REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

DATE December 9, 2015

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: CYPRESS PARK COMMUNITY CENTER (KNOWS AS OLD CYPRESS PARK LIBRARY) – NAMING AS “CYPRESS PARK CLUB HOUSE”

* R. Barajas    K. Regan
H. Fujita       N. Williams
V. Israel

General Manager

Approved  Disapproved  Withdrawn

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Grant approval to name Cypress Park Community Center as “Cypress Park Club House”; and,

2. Authorize the installation of appropriate park signage.

SUMMARY:

Old Cypress Park Branch Library was under the jurisdiction of the Library Department and was approved for transfer to the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) through the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (Board) on October 9, 2009 (Report No. 09-244). Old Cypress Park Branch Library is a 0.18 acre facility located at 3320 Pepper Avenue. The surrounding neighborhood is primarily residential and nearby to the southwest is Cypress Recreation Center, a 3.49 acre RAP facility at 2630 Pepper Avenue. The former library, which is on the National Register of Historic Places, is a one-story colonial revival style designed in an L-plan, with a total of 2,800 internal square feet, and with a high-pitched gable roof built in 1926.

On May 16, 2012, the Board approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between RAP and the Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering and the Department of General Services, Construction Forces Division to provide construction services for the Cypress Park
Community Center – Youth Recreation Space (Report No. 12-142). On October 15, 2014, the Board approved a supplemental agreement to that MOU to complete the necessary construction services (Report No. 14-268). Renovations and repairs included, but are not limited to, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance, reconfiguration of interior space, structural soundness and restoration of original features, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) installation and landscaping.

This property at 3320 Pepper Street, commonly known as Old Cypress Park Library and referred to by RAP, for administrative purposes only, as Cypress Park Community Center, has never undergone a formal naming process. With renovations completed and a Grand Opening tentatively scheduled for December 14, 2015, RAP has determined that a formal naming of the facility is appropriate. In order to engage the surrounding community in the naming of this new recreation facility RAP worked with Council District One to distribute ballots to patrons at nearby Cypress Recreation Center during Summer Night Lights events August 21, 2015 through August 28, 2015, culminating in a public meeting held on August 28, 2015. Of the 116 ballots the majority (59%) were in favor of the name Cypress Park Club House. This name is intended to reflect the programming of the facility with its focus on Seniors (a Senior Club) and Teens (a Teen Club). It was suggested during the community meeting that the facility would become to be known locally as “The Club House”.

Staff has evaluated the proposed naming and finds it to be in compliance with the Board adopted Policy, Procedures and Guidelines for Parks and Recreational Facilities as the name Cypress Park Club House is neutral in connotation, identifies the community and is representative of the surrounding neighborhood. RAP management and staff and Council District One are in support with the recommendations as set forth by RAP. This proposal was reviewed by the Facility Repair and Maintenance Task Force at their November 18, 2015 meeting at which time it was recommended that the proposal be forwarded to the full Commission for consideration.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

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 shall be no fiscal impact to the Department for the naming of this park as the park signage will be paid for with the previously allocated construction funds for the renovation project.
This Report was prepared by Melinda Gejer, City Planning Associate, and reviewed by Cid Macaraeg, Senior Management Analyst II, Planning, Construction and Maintenance Branch.