

APPROVED

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 14-314

DATE December 10, 2014

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BOARD OF RECREATION
& PARK COMMISSIONERS

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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: JACKIE TATUM – HARVARD RECREATION CENTER – NAMING OF
BASEBALL DIAMOND IN HONOR OF COACH FRANK GARNETT

R. Adams	_____	V. Israel	_____
*R. Barajas	<u>CBD</u>	K. Regan	_____
H. Fujita	_____	N. Williams	_____

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M. Miller
General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

- Grant approval to name the southeastern most baseball field at Jackie Tatum – Harvard Recreation Center, the Frank Garnett Diamond, in honor of Coach Frank Garnett; and,
- Authorize the installation of appropriate park signage.

SUMMARY:

Jackie Tatum – Harvard Recreation Center is a 12.9 acre community park located at 1535 West 62nd Street, in the South Los Angeles community. Jackie Tatum – Harvard Recreation Center includes an auditorium, lighted baseball diamonds, indoor and outdoor basketball courts, a football field, picnic tables, tennis courts, as well as sports and after school programs.

The Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) has received a request from the Manual Arts High School Alumni Association to name the southeastern most baseball diamond at Jackie Tatum – Harvard Recreation Center the Frank Garnett Diamond in honor of Coach Frank Garnett. This is the baseball diamond on which the Manual Arts High School baseball team practices and plays its home games (Exhibit A).

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Frank Garnett was a baseball coach at Manual Arts High School from 1967 – 1976. Mr. Garnett was the first African American baseball coach in the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). During his tenure at Manual Arts High School, Coach Garnett led his team to six league championships and twelve of his students went on to sign Major League Baseball contracts. After leaving LAUSD, Mr. Garnett became a college instructor and the first African American baseball coach at the California collegiate level.

The Manual Arts High School Alumni Association has committed to raise funds for the installation of standard park signage naming the Frank Garnett Diamond. Until such time that sufficient funds have been raised a banner will be hung for home-games only and will be the responsibility of the Manual Arts High School Alumni Association. This banner will only be hung for the duration of each individual game of which there are an average of five per season.

Given the nexus between Coach Garnett and the Jackie Tatum – Harvard Recreation Center baseball field, his historic accomplishment being the first African American baseball coach within the LAUSD and the contributions he made to the baseball playing youth in the surrounding community, staff finds that that this naming proposal is consistent with the Commission adopted policies for the naming of facility features. This proposal was reviewed by the Facility Repair and Maintenance Task Force on August 14, 2014, at which time it was recommended by the Task Force that the proposal be forwarded to the full Board of Commissioners for review and consideration.

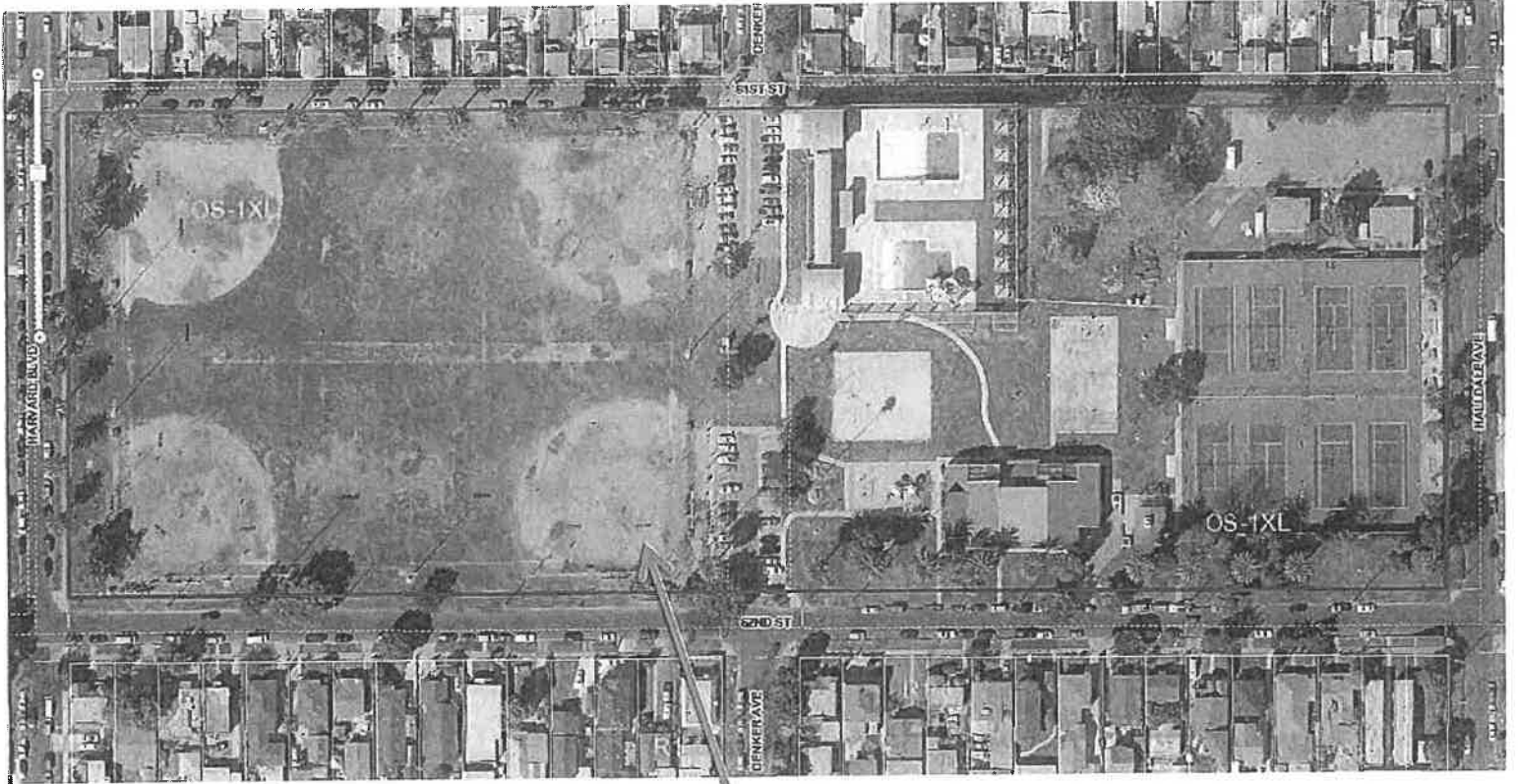
Recreation and Parks management and staff are in support with the recommendations as set forth by the Department.

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

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

There is no fiscal impact to the Department for the naming of this baseball diamond as the appropriate signage will be paid for by the Manual Arts High School Alumni Association.

This report was prepared by Melinda Gejer, City Planning Associate, Planning, Construction and Maintenance Branch.



Proposed Frank Garnett Diamond