

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 02-315

DATE September 4, 2002

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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: APPROVE A MEMORIAL PLAQUE HONORING THE VICTIMS AND HEROS OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 TO BE PLACED IN WARNER RANCH PARK

J. Combs _____	J. Kolb _____
*T. Coroalles _____	R. Fawcett _____
J. Duggan _____	M. Matthews _____
H. Fujita _____	

Margie Matthews

 General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve the installation of a memorial plaque at Warner Ranch Park in dedication to the U.S. Military and New York public safety personnel responding to the events of September 11, 2001. That the Board assign to the General Manager the authority to act on its behalf to approve/disapprove items relating to the City's commemorative event known as L.A. Remembers, to take place on September 11, 2002, at numerous locations citywide including North Hollywood Park, Warner Ranch Park, the South Lawn of City Hall, and at the Korean Bell in Angels Gate Park.

SUMMARY:

On August 12, 2002, Mayor James K. Hahn and the City Council announced plans for a group of events to pay tribute to the victims and heroes of September 11, 2001 entitled L.A. REMEMBERS. A number of meaningful events and activities are meant to provide an opportunity for the residents of Los Angeles to join together in a citywide commemorative event. A rolling processional of vehicles will weave through the City, including 2 police vehicles, a fire truck, a military vehicle, and an American Cross van, which represent the many heroes of September 11, the selfless first responders, as well as the countless individuals and non-profit agencies that helped us to heal and pick up the pieces of a shattered time in our history. Also as a part of the processional, will be a mobile collage - a collection of drawings, poems, letters, created by interested members of the general public, in tribute to the heros of 9-11.

The memorial procession will begin at 5:46 a.m., the same time a year ago that the first plane crashed into the World Trade Center, and will make its second stop at 8:00 a.m. at Warner Ranch Park. The Office of Councilman Dennis Zine is organizing the event at

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this site and has requested on behalf of the community, a memorial to be placed at Warner Ranch Park in Woodland Hills. The proposed memorial will consist of a flag pole with a lighting system to allow the flag to fly around the clock and a memorial plaque dedicated to the military and public safety personnel of the New York area. The Councilman has requested that the memorial be placed near the current pavilion, ensuring that the flag pole would not obstruct the sight lines to the stage for any future performances.

The Councilman's request meets the Department's memorial plaque policy established in board report 416-95 on October 18, 1995, in that a detailed written request was received and the Councilman has agreed to pay for the plaque and its installation. The plaque will be made of bronze and is anticipated to exceed the Department standard size of 12 inches by 18 inches as the inscription on the plaque includes a City seal and approximately 83 words (see attachment A) versus a typical Department plaque with approximately ten words. Given that the plaque will be placed outdoors in a park with no other such memorials, the larger size of the plaque does not present a problem. When the dimensions of the plaque are known, the requestor will be required to secure final approval from the General Manager.

The Environmental Management Division has determined that the proposed installation of the memorial plaque is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11 (5,6) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Four additional Park sites have been selected as venues for stops along the procession, including a 5:00 a.m. commencement at North Hollywood Park where a 9/11 Memorial was previously dedicated; a 11:00 a.m. ceremony at the City Hall South Lawn; and a closing ceremony at 6:00 p.m. at the Korean Friendship Bell in Angels Gate Park. At this time, there are no known requests related to this event which will require Board action, however, given this is the last Board Meeting before the event, it is recommended that the Board authorize the General Manager to act on its behalf relating to any requests in support of the L.A. Remembers event.

L.A. Remembers 9/11

This Flagpole is dedicated by a grateful people in memory of the brave men and women of the United States Armed Forces and the New York area public safety services who lost their lives while saving others in heroic response to the terror attacks on the United States of America, September 11, 2001.

Dedicated as part of the first anniversary of the attacks, September 11, 2002.

James K. Hahn
Mayor of the City of Los Angeles

Dennis P. Zine
Councilman, 3rd District