



**CITY OF SANTA MONICA
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA OF THE
RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION**

**VIA TELECONFERENCE
PURSUANT TO**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20
ISSUED BY GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM**

**THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 2020
MEETING STARTING TIME 5:30pm**

LIVE STREAM

<https://primetime.bluejeans.com/a2m/live-event/thdxuuzt>

Event ID for mobile device: thdxuuzt

AND DIAL-IN NUMBER

1 (415) 466-7000 (US), PIN 3373504 #

THOSE WISHING TO GIVE PUBLIC COMMENT MAY DO SO VIA EMAIL TO CCS@SMGOV.NET. PLEASE NOTE THE AGENDA ITEM IN YOUR COMMENTS. ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED BY NOON ON THE MEETING DAY WILL BE POSTED ONLINE. COMMENTS RECEIVED AFTER WILL BE READ OUT LOUD AT THE MEETING. THIS IS A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION. PUBLIC COMMENT IS RESTRICTED TO ONLY ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE: A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION IS CALLED FOR JUNE 18, 2020 AT 5:30 P.M. IN AN EFFORT TO REDUCE THE RISK OF SPREADING CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19), THE MEMBERS OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION AND CITY STAFF WILL PARTICIPATE VIA TELECONFERENCE. PARTICIPANTS MAY JOIN VIA THE TELECONFERENCE LINK ABOVE OR DAIL-IN NUMBER.

**Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call**

(Please note that Agenda Items may be reordered during the meeting at the discretion of the body.)

- 1. Director's Report – Karen Ginsberg, Director, Community & Cultural Services**

- City's Response to COVID-19
- Capital Improvement Project Updates

2. **New Business**

A. ACTION ITEMS:

- Approval of minutes of February 20, 2020 meeting
- Staff presentation of Belmar History + Art project including naming recommendations for the Civic Center Multipurpose Sports Field for Commission discussion and possible action – Shannon Daut, Cultural Affairs Manager [Public Comment re: Item 2.A.b](#)
- Staff presentation on the City's Proposed FY20-21 Exception Based Budget and FY20-22 Capital Improvement Program Budget for Commission discussion and possible action – Sam Fandrich, Principal Administrative Analyst
- Staff presentation on establishing an Aquatics Advisory Committee for Commission discussion and possible action – Jeanette Grant, Aquatics Program Manager [Public Comment re: Item 2.A.d](#)
- Commission discussion and possible action regarding the 4th/5th and Arizona development project.

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- Monthly reports from Commission liaisons:
 - Community Gardens Advisory Committee – Commissioner Gomez, alternate Chair Brown
 - Field Sports Advisory Committee (FSAC) – Vice Chair LaGuardia, Commissioner Gomez
 - Planning Commission – Commissioner Smith
 - Reports from Commissioners on park visits

- Written Communication** – Review of any written communications received from the public
- Future Convenings of the Recreation and Parks Commission** – Discussion of future meetings and agenda items.

Adjournment

This agenda is available in alternate format upon request. If you require any special disability related accommodations (i.e. sign language interpreting, access to an amplified sound system, are not able to provide public comment via email, etc.), please contact the Community & Cultural Services office at (310) 458 8310 or Email: ccs@smgov.net at least 3 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

Community & Cultural Services, 1685 Main Street, Room 210, Santa Monica, CA 90401
 Phone: (310) 458 8310 Email: ccs@smgov.net Website: www.smgovnet/ccs

PUBLIC INPUT GUIDELINES: Public attendance and comment at Commission meetings are welcomed and encouraged. THOSE WISHING TO GIVE PUBLIC COMMENT MAY DO SO VIA EMAIL TO CCS@SMGOV.NET. PLEASE NOTE THE AGENDA ITEM IN YOUR COMMENTS. ALL COMMENTS RECEIVED BY NOON ON THE MEETING DAY WILL BE POSTED ONLINE. COMMENTS RECEIVED AFTER WILL BE READ OUT LOUD AT THE MEETING (3-minute limit per comment.) THIS IS A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION AND PUBLIC COMMENT IS RESTRICTED TO ONLY ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOR THAT PROMOTE CIVILITY AT ALL PUBLIC MEETINGS:

- *Treat everyone courteously*
- *Listen to others respectfully*
- *Exercise self-control*
- *Give open-minded consideration to all viewpoints*
- *Focus on the issues and avoid personalizing debate*
- *Embrace respectful disagreement and dissent as democratic rights, inherent components of an inclusive public process, and tools for forging sound decisions*

Community and Cultural Services Department: Status of Capital Improvement and Planning Projects

June 2020

Project	Description	Milestones	(Projected) Start	(Projected) Completion
Airport Park Expansion	12-acre expansion of Airport Park with a focus on new sports fields, other recreational uses, and community gardens. Designed to connect with existing park and future.	Design and construction documents complete. The project is on hold until funding is identified.	Pending identification of construction funding source(s)	TBD
Clover Park Restrooms	Demolition and replacement of two restroom buildings.	Restrooms open for public use. Final punch list items in progress.	September 2018	2020
Civic Center Sports Field	Design and construction of a 120 x 75 yard multipurpose field with 5 yard buffer and modular restroom/storage structure. Will be located at the corner of Pico Boulevard and 4th Street in place of a portion of the Civic Center surface parking lot.	Construction is nearing completion. Field opening can occur following (1) Coastal Commission approval of Belmar plans and installation of signage (both pending) and (2) LA County Department of Public Health determines it is safe for athletic fields to reopen with restrictions to prevent the spread of COVID-19.	August 2019	Summer 2020
Memorial Park Redevelopment and Expansion	Design and pre-construction services for Phases 1 and 2 of the master plan. Expansion of Memorial Park to include 2.9 acre former Fisher Lumber site	Project on hold due to lack of funding.	January 2018	TBD
North Beach Trail Improvements	Design and construction of improvements to Ocean Front Walk and the bike path from Bay Street, Pier Avenue and north of the Pier. Designed to improve circulation on the path around the 1550 lot and to develop a parallel pedestrian path north of California Avenue where there is a single shared path.	Phase I construction is complete. Work under and around the Pier is 60% complete. The remaining portion of the project address Ocean Front Walk.	September 2019	October 2020
Park Landscape Improvements	Removal of petanque court in Palisades Park and installation of planted area. Construction of pedestrian access path to Chez Jay patio in Tongva Park.	SWA Landscape Architects were brought on board and a site walk was conducted in May 2020.	May 2020	2021
Parks & Recreation Master Plan Update	Update of 1997 citywide Parks and Recreation Master Plan to reflect current and future needs and trends. The overall goal of the Plan update is to establish a framework for long-range guidance and planning for parks, open space, beach, and community recreation for the next 20 years.	Beginning in FY20-21 park planning will be managed by the Community Development Department's Planning Division. The draft 2020 Parks and Recreation Master Plan was set to be released March 2020. Release has been put on hold indefinitely.	January 2018	TBD

Restroom Safety Improvements	Making physical improvements to restrooms at Reed, Memorial, and Gandara parks to enhance safety and prevent misuse. The improvements would explore replacing restroom doors, installing gates to close the restrooms at night, and demolishing existing features that impede visibility and encourage misuse.	Sink and lighting improvements are complete. New doors have been installed at Reed Park. New doors at Memorial Park and Gandara Park will be installed in June/July.	July 2018	Summer 2020
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To: Recreation and Parks Commission

From: City Staff

Subject: Presentation, Discussion and Possible Action on Naming of the Civic Center
Multipurpose Sports Field

Introduction

This report provides background on the Civic Center Multipurpose Sports Field (the Field) and the Belmar History + Art project, including suggested names for the Field that were put forward by the community through a public engagement process. It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission review the suggested names and take a formal action to recommend a preferred name for Council consideration. Alternatively, the Recreation and Parks Commission could transmit multiple names from those suggested by the community or others to the City Council for consideration.

Background

Construction of the Civic Center Multipurpose Sports Field (the Field) is nearly complete with final City Planning sign-off of the project anticipated before the end of the month. The Field was originally incorporated into the Civic Center Specific Plan in 2005 and prioritized for design and construction by the City Council in 2017. The 3.5-acre sports field complex, adjacent Santa Monica Civic Auditorium and surroundings occupy the site of the Belmar neighborhood, which was formerly situated in what is now the Civic Center campus. This neighborhood was erased in the 1950s by the City using eminent domain to displace residents in order to create the Civic Auditorium and parking lot. Belmar History + Art is a collaborative public art and public history project, led by the Cultural Affairs Division, to commemorate the history of the African American residents and business owners of the Belmar neighborhood. The project commenced in October 2019 when the Arts Commission selected social practice artist April Banks to work with historian Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson on the project. Over several months, Cultural Affairs, Banks and Jefferson led a public engagement process that aimed to shine a light on underrepresented stories

of the community, including the legacy of displacement that the site in part represents. Through that process, community participants suggested several names for the Field.

Discussion

Council adopted a policy for naming City-owned land, buildings and facilities on July 9, 2002 (Attachment A), which established formal guidelines and a procedure for considering appropriate names (see Attachment B for a summary of these guidelines). As required by policy, Council seeks recommendations from “related advisory bodies such as the Recreation and Parks Commission, the Library Board and the Landmarks Commission.” Council then makes its determination at a regularly scheduled meeting at which staff, representatives of advisory bodies and civic organizations, and the general public may offer testimony. Since the Recreation and Parks Commission has purview over parks, it is appropriate that the Council consider the Commission’s recommendations for park names.

The Civic Center Multipurpose Sports Field (Field) is a new 3.5-acre sports field complex that will accommodate children and adults of all abilities, including Santa Monica High School students from the campus across the street. The Field was originally incorporated into the 2005 Civic Center Specific Plan. The Recreation and Parks Commission and other community members advocated for construction of the Field for over a decade to address the need for additional field space within the City. Council unanimously voted to proceed with the Field in fall of 2015 and prioritized design and construction of it in 2017. The California Coastal Commission issued a Coastal Development Permit for the project in March 2019 with a special condition that the City consult with historical experts, undertake a community and public engagement process and submit an informational/educational/interpretive exhibit plan and program regarding the historical and cultural significance of the site for approval by the Executive Director of the Coastal Commission prior to completion of the Field. In response, the City initiated the Belmar History + Art project to develop art and interpretive elements and an educational program centered at the Field. A groundbreaking was held in August 2019 and construction of the Field commenced.

In September 2019, Santa Monica Cultural Affairs (SMCA) asked local arts experts to recommend a shortlist of local artists conversant in community-engaged public art processes and commissioned those artists to propose a project to address African American history in Santa Monica and specifically the history of the Belmar neighborhood. The finalists presented to a panel of community members, and the panel recommended artist April Banks for the project.

In October 2019, the Santa Monica Arts Commission confirmed April Banks as designer and lead artist for an engagement process that would produce an art and interpretive program for the Civic Field site. Utilizing public engagement activities and historical research, Banks, in collaboration with project historian Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson, shepherded a dialogue with community members that culminated in a design for interpretive signage, artwork, and an ongoing educational program centered on the site. Over the course of fifteen-plus public engagement events, the team introduced the project, invited storytelling, and shared historical information about the site of the former Belmar neighborhood.

SMCA designed a survey for the [Belmar website](#) that asked respondents to suggest names for the site. In addition, a shortlist of names was added to a postcard and this was given out at the Greens Festival and Thelma Terry Celebration events in February 2020.

Through the Belmar History + Art engagement process, the community submitted 14 diverse name suggestions. The most commonly suggested names are listed below. See Attachment D for a complete list of names submitted.

- Historic Belmar Park (20 submissions)
- Historic Belmar Sports Field (10 submissions)
- R.C. Owens Sports Field at Historic Belmar Park (8 submissions)
- Belmar Park (3 submissions)
- Regenesi Field (3 submissions)

Artwork and interpretive signage has been designed by April Banks to be featured around the exterior of the Field, to maximize accessibility and visibility. Banks has designed a new large-scale sculpture that will be placed just south of the main entrance to the Field. The sculpture, titled "A Resurrection in Four Stanzas" poetically evokes the outlines of a shotgun house, which was common to this area. Didactic and wayfinding signage placed there and around the perimeter of the exterior of the Field draws upon research from Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson and community sources, celebrating now-vanished locations in the neighborhood and the people associated with those places. An ongoing education plan gathers resources and learning opportunities that will continue beyond the opening of the Field. The motifs and formats of the artwork and signage may find future use in a planned expansion of this commemorative and interpretive program across other sites of African American history in Santa Monica, including the Bay Street Beach.

Per stipulations of the project's Coastal Development Permit (CDP), the City submitted, for review and approval by the Executive Director, an Informational/Education/Interpretative Signage Plan and an Informational/Educational Program regarding the historical and cultural significance of the project site. Special Condition Six of the CDP requires the education signs be installed within 90 days of completion of construction or prior to use of the sports field, whichever comes sooner, or within such additional time as the Executive Director may grant for good cause. On May 28, 2020, Coastal Commission staff emailed the City requesting additional information regarding the ongoing component of the Community Engagement Plan and the final proposed text for the signage prior to approval. Cultural Affairs staff is compiling that additional information for submittal to Coastal Commission staff by June 30, 2020. The Coastal Commission Executive Director has accepted the art portion of the submittal with no comments. The interpretive signage text is still being developed and will be submitted for approval in July. Although the current Permit requires that the interpretive signs are approved, fabricated, and installed on site within 90 days of field opening, we will be requesting a modification to this requirement to accommodate delays to this portion of the project. The signs are currently scheduled for installation by late August/early September

2020, and the artwork is scheduled for installation by December 2020. Delays are due to a number of factors including fabrication delays due to the pandemic.

In addition, the opening of the Field is contingent on a determination by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health that the public can safely use athletic fields with restrictions to prevent the spread of COVID-19. At this time, all athletic fields in Santa Monica are closed, and staff cannot estimate when reopening may occur. LA County is taking a phased approach to the reopening of park amenities, and the reopening of athletic fields is included in Phase 3 of the County's recovery framework.

Staff had previously discussed an opening celebration with members of the community; however, the one-time funding allocated for that event was repurposed to address the City's \$48 million budget deficit in the current fiscal year. In addition, it is unknown when large social gatherings might be allowed in LA County due to public health restrictions.

Next Steps:

The Commission's preferred field name(s) will be transmitted to the City Council for consideration. Staff anticipates that Council will discuss and select a name for the field this summer.

Construction of the Field will be complete next week; however, the Public Works Department is working with FieldTurf, the consultants who fabricated and installed the synthetic turf system, to repair a portion of the Field's striping. After the turf was installed, staff became aware that the short-sided soccer fields have full-sized goalie and penalty boxes instead of youth-sized boxes. This was the result of a miscommunication between staff and the design consultants, and the City takes full responsibility. Some age groups could make do with full-sized goalie and penalty boxes; however, the error makes the short-sided fields unplayable for U8 and U9 youth soccer and adult 7 on 7 soccer. FieldTurf has strongly recommended that the incorrect striping remain in place to preserve the integrity of the turf system. To correct the error, FieldTurf proposed installing additional striping for youth-sized goalie and penalty boxes and painting over the incorrect stripes. Commissioner LaGuardia and key members of the Field Sports Advisory Council

provided input on the repair strategy and are willing to accept it. Public Works anticipates that the striping repairs and painting will be completed this summer.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Recreation and Parks Commission review the suggested names, take public comment, and adopt a formal action to recommend a preferred name for City Council consideration. Alternatively, the Recreation and Parks Commission could transmit multiple names from those suggested by the community or others to the City Council for consideration. Because the overwhelming majority of responses included the name “Belmar,” we suggest that it be included in the preferred name that you recommend.

Prepared by: Naomi Okuyama, Cultural Affairs Supervisor; Tom Campbell, Acting Community Recreation Administrator

Attachments:

- A. Adoption of resolution establishing policy for the naming of City owned land, buildings and facilities ([City Council Staff Report - July 9, 2002](#))
- B. Summary of Naming Guidelines
- C. Belmar History + Art artist’s statement from April Banks, Artist
- D. Belmar History + Art Naming Survey Results
- E. Belmar History + Art staff report (Arts Commission Staff Report – June 15, 2020)

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City Council Meeting: July 9, 2002

Santa Monica, CA

RESOLUTION NUMBER 9779 (CCS)
(City Council Series)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA REGARDING
NAMING PUBLIC FACILITIES

WHEREAS, the Santa Monica City Council wishes to establish a policy regarding naming of City owned land, buildings and facilities,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA DOES RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council hereby establishes the following procedures for the naming of City-owned land, buildings and facilities:

A. Requests for naming City-owned land, buildings and facilities may be submitted by the public, City staff, and related advisory bodies such as the Recreations and Parks Commission, Library Board and Landmarks Commission. The requests may be to the City Clerk in writing, accompanied by a justification for the recommended name(s). All requests will be referred to the Department having jurisdiction over the land, building or facility and to the appropriate Boards(s) or Commission(s) for deliberation. Staff and related advisory bodies will evaluate the recommended name within six months following receipt of a request.

B. Upon completion of deliberations at a public hearing, the staff and advisory body will forward a recommendation to the City Council.

C. The City Council will make its determination as to the naming or renaming of City-owned land, buildings and facilities at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Council at which staff, representatives of advisory bodies and civic organizations and the general public may offer testimony.

D. In naming public land and buildings, the City Council and its advisory bodies shall consider the following:

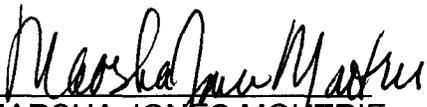
- Incorporating “Santa Monica” in the name where it is important for civic or other reasons for a building or facility to be identified with the City;
- Recognizing geographic, topographic or historical features or events associated with Santa Monica;
- Commemorating persons who have served the City in an exceptional manner;
- Commemorating persons who have served the State, Nation or World in an exceptional manner and who have an association with the City;
- Commemorating persons who have served the State, Nation or World in an exceptional or distinguished manner where the contribution is of such major significance that a local association pales in importance;
- Commemorating individuals or organizations who have made important donations of land, funds or materials, equipment and/or facilities;

- Avoiding recognition of those whose contribution has been appropriately recognized in other City venues or by other means.

E. The City Council will not name any buildings, land or facilities after current office holders.

SECTION 2. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution, and thenceforth and thereafter the same shall be in full force and effect.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


MARSHA JONES MOUTRIE
City Attorney

Adopted and approved this 9th day of July, 2002.



Michael Feinstein, Mayor

I, Maria M. Stewart, City Clerk of the City of Santa Monica, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 9779 (CCS) was duly adopted at a meeting of the Santa Monica City Council held on the 9th of July, 2002, by the following vote:

Ayes: Council members: Holbrook, O'Connor, Bloom, Genser

Noes: Council members: Mayor Pro Tem McKeown, Mayor Feinstein

Abstain: Council members: None

Absent: Council members: Katz

ATTEST:


Maria Stewart, City Clerk

Summary of Naming
Guidelines Adopted July 9, 2002

In naming public land and buildings, the City Council and its advisory bodies shall consider the following:

- Incorporating “Santa Monica” in the name where it is important for civic or other reasons for a building or facility to be identified with the City;
- Recognizing geographic, topographic or historical features or events associated with Santa Monica;
- Commemorating persons who have served the City in an exceptional manner;
- Commemorating persons who have served the state, nation, or world in an exceptional manner and who have an association with the City;
- Commemorating persons who have served the state, nation, or world in an exceptional or distinguished manner where the contribution is of such major significance that a local association pales in importance;
- Commemorating individuals or organizations who have made important donations of land, funds or materials, equipment and/or facilities; and
- Avoiding recognition of those whose contribution has been appropriately recognized in other city venues or by other means.

The City Council will not name any buildings, land or facilities after current office holders.

**BELMAR
HISTORY
+ART**



PERMANENT ART SCULPTURE

SCHEMATIC DESIGN

APRIL BANKS / MEZOSTUDIO

JUNE 2, 2020

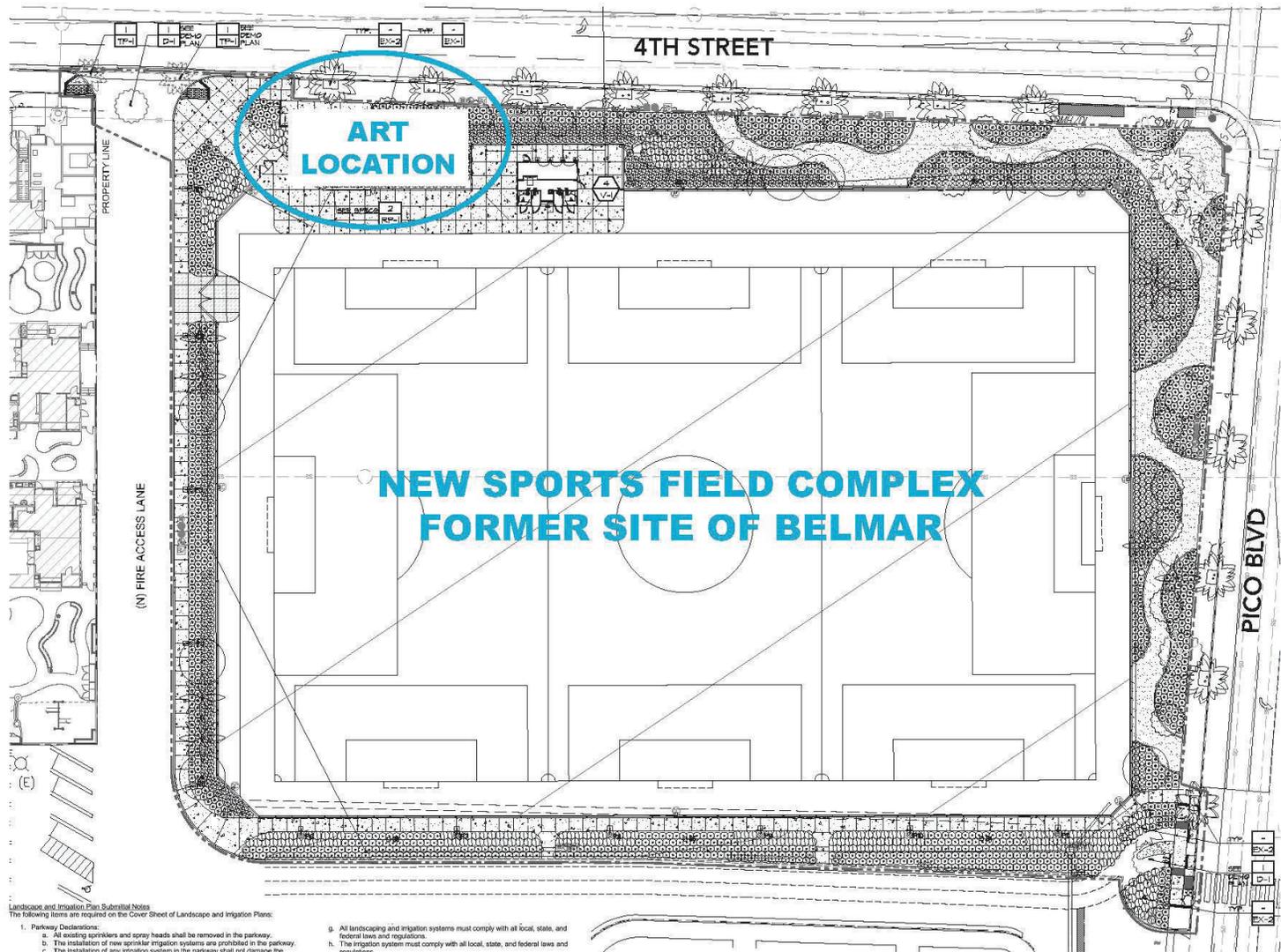
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

What We Heard:

- Excitement about the platform this project is giving to current community voices
- The need for healing and the opportunity to celebrate the positives
- Shock upon learning this hidden history
- Desire for more awareness about Black history in Santa Monica
- Desire for a more comprehensive history beyond Belmar
- Excitement that this little known history is being told in a major way
- Support and pride around recording oral stories
- Cautious enthusiasm around the proposal of a public digital archive
- Concerns about current threat of displacement / gentrification
- Hesitation or distrust of City intentions
- Concerns about the longevity or ongoing commitment from the City
- A need to recognize the families that stayed in Santa Monica



HERITAGE • LEGACY • TRUST • OWNERSHIP • SECURITY
MIGRATION • CIVIL RIGHTS • ERASURE • STABILITY •
VOICE • EDUCATION • RIGHT TO RETURN • MEMORY
VISIBILITY • LONGEVITY • PROGRESS • BEAUTY
TRADITION • SAFETY • FAMILY • AFFORDABLE HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY • HEALTH • REPRESENTATION
GENTRIFICATION • WEALTH • AGENCY • ACTIVISM
COMMEMORATION • ADVOCACY • BLACK CULTURE • ART
COMMUNITY • FREEDOM • RECOGNITION



Landscape and Irrigation Plan Submitted Notes
The following items are required on the Cover Sheet of Landscape and Irrigation Plans:

1. Parkway Declarations:
 - a. All existing sprinklers and spray heads shall be removed in the parkway.
 - b. The installation of new sprinkler irrigation systems are prohibited in the parkway.
 - c. The installation of any irrigation system in the parkway shall not obstruct the
- g. All landscaping and irrigation systems must comply with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
- h. The irrigation system must comply with all local, state, and federal laws and regulations.

"I believe that one can never leave home. I believe that one carries the shadows, the dreams, the fears and the dragons of home under one's skin, at the extreme corners of one's eyes and possibly in the gristle of the earlobe."

—Maya Angelou

PERMANENT SCULPTURE

ARTIST STATEMENT

Concept:

"A Resurrection in Four Stanzas"

Is a shotgun house delineated in four metal sculptures at full architectural scale

PORCH: the stage, shared life public between private, relaxation

DOOR: threshold, between inside and outside, safety

ROOF & ATTIC: stored memories, family life, the highest point on the house

WINDOW: framed views, light source, day dreaming

The shotgun house was a common architectural style for homes in the Belmar neighborhood and surrounding areas. Images of demolition following eminent domain show the burning of homes deemed a blight. Early on in my research process, this image stayed with me. There is a shock value in this image: a cluster of white men in suits and hats watching the burning of someone's home, now confiscated for development. Very few images of the Belmar neighborhood exist and so seventy plus years later, this image becomes a symbol of this erasure. An erasure that was deemed worthy of a photo. I've been fixated on how to "rebuild" this neighborhood without sufficient historical records that would help us do so. And so through an abstraction of the house/home I am reimagining the lives and hopes and dreams of those who lived in Belmar. By rebuilding, how can we resurrect that lost potential.

I wonder: what did the neighborhood baker do when she sat on her porch. Was she the neighborhood gossip? Was she the one who looked out or all the kids playing in the street? What hopes and laughter and secrets did her house and others hold?

Form:

In researching the origins of the shotgun house as a vernacular building type, there are many theories about its origin. What is clear is that it is a style that migrated west with people coming from the south. Most notably Louisiana. Historian John Michael Vlach wrote in 1976 about his tracing of the building type from Louisiana, back to Haiti and in a very similar form back to West Africa. This is a much debated origin theory, but for me it holds much of the ambiguity one would expect with a history of forced migration. And so, it stands as a symbol of not only the architecture of the time, but of a historical erasures due to migration, discrimination and development. Even the name is theorized to be derived from the West African word shogon or togun, a gathering space or god's house.

The artwork is based on the standard dimension of a shotgun house: 12ft wide with each built in a linear row, one after another. Narrow and long, without a hall or interior doors to close, there was not much privacy. Intimacy was inherent and families often used each room for multiple purposes. The porch stands out for me as the most significant. It is the interstitial space between public and private, family and community. It is a place where you could at once be at home, as much as being "in the world." With a front seat view to the comings and goings of everyone, it is a kind of stage, or space of storytelling. In many neighborhoods house fronts were aligned, you could look down the street and porches lined up like a grand hallway or vertebrae.

Viewed from the front, the four sculptures align to create the lines of the shotgun house. The side view is a different experience all together, using pattern and light to cast shadows. It is an attempt to raise from the ashes, some of the life lost in this displacement. Each sculpture represents a threshold, to be walked or looked through. As the sunlight changes, the patterns cast by the light, shift, creating a subtle movement over time. Architectural details such as finials, corbels and bright color are incorporated to honor how proudly families faced the world through their front facades.

This abstraction of house/home stands as both stage and verse for a resurrection.



Belmar Place between Main and Third Streets, north of Pico, on July 1, 1953. Photo by Fitzgerald, Clyde V. Santa Monica Public Library Image Archives



Aligned porches of several houses

PERMANENT ART CONCEPT



Belmar Place between Main and Third Streets, north of Pico, on July 1, 1953.

“A Resurrection in Four Stanzas”

A shotgun house delineated in four sculptures
at full architectural scale

PORCH

the stage, shared life public between private, relaxation

DOOR

threshold, between inside and outside, safety

ROOF & ATTIC

stored memories, family life, the highest point on the house

WINDOW

framed views, light source, day dreaming



Aligned porches of several houses

Belmar History + Art Naming Survey Results

Name	Submissions
Historic Belmar Park	20
Historic Belmar Sports Field	10
R.C. Owens Sports Field at Historic Belmar Park	8
Belmar Park or Field	3
Regenisis Field	3
Nat Trives Field at Belmar Park	2
La Bonita Park or Field	2
Nat Trives Field	1
Belmar Village Park	1
Belmar Park at the Civic Center	1
Freedom Field	1
Inkwell Field	1
Heritage Field	1
MLK Jr. Sports Arena	1
Rosa Parks Sports Park	1
Kobe & Gigi Sports Center	1
Tommie Smith Sports Arena	1



Cultural Affairs Division
1437 4th Street, Suite 310
P.O. Box 2200
Santa Monica, California 90407-2200

Date: June 15, 2020

To: Santa Monica Arts Commission and Public Art Committee

From: Shannon Daut and Naomi Okuyama, Santa Monica Cultural Affairs

Subject: Belmar History + Art/Civic Multipurpose Sports Field
Presentation of art and design by April Banks, and history presentation by Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson

Introduction

This report summarizes the status of the “Belmar History + Art” project, including April Banks’ sculptural art component, *A Resurrection in Four Stanzas*, which is being considered for Arts Commission action.

Background

On March 6, 2019, the Coastal Commission approved the Civic Center Multipurpose Field Project next to Santa Monica’s Civic Auditorium. The Field is a new 3.5-acre sports field complex that will accommodate children and adults. This facility, and other areas of the Civic Center Campus including the Civic Auditorium, Courthouse, and the site of the new Early Childhood Learning Center, occupy the site of a diverse early 20th century neighborhood of African American residents and business owners, often referred to as the Belmar neighborhood.

Construction of the Field itself is nearly complete, with final City Planning sign-off of the project anticipated before the end of June 2020. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the actual opening of the Field is contingent on a determination by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health that the public can safely use athletic fields. LA County is taking a phased approach to the reopening of park amenities, and the reopening of athletic fields is included in Phase 3 of the County’s recovery framework.

As part of its focus on social and environmental equity, the Coastal Commission added a special condition for the City to meet before the Field opens. This condition stipulated that the City consult with historical experts and conduct community and public engagement to create an educational and interpretive program and signage plan regarding the historical and cultural significance of the project site.

Belmar History + Art is a collaborative public art and public history project in response to this stipulation. It commemorates the history of the Belmar neighborhood and commenced in October 2019 when the Arts Commission selected social practice artist April Banks to work with historian Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson on the project. Over several months, Banks and Jefferson led a public engagement process that aimed to shine a light on underrepresented stories of the African American community, including the legacy of displacement that the site in part represents.

April Banks has designed a new large-scale sculpture that will be placed just south of the main entrance to the Field. The sculpture, titled *A Resurrection in Four Stanzas*, poetically evokes the outlines of a shotgun house, common to this area. Buried in front of the door portion of the sculpture, Banks has designed a time capsule under an engraved concrete “welcome mat.” The capsule will contain memorabilia and documents about Belmar as well as contemporary ephemera around this specific moment in 2020, and a publication created by local high school students imagining “Belmar in 2070.” At each corner of the block, Banks will design engravings of short poetic phrases that memorialize the quotidian experiences of past residents.

As the Field itself may not always be open to the public, the artwork and historical interpretive signage elements will be placed around the exterior, to maximize accessibility and visibility. Signage draws upon research from Dr. Alison Rose Jefferson and community sources, celebrating now-vanished locations in the neighborhood and the people associated with those places. In addition, ongoing education and engagement plans gather resources and learning opportunities that will continue beyond the opening of the Field. This includes the development of K-12 Curriculum about this history. The motifs and formats of the artwork and signage may find future use in a planned expansion of this commemorative and interpretive program across other sites of African American history in Santa Monica, including the Bay Street Beach.

Members of the Community Panel that met to select April Banks for the project met again on March 10, 2020 to review the concept for *A Resurrection in Four Stanzas* and recommends that the Public Art Committee and Arts Commission approve this design.

On June 2, 2020 the Coastal Commission confirmed their approval of the artwork design.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Public Art Committee recommend April Banks’ design for *A Resurrection in Four Stanzas* for approval to the Arts Commission, and that the Arts Commission accept the Public Art Committee’s recommendation.

DRAFT

**Santa Monica Aquatics Advisory Committee (SMAAC)
Operational Guidelines**

I. Name of Committee

The name of this committee will be the Santa Monica Aquatics Advisory Committee (SMAAC).

II. Mission Statement and Responsibilities

A) Mission Statement

The mission of the Santa Monica Aquatics Advisory Committee (SMAAC or committee) is purely advisory aimed at assisting the Santa Monica Recreation and Parks Commission (RPC) to give a voice to Santa Monica aquatic user groups and promote cooperation among the aquatic user groups.

B) Responsibilities

The committee will serve as the advisory body to the RPC regarding use guidelines for aquatics facilities, needs assessments related to current and future aquatics facilities, and other related topics as may be requested by the RPC or deemed appropriate by members of the committee. While the ultimate responsibility for recreation policy is vested in the City Council with the advice of the RPC, the committee will serve as the advisory body to the RPC regarding aquatics facilities, programming, and activities.

III. Committee Membership

A) Voting Members

The committee will consist of eleven voting members that will be appointed as provided in the chart below and confirmed by RPC. The voting members will represent the various groups and Santa Monica schools that have a strong interest in the City aquatic facilities, representatives of City programs that use City swimming pools, and an RPC liaison. None of the committee members will hold any paid office or employment in City government. The voting membership of the committee will consist of the following eleven voting members:

Member	Number	Appointing Person
Santa Monica-based non-profit permittee	6	President of the Board
Santa Monica College	1	Department Chair/Athletic Director
Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District	1	Superintendent
Representative from the Sharks Swim Team	1	Aquatics Program Manager
Representative from lap swim/drop-in clientele	1	Aquatics Program Manager
Representative from swim lesson/specialty class participants	1	Aquatics Program Manager

B) Non-Voting Members

The committee's nonvoting membership will consist of Community Recreation Division, Community and Cultural Service Department staff and the RPC liaison to the committee or his/her alternate. Changes to this makeup can be made by a majority vote of the committee's members.

C) Changes to Membership

The committee may submit recommendations to the RPC to change the makeup of the committee by a majority vote of the membership of the committee.

Aquatic permit groups will be reviewed annually to ensure the criteria of being a Santa Monica-based non-profit organization with a minimum of 50% of their participants being Santa Monica residents.

IV. Committee Officers

A) Positions

There will be a chairperson and a vice chairperson who will be chosen from the voting members of the committee.

B) Election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson

Nominations for the positions of chairperson and vice chairperson will be made by the voting members during the January meeting. Nominees receiving the highest number of votes of the total number of the committee's voting members present will be elected. Those nominated need not be present but must notify the staff liaison of their willingness to serve. Chair and vice chairperson will be elected or reelected in January, or as soon as practicable thereafter, by majority vote of the committee's voting members.

C) Terms of office

The chairperson and vice chairperson will serve a term of one year and begin their term with the next meeting following the January meeting and end at the following January or until a successor has been elected. The chairperson and vice chairperson may be re-elected for up to three consecutive years.

D) Chairperson

The chairperson will preside at all committee meetings and assist in the preparation of the agendas and committee official correspondence. The chairperson may participate in debate and move and second matters before the committee, subject only to such limitations of debate as are imposed by these guidelines. The chairperson will preserve order at all meetings of the committee. The chairperson will state each question coming before the committee, announce a decision of the committee on all subjects, and decide all questions of order. The chairperson will sign all documents necessitating a signature unless the chairperson is unavailable, in which case, the vice chairperson will sign documents.

E) Vice Chairperson

The principal responsibility of the vice-chairperson is to conduct the meetings of the committee in the absence of the chairperson and take responsibility for any projects delegated to him or her by the chairperson or the majority of the voting members. The vice chairperson will succeed to the office of chairperson in the event that the office becomes vacant prior to the expiration of the term. In addition, the vice chairperson will perform other duties as may be requested by the chairperson. In the absence of both the chairperson and vice-chairperson, a presiding officer will be selected by the voting members present.

F) Committee Secretarial Duties

The duties of a secretary will be completed by a staff assistant from the Community and Cultural Services (CCS) Department as directed by the staff liaison. The staff assistant will keep minutes of all regular and special meetings. The staff assistant will forward copies of minutes to all committee members along with the agenda for the next meeting.

The staff assistant will also keep attendance records for the staff liaison to notify the chairperson and subject member in writing whenever there is a member subject to termination under the provisions of Article V, Section B, of these guidelines for unexcused absences. In addition, the staff assistant will handle the committee's calendar and perform other clerical duties as may be requested by the staff liaison.

G) Ad Hoc Committees

Ad hoc committees are temporary advisory committees that may be created as needs arise to address a single particular time-limited project in advance of committee action. The chairperson may appoint an ad hoc committee to meet, discuss, research and prepare recommendations to the committee on various subjects, goals and issues related to aquatics. Ad hoc committees will consist of no more than four voting members of the committee. Ad hoc committees will be dissolved by the chairperson when the ad hoc committee is no longer necessary.

V. Committee Members Terms of Office

A) Term of Service

Voting committee members will serve a term of up to three years and/or serve until their successors are appointed and qualified. A voting committee member who resigns will continue to serve until a replacement is confirmed by the RPC. Voting members are encouraged to attend all scheduled meetings and notify the staff liaison if they or their designated alternate will be unable to do so.

B) Unexcused Absences

The failure of a committee member to notify the staff liaison of his/her absence from a scheduled meeting will be deemed an "unexcused absence." Each committee member's absence will be recorded in the committee's meeting minutes. A voting member is deemed to have resigned if he or she misses two consecutive regular meetings during a 12-month period that are unexcused. It is the responsibility of all voting member organizations to find a replacement to fill a committee seat and such replacements will be confirmed by the RPC.

Any member with an attendance record of less than two-thirds of all meetings on a 12-month rolling basis will be contacted by the chairperson to determine their status and desire to continue as a member.

C) Resignation

A committee member may resign from the committee at any time by notifying the chairperson in writing of his/her intention, and the position will be deemed vacant. Any resignation will take effect at the date of receipt of the written notice or at any later time specified in the written notice. Any resignation will be announced to the committee by the chairperson at the next scheduled meeting.

D) Recommendation to Remove a Committee Member

A committee member may be removed for any of the following reasons:

- (1) The member is unable to carry out his/her duties and responsibilities to the committee due to time limitations, illness, and/or other personal obligations.
- (2) A change in the status that qualified the member to hold his/her seat will result in automatic removal.
- (3) A committee member may be removed from the committee for good cause, including but not limited to disruptive conduct; interfering with committee business; and violations of these guidelines.
- (4) A recommendation by the committee to remove the identified committee member requires a two-thirds majority vote of the attending voting committee members and any recommendation to remove a committee member must be brought to the RPC for a decision.

VI. Meetings

A) Brown Act Compliance

All meetings of the committee will be open to the public and comply with the requirements of California Government Code §§ 54950-54963 (the Ralph M. Brown Act). Ad hoc committees are not subject to the Brown Act.

B) Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the committee will be held on a quarterly basis on the third Tuesday of every third month at 6:30 pm in January, April, July and October at the Santa Monica Swim Center. The voting members of the committee may vote to cancel any scheduled meeting. Notice of regular meetings will be posted in accordance with Government Code § 54954.2.

C) Special Meetings

The staff liaison, in consultation with the chairperson, may call special meetings of the committee. Special meetings may also be called by a majority vote of the voting committee

members. The notice of the special meeting will specify time and place of the special meeting and the business transacted. The call and notice for the special meeting will be posted in accordance to Government Code § 54956.

D) Agendas

The chairperson, in partnership with the staff liaison, will set the agenda for all committee meetings. Any committee member may request an item be placed on the agenda for the next committee meeting by written notice to the chairperson no less than two weeks before a scheduled meeting date. At the option of the chairperson and staff liaison, a consent agenda may be established of known, non-controversial issues such as approval of prior committee minutes or similar matters. The consent agenda will be approved or rejected by a voice vote called by the chairperson. Any voting member may ask for one or more items to be removed from the consent agenda. Any items removed from the consent agenda will thereafter be considered by the committee in its normal course of business.

E) Quorum

At least 50% of all voting members will constitute a quorum. The committee may take no official action with the quorum previously established shrinks to less than 50 percent of voting committee members. In that instance, the committee meeting may continue but only for informational purposes. For purposes of determining the existence of a quorum, any vacant position of a voting member will not be counted to determine whether a quorum exists.

F) Voting

Unless stated otherwise in these guidelines, a simple majority of the quorum will prevail on matters brought before the committee that require the vote of the voting committee members. Following deliberations by committee members regarding a motion, every voting committee member is entitled to a vote unless disqualified by reason of a conflict of interest. Roll call votes are recommended as the preferred method of voting. A member of the committee who abstains from voting consents to the decision made by the voting committee members. Whenever members of the committee state that they are abstaining or not voting, or if they remain silent when their name is called, their vote will be recorded as an abstention.

The vote of a committee member may be changed only if he or she makes a timely request to do so immediately following the announcement of the vote by the chairperson and prior to the time that the next item in the order of business is taken up.

G) Public Comment

There are two ways a member of the public may address the committee.

- (1) Fill out a speaker card, which is available at the committee meeting, and hand it to the chairperson prior to the item being brought up for discussion. If an individual would like to speak on a general item not on the agenda but related to the work of the committee, this may be done during the general public comment period after filling out a speaker's card. Speakers will be given three minutes of speaking time on an agenda item.

The chairperson may limit or extend public input on any item based on the number of people requesting to speak and the business of the committee. The chairperson determines the order in which speakers will be permitted to speak. Members of the public should direct any questions to the chairperson rather than to any particular member of the committee, guest, or other participant. At the discretion of the committee chairperson or upon a vote of the committee, any person who is disruptive may be removed from the meeting room.

H) Rules of Order

Meetings of the committee will be governed by Roberts Rules of Order when not superseded by these guidelines.

I) Standards of Behavior

Members of the committee and members of the public will abide by the following standards to promote civility at all meetings:

- (1) treat everyone courteously;
- (2) listen to others respectfully;
- (3) exercise self-control;
- (4) give open minded consideration to all viewpoints;
- (5) focus on the issues and avoid personalizing debate; and
- (6) embrace respectful disagreement and dissent as democratic rights, inherent components of an inclusive public process and tools for forging sound recommendations.

VII. Adoption and Amendments

A) Adoption

These guidelines will become effective upon being adopted by the RPC.

B) Amendments

These Operational Guidelines may be amended or repealed at any time. The committee membership must be notified of any proposed amendments at a meeting or by written notice. The membership present at the subsequent meeting will be responsible for reviewing the proposed amendments and making a recommendation to the RPC regarding the adoption of proposed amendments.

VIII. Compliance with Laws

These guidelines will govern the conduct of committee meetings, in accordance with and in addition to the Santa Monica Charter and any other governing provisions of State or local law. Should questions arise as to conflict between these Rules and the Charter or governing State or local law, the provisions of the Charter and other governing law will prevail.

Chairperson, Recreation & Parks Commission

Date: _____

Director, Community & Cultural Services

Date: _____



Recreation & Parks Commission
1685 Main Street
PO Box 2200
Santa Monica, California 90407-2200

City of
Santa MonicaSM

October 26, 2010

Mayor Shriver and City Council Members
City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Re: City-owned property at 4th & 5th Street and Arizona Avenue

Dear Mayor Shriver and Council Members:

Although we have some wonderful parks in Santa Monica, we do not have enough public parkland to meet the needs of City residents.

At its October 21st meeting, the Recreation and Parks Commission passed a motion for transmittal to the City Council that expresses the Commission's desire to see open space at the City-owned parcels at 4th and 5th Street and Arizona Avenue in the form of a temporary park after the ice rink is removed. In supporting this temporary use, the Commission does not support having funds taken from other open space projects to support the interim improvements that would be needed.

Please let me know if the Commission or I can be of assistance to you as you review this issue. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

AD for Neil Carrey

Neil Carrey
Chair

cc: Rod Gould
Recreation and Parks Commissioners



Recreation & Parks Commission
1685 Main Street
PO Box 2200
Santa Monica, California 90407-2200

City of
Santa Monica[™]

June 16, 2017

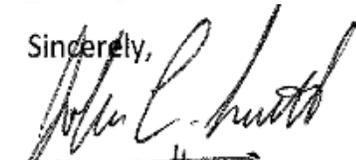
Mayor and City Council Members
City of Santa Monica
1685 Main Street,
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Dear Mayor Winterer and City Council Members:

At its meeting on June 15, 2017, the Recreation and Parks Commission unanimously adopted a motion recommending that as part of your deliberations regarding the Downtown Community Plan you consider incorporating language into the DCP to require that two-thirds of the public property located at Fourth/Fifth and Arizona be devoted to ground level public park space.

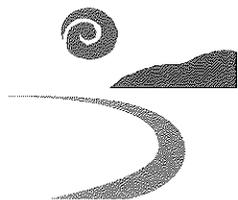
We hope that you will consider this opportunity as you review the Downtown Community Plan.

Sincerely,



John C. Smith
Chair

cc: RPC Commission
Planning Commission
Rick Cole, City Manager



Recreation & Parks Commission
1685 Main Street
PO Box 220C
Santa Monica, California 90407-220C

City of
Santa MonicaSM

January 22, 2019

Rachel Kwok, Environmental Planner City Planning Division
1685 Main Street, Room 212
Santa Monica, CA 90401

Re: Transmittal of Commission Comments on The Plaza at Santa Monica Project Draft EIR
(SCH # 2017011031)

Dear Ms. Kwok:

At its meeting on January 17, 2019, the Recreation and Parks Commission discussed the draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) prepared for the Plaza at Santa Monica project. The Commission unanimously approved a motion to recommend moving forward with Alternative 2 - a public park only on the site, because of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed project, as detailed in the draft EIR.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John C. Smith
Chair

cc: Members of the Recreation and Parks Commission