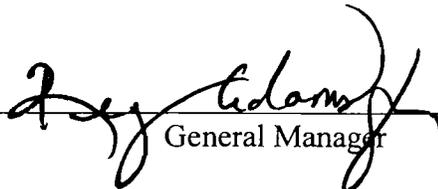
BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS

C.D. 10

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: RANCHO CIENEGA SPORTS COMPLEX - PAYMENT OF FUNDS TO THE LOS ANGELES PARKS FOUNDATION FOR THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND INSTALLATION OF A BRONZE BUST IN MEMORY OF CHARMETTE BONPUA, AND CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL OF THE PLAQUE DESIGN AND INSTALLATION

R. Adams _____
H. Fujita _____
S. Huntley _____
V. Israel _____
F. Mok _____
* K. Regan RAF
M. Shull _____


General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Grant approval of the design, construction, and installation of the monument in memory of Charmette Bonpua, as described in the body of this report, subject to retroactive approval by the Department of Cultural Affairs Commission;
2. Approve the Agreement, substantially in the form on file in the Board Office, between the Los Angeles Parks Foundation (Foundation) and the City, acting by and through the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board), for the purposes of providing \$36,000 to the Foundation to engage Nijel Binns of Nijart International to design, construct and install a monument at Rancho Cienega Sports Complex, as described more fully in the body of this report;
3. Direct the Board Secretary to forward the agreement to the Mayor's Office for review and approval, pursuant to Executive Directive No. 3, and to City Attorney's Office for review and approval as to form;
4. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the Agreement upon receipt of all required approvals;
5. Authorize the Department's Chief Accounting Employee to establish a new account in Fund 302, Department 89, in the amount of \$36,000 for the Foundation;

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6. Authorize the Department's Chief Accounting Employee to make a payment of \$36,000 to the Foundation for the design, construction, and installation of a bronze bust/plaque at the Rancho Cienega Sports Center, Skate Plaza;
7. Authorize the Department's Chief Accounting Employee to make technical corrections as necessary; and,
8. Authorize Department staff to issue a Right of Entry Permit to the Foundation and/or the artist to allow the design, construction, and installation of the subject monument.

SUMMARY:

On May 17, 2010, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board), through Board Report No. 10-120, approved the naming of the skate plaza to be built at the Rancho Cienega Sports Complex in memory of Charmette Bonpua. The design and construction of the skate plaza was made possible by a donation from The Rob Dyrdek Foundation. The donation, which was officially accepted by the Board at the same meeting, provided for the design and construction of a street style, skate plaza. The Plaza will provide the community with a modern street-skate venue to satisfy the needs of today's urban-youth street skater.

Charmette Bonpua was active in community service for many years in various capacities, including serving as the Chief of Staff for Councilmember Herb Wesson, both when he served as speaker of the California Assembly and as the councilmember for Council District 10. In addition to her years of devoted public service, Ms. Bonpua was also known for her passion of working with youth. She chaired the Board of the Asian Pacific Youth Leadership Project, a non-profit organization that stages an annual conference to develop leadership skills.

Ms. Bonpua died on February 13, 2010, while on a family vacation in Las Vegas. She was instrumental in securing the funding for the proposed Plaza at the Complex. It was widely felt that the naming of this Plaza in her memory was an appropriate tribute for her efforts in providing this recreational opportunity for local youth.

As a further tribute to Ms. Bonpua and in concert with the naming of the Plaza, Councilmember Herb Wesson subsequently requested that a monument in memory of Ms. Bonpua be produced and installed at the Plaza. It was estimated that this work would cost approximately \$36,000 to complete. This amount was provided to the Department from funds available to Council District 10.

In order to expedite the fabrication and installation of the monument, it was determined that the Los

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Angeles Parks Foundation (Foundation) would be the best organization for commissioning the artist to complete the monument. An agreement is required in order to make the designated funds available to the Foundation, who will then be responsible for disbursing the payment of \$36,000 to the artist for the design, construction, and installation of the monument. Therefore, approval of the agreement is needed. Upon receipt of all approvals and the execution of the agreement, Department staff will issue the Foundation and/or its artist a right of entry permit to allow the work to be completed.

The Charmette Bonpua Skate Park Monument is proposed to be designed and sculpted by artist Nijel Binns, of Nijart International. The piece features a sweeping ruby red granite monolith that rises and dips at the top like a skate park feature. When viewed from the side, the width of the monolith tapers to an aerodynamic wing shape that adds to the grace and fluid movements associated with the art of skateboarding. The monolith sits on a black absolute granite base, and contains a 2' x 3' bronze plaque inset with relief portrait of Ms. Bonpua and the images of two of her young relatives.

Removal of the bust, plaque, and monument is subject to the provisions of Federal and State law that require notice to artists prior to physical defacement, mutilation, alteration or destruction of works of fine art (17 U.S. Code 106A; California Civil Code section 987).

Department staff has determined that the proposed project involves the placement of a minor structure accessory to the Rancho Cienega Sports Complex and, therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11 (6) of the City CEQA Guidelines

Department staff have discussed the proposed project with the Assistant General Manager of Operations West, the Superintendent of the West Region, and the Office of Councilmember Herb Wesson of Council District 10, and each supports the project and concurs with staff's recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There will be no fiscal impact to the Department's General Fund as the proposed monument will be designed, constructed, and installed using funds that were transferred to RAP from Council District 10.

This report was prepared by Kevin W. Regan, Assistant General Manager, Operations West.