REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER
NO. 11-218

DATE August 3, 2011 C.D. 4

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: NORTH WEDDINGTON PARK – FINAL CONSIDERATION OF PLAQUE PROPOSAL TO COMMEMORATE CALIFORNIA VICTIMS OF SEPTEMBER 11 TERRORIST ATTACKS

R. Adams K. Regan
H. Fujita *M. Shull
V. Israel N. Williams

General Manager

Approved Disapproved Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Grant final approval for the wording, placement, and installation of a plaque at North Weddington Park, as described in the Summary of this Report; and,

2. Authorize the Department to issue the appropriate Right-of-Entry Permit.

SUMMARY:

North Weddington Park is a 10.21 acre community park located at 10844 Acama Street in the North Hollywood area of the City. This park includes an auditorium, barbeque pits, baseball diamond, basketball courts, community room, handball courts and volleyball courts. This proposal is for the installation of a plaque at North Weddington Park that will commemorate the thirty-two (32) Californians who were killed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The Department has been contacted by the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council with a request to install a memorial plaque at North Weddington Park. The plaque would be mounted on a boulder and located within the large entrance triangle to the park, near the memorial grove of thirty-two (32) trees that were planted in the park in 2004, and will list the names of those Californians who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. A conceptual approval of this plaque was granted by this Commission at its July 13, 2011 meeting (Board Report No. 11-197).
The proposed plaque would be 18" x 22", be fabricated of bronze, include an anti-graffiti coating, and be mounted on a boulder. This plaque proposal has had several opportunities for public input including an April 5, 2011 meeting of the Executive Committee of the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council and an April 19, 2011 full meeting of the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council. Both meetings were properly noticed as per the Ralph M. Brown Act requirements.

The cost of the manufacture, installation, and maintenance of the plaque will be borne by the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council. A budget of $2,000 was approved at their April 19, 2011 meeting which is sufficient to cover both the manufacture and the installation of the plaque per the quotes obtained by the Neighborhood Council and provided to the Department for reference. The Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council has also committed to the maintenance of the plaque and these issues will be delineated in the Right-of-Entry Permit, which will also provide for the plaque’s removal if it is not maintained to the satisfaction of the Department.

The text of the proposed plaque is attached hereto as Exhibit A. While Department policy specifically forbids any commercial or religious symbols on plaques, the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council is requesting that the plaque may be adorned with the image of a ribbon, an image which has come to symbolize solidarity after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Staff has determined that the subject project is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Article VLL, Section 1, Class 11 (1) of the City CEQA guidelines, which provides for the placement of signs on park property as accessory structures to recreational facilities.

Council District 4 and West Region management and staff support this project at North Weddington Park.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There should be no fiscal impact as the cost of manufacture, installation, and maintenance shall be borne by the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council.

This Report was prepared by Melinda Gejer, City Planning Associate, Planning, Construction, and Maintenance.
"UNITED WE PLANT"
Hollywood/Los Angeles Beautification Team

One tree promised and planted for every person loved and lost on 9/11

Nitin Parandkar  Avnish Ramanbhal Patel
Hardai (Casey) Parham – NYPD  Manish K. Patel
George Paris  Steven B. Paterson
Debra (Debbie) Paris  James Matthew Patrick
Gye-Hyung Park  Manuel Patrocino
Philip L. Parker  Bernard E. Patterson
Michael A. Parks  Cira Marie Patti
Robert Emmett Parks, Jr  James R. Paul
Hasmukhrai Chuckulal Parmar  Sharon Cristina Millan Paz
Diane Marie Moore Parsons  Patrice Paz
Leobardo Lopez Pasqual  Victor Paz-Gutierrez
Michael J. Pascuma, Jr.  Stacey L. Peak
Horace Robert Passananti  Richard Allen Pearlman
Suzanne H. Passaro  Thomas E. Pedicini
Victor Antonio Martinez Pastrana  Todd D. Pelino
Dipti Patel  Michel Adrian Pelletier

Trees planted by the community of Toluca Lake. Plaque donated by the Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council through the support of Councilmember Tom LaBonge and the city of Los Angeles