

DATE September 1, 2004

C. D. 4

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH FRIENDS OF THE OBSERVATORY TO NAME THE PLANETARIUM AND THE TRANSIT CORRIDOR AT THE GRIFFITH OBSERVATORY

J. Combs <u>[Signature]</u>	H. Fujita _____
*G. Stigile <u>[Signature]</u>	K. Chan _____
F. Mok <u>[Signature]</u>	J. Kolb _____

[Signature]
General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve the Agreement to Name, substantially in the form attached, in connection with two grants, one of \$5,000,000.00 and the other of \$2,000,000.00, received by Friends Of The Observatory (FOTO) for use in the renovation and expansion of the Griffith Observatory Project;
2. Direct Staff to submit the proposed Agreement to the Mayor, in accordance with Executive Directive No. 16, and to the City Attorney for review and approval as to form, and subsequently to the City Council for review and approval; and,
3. Authorize the Board President and Secretary to execute the Agreement subsequent to all necessary approvals.

SUMMARY:

In October of 2002, the City broke ground on the Griffith Observatory Renovation and Expansion project. Prior to the award and also since construction has started, FOTO has been engaged in a fundraising campaign to supplement the costs of the project. To date, FOTO has gifted a total amount of \$4,102,950.00 to the City for the purposes of awarding various Additive Alternates as outlined in Board Report Nos. 03-120, 03-201, and 04-53, and to issue a change order to supply audio equipment (Report 04-228). On August 11, 2004, additional gifts of the furnished and installed interior Planetarium dome, and of the seats for the Planetarium and the Event Horizon theatre space, were accepted by the Board (Report 04-227). Future gifts to be offered by FOTO for acceptance by the City are materials, equipment, and installation for components such as the Zeiss Mark IX Star Projector and the Laser Projection system.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

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FOTO has cultivated extraordinary and generous gifts from the Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Oschin Family Foundation (\$5,000,000.00) and from Suzanne Gottlieb (\$2,000,000.00) for a total of \$7,000,000.00. These funds will be applied to the cost of fabricating the program of more than 80 exhibits designed for the renovated and expanded Observatory, which exhibit program is estimated by the designers at about \$6,750,000, without contingency. The funds will also be applied to costs of about \$250,000.00 for completing the planned Transit Corridor, an instrument that tracks the noontime position of the sun in the manner of ancient astronomers and is located on the new, west-facing lower terrace. FOTO continues to aggressively seek additional funding resources to cover contingencies and overruns, and for other Renovation and Expansion project needs, but to the extent that exhibit fabrication can be awarded for lower costs, or for any reason monies remain from the \$7,000,000.00 after exhibit fabrication and the transit corridor are funded, the remaining funds can be applied to other Renovation and Expansion project needs with the approval of the General Manager.

The completed and installed exhibits, and the transit corridor, are being presented to the City as a gift. In exchange, and in conformance with a previously established schedule of naming opportunities, FOTO seeks approval of the naming of the planetarium as the "Samuel Oschin Planetarium" and the transit corridor as the "Robert J. and Suzanne Gottlieb Transit Corridor," both for a period of at least fifty-five (55) years from the date of opening of the Observatory. The attached Agreement to Name obligates FOTO to expend the funds for the exhibit fabrication and the transit corridor components of the Griffith Observatory Renovation and Expansion Project. Under the proposed agreement, the City is obligated to agree to the naming, and because of the commitment of this naming beyond three years, the City Council must also review and approve the Agreement.

FOTO will handle details of the naming, notably sign lettering size, style, and content, to conform to the general signage plan embodied in the project plans designed by Hardy Holtzman Pfeffier and Associates, architect on the project. No ancillary expense is expected in connection with this gift or naming.

Report prepared by Linda J. Barth