

**Griffith Park Master Plan – Working Group
Meeting Summary – March 3, 2008**

The Griffith Park Master Plan Working Group convened their meeting on Monday, March 3, 2008 at 6:53 p.m. at the Griffith Park Ranger Station Auditorium.

Present: Working Group: Bernadette Soter, Gerry Hans, Jeff Gardner, Louis Alvarado,
Lynn Brown, Susan Swan, Valerie Vanaman and
Lucinda Phillips

Council District 4: None

Recreation and Parks: Marilyn J. White and Christina Iwata

Absent: Clare Darden, Craig Kessler, George Grace and Richard Bogy

Facilitator: Vicki Israel, Assistant General Manager, Department of Recreation and Parks

Ms. Israel opened the meeting by calling the roll of the working group members and introducing Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff. This was followed by the discussion of meeting summaries. As requested, copies of the August 2007 meeting tape were given to Mr. Gardner and Ms. Vanaman. Any comments from the Working Group members must be e-mailed to Ms. Iwata. It was decided that meeting summaries for August 2007 and February 2008 be held for discussion at the April 2008 Working Group meeting. Mr. Hans verified that all corrections requested on the July and October 2007 meeting summaries have been made and posted on the website. After a short discussion of the November 2007 meeting summary, it was agreed upon that the statement “Mr. Morales was not able to put in the additional stipulations required for special events.” be deleted. Mr. Hans distributed a list of statements that should be added in the second paragraph on the November 2007 meeting summary.

Ms. Vanaman inquired about the CEQA checklist. Her proposal, with the approval of the group, is to prepare an “environmental issues” section to get the process going. According to Ms. Israel, when the final draft of the document is done, it will need to go through the CEQA process and to the RAP Board of Commissioners. She also added that RAP’s Planning and Development Division has asked one of their staff, Mr. Paul Davis, to review the document and look into getting the process started. A statement from Mr. Davis was read by Ms. Israel: “We are in the process of preparing the “Vision Plan” from the Working Group for transmittal to one of our as-needed environmental consultants for a cost estimate to prepare an Initial Study for the purposes of determining the appropriate CEQA documentation to support the adoption and implementation of the Griffith Park Master Plan. The ‘Vision Plan’ that I got was not ready for release because it was a redline/strikeout version. So I could not immediately release it to a consultant as a Request for Proposal. We hope to get it out this week for proposal.” No one can tell how many Working Group meetings are left. The Executive Summary still needs to be finalized. In addition, approval of final meeting summaries and approval of chapters are still needed.

The goal of the Working Group members and RAP is to complete the document. This final draft should be presented out to community for public review. It was stated that part of the \$25,000 funding from Council District 4 will be spent for the environmental process to assist in the preparation of the draft document.

Mr. Gardner mentioned that permission from Cartifact for use of the maps is still pending. He suggested that the Working Group prepares a list of requests for RAP. The EIR checklist has several pages and is more in depth than what was on the Melendrez draft. The document should have a CEQA report to determine appropriate actions. RAP’s Planning and Development Division will send the document,

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when on its final format, to all outside contractors to determine if anyone's interested in completing the environmental study.

Copies of the appendices for the document were distributed for discussion. The Working Group members thanked RAP staff for preparing organized copies of the appendices. Ms. Israel recommended to the Working Group members that they review the appendices and comments should be e-mailed to Ms. Soter. The discussion of the appendices has been held for the April 2008 meeting.

The Executive Summary will be discussed at a sub-committee meeting. A RAP employee has started reviewing the redline/strikeout version of the document for significant changes and grammatical errors. Changes will not be made on the document. RAP may suggest some changes or corrections.

The next Working Group meeting will be held Monday, April 7, 2008. The March 3, 2008 meeting concluded at 8:03 p.m.

Public Comments include the following:

- Clarification of special events at the Autry. All events go through a process. The Autry does not book events just for revenue.
- Received a grant from the Santa Monica Conservancy to conduct a study of the possibility of turning the service yard, which is part of Griffith Park located on the east side of the Los Angeles River, into an actual park. This study should be completed in six months.
- A surprised reaction that RAP has been completing requests made by the Working Group members.
- Glad that wild flowers have been growing in Griffith Park.

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Grace, Jerry Hans, Jeff Gardner, Jose Sigala, Louis Alvarado, Lynn Brown
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