

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 04-161

DATE May 19, 2004

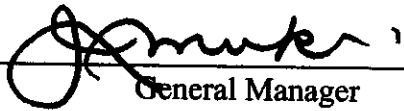
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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK: PROPOSED NAMING OF THE BANDSHELL
"SOUSA-HINER HISTORIC BANDSHELL"

* K. Chan hc
H. Fujita _____
M. Mariscal _____
K. Regan _____

J. Combs _____
J. Kolb _____
F. Mok _____
G. Stigile _____



General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Authorize the naming of the bandshell at Sycamore Grove Park "Sousa-Hiner Historic Bandshell"; and
2. Direct Operations East staff to erect the appropriate park sign.

SUMMARY:

The Department of Recreation and Parks received a request from Anne Marie Wozniak, President of Highland Park Heritage Trust, to name the bandshell at Sycamore Grove Park "Sousa-Hiner Historic Bandshell". Sycamore Grove Park is located at 4702 N. Figueroa Street.

The Sousa-Hiner Historic Bandshell would memorialize John Philip Sousa and Dr. Edwin Hiner and their connection to the park and the City. Dr. Hiner was a musician and national band leader who played/conducted concerts in Sycamore Grove. He lived across the street from the Park. He founded the Music Department at the Los Angeles Normal School (now UCLA) in 1919. He trained students, including Los Angeles Philharmonic's brass section and the buglers at Santa Anita racetrack, in the "Sousa Nook" from his music studio located next to his home.

John Philip Sousa was one of the most popular composers and band leaders in the nation at the turn of the last century. He was famous for his marching band music. His band often practiced at and played several concerts in Sycamore Grove Park after accepting invitations to stay with his good friend and student, Dr. Hiner.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG 2

NO. 04-161

A community meeting on this proposal was held on March 24th of this year, at which all attendees expressed support for the proposal. Staff has reviewed this matter and recommends approval of the naming. The Councilmember of this District and Operations East staff support the naming. The Department shall bear the costs for the installation of the sign.

Staff has determined that the subject project will consist of the placement of an on-premise sign, which is a minor structures that is accessory to (appurtenant to) the existing park facilities, and therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11 (1) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

Report prepared by Camille Didier, City Planner and Nora Dresser, Planning Assistant, Advance Planning/Special Projects.