

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 01-378

DATE October 17, 2001

CD _____

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: REQUEST TO NAME AREAS IN THE RENOVATED AND EXPANDED GRIFFITH OBSERVATORY

J. Combs	<u> </u>	J. Kolb	<u> </u>
*T. Coroaalles	<u> </u>	M. Tamuri	<u> </u>
J. Duggan	<u> </u>	M. Matthews	<u> </u>
H. Fujita	<u> </u>		



 General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the naming of the areas described below in the renovated and expanded Griffith Observatory for the major benefactors as identified.

SUMMARY:

Griffith Observatory has completed the 100-percent working drawings phase of the renovation and expansion of Griffith Observatory. This project is currently budgeted at \$63 million dollars. It includes the complete renovation of the existing facility and 32,522 square feet of additional space, primarily underground and primarily accessible to the public. This is being accomplished through an active partnership between the Department of Recreation and Parks and Friends Of The Observatory (FOTO). More than half of the required funding is being raised from both public and private sources through FOTO's aggressive efforts.

Richard and Lois Gunther Depths of Space

Richard and Lois Gunther have pledged \$1.5 million and their active support in ongoing fundraising efforts on behalf of the capital campaign. This gift will be made to FOTO. It will be acknowledged by naming the new Depths of Space exhibit area, a 7,500 square-foot hall that will spotlight the dramatic transformations of human perspective attributable to the exploration of space and astronomical observation from space, the Richard and Lois Gunther Depths of Space.

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W.M. Keck Foundation Central Rotunda

The W.M. Keck Foundation has pledged \$1 million in support of the capital campaign. This gift will be made to FOTO, and it will be acknowledged by naming the renovated central rotunda the W.M. Keck Foundation Central Rotunda.

The Rose Hills Foundation Roof Observation Deck

The Rose Hills Foundation has pledged \$1 million in support of the capital campaign. This gift will be made to FOTO, and it will be acknowledged by naming the renovated roof observation deck the Rose Hills Foundation Roof Observation Deck.

Toyota Telescope Dome

Toyota Motor Sales has pledged \$250,000 in support of the capital campaign. This gift will be made to FOTO, and it will be acknowledged by naming the renovated telescope dome the Toyota Telescope Dome.

Richard and Betty Howlett Library Suite

Richard and Betty Howlett have made a \$125,000 gift to FOTO in support of the capital campaign. Betty Howlett was a founding member of FOTO's Board of Directors and served generously and selflessly until her death in September, 2001. It is recommended that the new Library Suite, currently the Observatory Director's Office, be named in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Howlett. It will be called the Richard and Betty Howlett Library Suite.

The Boeing Employee Community Fund Classroom

The Boeing Employee Community Fund has made a \$100,000 gift to FOTO in support of the capital campaign, which will be acknowledged by naming the classroom in the Observatory's new underground expansion the Boeing Employee Community Fund Classroom.

Tom and Angie Thornbury Observatory Director's Office

Tom and Angie Thornbury have pledged \$50,000 to FOTO in support of the capital campaign, which will be acknowledged by naming the new Observatory Director's Office the Tom and Angie Thornbury Observatory Director's Office.

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These gifts represent commitments of \$4.25 million. At this time, a total of over \$49 million is committed to the renovation and expansion of Griffith Observatory, with \$29 million of those funds directly attributable to FOTO's fundraising efforts. The total represents about 68 percent of the current goal.

It is expected that construction will begin in the second quarter of 2002.

The Friends Of The Observatory favors accepting the donations and the sponsorship opportunities as described.

This report prepared by Dr. E.C. Krupp, Director, Griffith Observatory.