

APPROVED

Nov 07 2021

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

BOARD REPORT

NO. 24-238

DATE November 07, 2024

C.D. 12

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: PORTER RANCH COMMUNITY PARK – PROJECT FINAL ACCEPTANCE – RENAMING OF PORTER RANCH COMMUNITY PARK AS “JANE AND BERT BOECKMANN PARK” – RENAMING OF THE ENGLANDER PAVILION AS “SESEVENGA PAVILION”

B. Aguirre	_____	M. Rudnick	_____
B. Jones	_____	for *C. Santo Domingo	<u>DF</u>
C. Stoneham	_____	N. Williams	_____

General Manager

Approved X Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Accept the work performed by the Toll Brothers for the Porter Ranch Sesnon Property Project (Project), as outlined in the Summary of this Report;
2. Authorize the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners (Board) Secretary to furnish Toll Brothers with a Letter of Acceptance, contingent upon the receipt of all permits, drawings, operation and maintenance manuals, warranties and guarantees, and final as-built plan(s) for the Project, as outlined in the Summary of this Report;
3. Approve the renaming of the Porter Ranch Community Park as “Jane and Bert Boeckmann Park” as more fully set forth in this Report;
4. Approve the renaming of the Englander Pavilion as “Sesevenga Pavilion” as more fully set forth in this Report;
5. Authorize the installation of the appropriate signage at the renamed park and pavilion; and,
6. Authorize the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff to make technical corrections as necessary to carry out the intent of this Report.

SUMMARY

The Project is a multi-phased project for the development of a 50.11-acre park located at 11811 North Porter Ranch Drive in the Porter Ranch community of the City of Los Angeles. The Project is located on land owned by the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP).

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RAP acquired the Porter Ranch Sesnon Property (Property) in 1993 as a part of a multi-parcel property exchange with Porter Ranch Development Company (PRDC), as further described in Report No. 483-87, Report No. 232-93, and City Council File No. 93-2395. In that transaction, RAP transferred five parcels, 30.19 acres in total, to PRDC in exchange for two parcels, one of which was the Property, totaling 64.35 acres. At the time the land exchange was approved by the Board, RAP staff reported that "A preliminary plan for the Property suggests the development of a graded 25-acre outdoor sports facility complete with a sports field, paved game courts, patron parking, etc. When a more definitive plan is available, and prior to any work by the [PRDC], the plan will be submitted to the Board for approval" (Report No. 232-93).

Porter Ranch Specific Plan and Development Agreement

Pursuant to the Porter Ranch Land Use/Transportation Specific Plan (Specific Plan) and the associated agreement between the City of Los Angeles and the PRDC relative to the development of the various improvements listed in the Specific Plan (Development Agreement), PRDC is required to fully develop the Property. The guidelines and procedures relative to the approval of the development of the Property, and for its construction, are detailed in the Specific Plan and the Development Agreement.

The Specific Plan was first adopted by the City in 1990 (Ordinance No. 166,068) and has been amended several times since its initial adoption. The Specific Plan is a general plan implementation document and, as such, establishes a link between implementing policies of the City's general plan and the individual development proposals in a defined area. The Specific Plan established a comprehensive set of development regulations for the area and formed the basis for a Development Agreement between the City and PRDC, which the parties entered into on February 18, 1992 (Ordinance No. 167,523). Since then, the Development Agreement has been amended several times.

Pursuant to Section 9.G of the Specific Plan, PRDC is required to "fully develop, in accordance with a plan approved by the Los Angeles City Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners," the Property. However, PRDC is "not required to expend for improvement to the park more than the amount that [PRDC] would otherwise be required to pay as fees under the Quimby Act for recordation of residential subdivisions within the Specific Plan area." Additionally, "[p]rior to the development of this park, the Department of Recreation and Parks shall transmit a copy of its proposed plan to the [Porter Ranch Design Review Board] for its review" and "[t]he Porter Ranch Design Review Board shall review any development plan for the park facilities and shall transmit its recommendations to the Councilmember with a copy to the Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners."

Pursuant to Section V.B.2.B of the Development Agreement, "[u]pon completion of all residential dwelling units in Subareas D and E of the Single-Family Area, Porter Ranch will fully develop, in accordance with a plan approved by the City Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners, the [Property]. Additionally, Section V.B.2.B notes that "although the cost for such development and

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improvement shall constitute credit for any required Quimby Fees the dedication of the [Property] shall not be used as a set-off against the requirement of 17.12 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code for dedication of real property for park and recreational purposes, or for payment of a fee in lieu thereof”.

New Porter Ranch Community Park

On May 5, 2022, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners approved the revised park plans, which included the following scope of work: an amphitheater and event space, an open lawn area (with seat walls), a promenade with shade structures, two children’s play areas (a 2-5 area and a 5-15 area), one full basketball court, four pickleball courts, two restroom buildings, outdoor game tables, multiple picnic areas, multiple parking lots, an outdoor classroom area (with seat walls), an equestrian trail, walking trails and sidewalks, and a maintenance yard (Report Nos. 22-111 and 18-193).

Toll Brothers (the successor to PRDC) started construction on the Project in Summer 2022. Construction of the new park is now complete. A final walkthrough and punch list verification of the site was conducted by RAP staff on October 17, 2024, and staff has inspected the improvements determined that the Project has been constructed in accordance with the approved plans and is ready to be accepted by RAP.

The Department of City Planning has confirmed that the new park is compliant with the requirements of the Specific Plan.

Upon approval of this Report, RAP will furnish Toll Brothers with a Letter of Acceptance once Toll Brothers furnishes RAP with the all permits, drawings, operation and maintenance manuals, warranties and guarantees, and final as-built plan(s) for the Project.

Porter Ranch Community Park Naming

On June 5, 2013 the RAP adopted a Naming Policy, Procedures and Guidelines for Parks and Recreational Facilities (Naming Policy) for the naming of parks, recreation facilities, park amenities, landmarks and other park assets (Report No. 13-161). The Naming Policy, which is included with this Report as Attachment 4, enumerates the criteria and guidelines for use when evaluating proposed park names.

On October 5, 2018, the Board received a formal written request from Toll Brothers advocating for the new park to be named “Bloom Park.” The Toll Brothers’ letter indicates that the company originally considered naming the new park in honor of Councilman Mitch Englander, to “honor the man who worked with us and truly helped make this park a reality.” According to the letter, Councilman Englander instead encouraged the name “Bloom Park” to honor the memory of his mother and sister.

Former Councilman Mitch Englander resigned from the City Council on October 11, 2018.

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On November 5, 2018, the Board received a second request from Toll Brothers asking to have the Property's soon-to-be-built performance and arts inspired outdoor amphitheater named as "Englander Pavilion, in honor of Mitch Englander." Toll Brothers made this request to show its "appreciation for everything the Councilmember has done for Council District 12." The former Councilmember submitted his own letter supporting both of the Toll Brothers' requests.

On November 7, 2018, these naming requests were presented to the Board in Report No. 18-221. After some discussion, the Board determined that additional community outreach was needed regarding for the proposed name of the Property. The Board approved the naming of the outdoor amphitheater as "Englander Pavilion," but referred the naming of the Property as "Bloom Park" to the RAP Facility Repair and Maintenance Commission Task Force (Task Force).

On February 1, 2019, the Office of Council District 12, under interim Councilmember Greig Smith, introduced a motion requesting that the park be named "Bloom Park in Porter Ranch" (City Council File #150104-S7). This motion was never approved by City Council.

On February 6, 2019, RAP staff presented the proposed "Bloom Park" name to the Task Force with information about the additional community outreach that staff had conducted since the Board meeting. The Task Force did not render an official opinion about the proposed name, but asked staff to provide additional justification as to why "Bloom Park" was the best choice as opposed to the alternative names identified in the meeting materials.

On November 15, 2022, the Office of Council District 12 sent a letter requesting that the Board rename the Property as "Jane Boeckmann Park" in honor of Jane Boeckmann. Per the biographical information provided by CD12:

"Jane Boeckmann was the beloved matriarch of the Boeckmann Family, the First Lady of the Galpin Motors organization, and a San Fernando Valley icon. For nearly 40 years this selfless humanitarian, astute business person and civic leader, lived and raised her family minutes away from the new 50-Acre Park in Porter Ranch. We would be hard pressed to find another local resident who has contributed as much to their neighborhood and the San Fernando Valley, than Jane Boeckmann."

On January 30, 2023, RAP sent a letter to the Fernandino Tataviam Band of Mission Indians requesting their participation in the naming process for the 50-acre park as part of RAP's commitment to reparative justice.

The proposed name "Jane Boeckmann Park" was presented to the Task Force on April 6, 2023. The Task Force stated that the threshold of "exceptional community contribution" is high and asked staff to continue conducting due diligence to ensure that threshold is met. The Task Force also asked staff to ensure that all voices in the community were consulted during the naming process. Following the Task Force meeting, RAP staff requested additional information from the

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Office of Council District 12 about Jane Boeckmann's contributions to the Porter Ranch community.

In June 2023, Toll Brothers requested that RAP confirm the future park's name so that the appropriate park signage could be installed. Per the Naming Policy, "...the initial name of a new park or recreational facility, which may be temporary for purposes of administration and accounting, shall be administratively assigned by RAP staff in the traditional manner utilized prior to the establishment of this Policy, based on geographic features such as street and community names or prominent features." Consistent with this practice, the Property was administratively named "Porter Ranch Community Park" by RAP staff, based on the park's geographic location in the Porter Ranch community.

On July 5, 2024, the Office of Council District 12 sent a letter to the Board to revise the proposed park name to "Jane and Bert Boeckmann Park" and requested again the pavilion be renamed to "Sesevenga Pavilion" (Attachment 2). On July 9, 2024, the Council Office provided additional information about the proposed names to RAP via email in an effort to demonstrate compliance with the Naming Policy (Attachment 3). In this email, the Council Office noted, among other things, the couple's donations of "tens of thousands of dollars for our local events that bring the Porter Ranch community together," as well as their support of the North Valley YMCA programs such as "afterschool programs, affordable gym memberships, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles."

The Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council approved a motion to send a letter to RAP in support of the name "Jane and Bert Boeckmann Park Porter Ranch" at the July 10, 2024 meeting.

On October 30, 2024, RAP received a letter from the Fernandino Tataviam Band of Mission Indians that noted that the organization "supports naming the pavilion at the 50-acre park in Porter Ranch Sesevenga Pavilion (seh-seh- veng-na), which means "the place of the sycamore-woods" in our Tactic language."

TREES AND SHADE

Per Report No. 18-193, the Project proposes to plant over 750 trees, with box sizes varying from 24 inches to 72 inches. There are 22 varieties of trees proposed to be planted as a part of the Project, including Silk, Redbud, Willows, Cypress, Coral, Mesquite, Pear, Oak, and Elm trees, as well as multiple types of Pine and Palms trees.

The Project installed multiple shade structures throughout the site, with shade structures located at the Outdoor Class Room Area, adjacent to the Children's Play Area, adjacent to the Basketball Courts, and along the Promenade.

Additionally, the Children's Play Areas will include shade sails over the various climbing and play structures and the playground swings.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

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The Project is included in the Porter Ranch Land Use/Transportation Specific Plan. The Los Angeles City Council certified an Environmental Impact Report (EIR 88-0026(SP)(ZC)(PA), State Clearinghouse No. 88050420) and adopted the Specific Plan in July 1990. Multiple iterations of the Specific Plan have been adopted since the initial adoption, which were supported by five EIR addenda (1990, 2000, 2000, 2006 and 2016). Certified EIR, as referred to herein, consists of the Draft EIR and the Final EIR (1989), the Supplemental Draft and Final EIRs (1990), and five Addenda (1990, 2000, 2000, 2006 and 2016).

The Board approved the Project on May 5, 2022 and found that the existing documentation pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) adequately assessed the Project's environmental impacts. Since the Department of City Planning has confirmed that the new park is compliant with the requirements of the Specific Plan, the installation of signs is covered by the certified EIR and RAP staff has inspected the site and found it in compliance with the approved Project, Staff finds that no additional CEQA action is required for the acceptance of the Project.

FISCAL IMPACT

The development of the Project was funded by the PRDC and not RAP's General Fund. Maintenance and operation funds for the new park will be requested as part of the RAP's General Fund. The annual maintenance costs and operational costs of the park are estimated at approximately \$255,000.

The cost of the new signage for the renamed park and pavilion has not yet been determined. It is unknown at this time what source of funds will be used to pay for the new signage.

This Report was prepared by Jeremy Silva, Planning Assistant, Planning, Maintenance and Construction Branch.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) Attachment 1 – Photos of Completed Project
- 2) Attachment 2 – Letter from the Office of Council District 12 dated July 5, 2024
- 3) Attachment 3 – Additional Naming Information Provided by CD12 on July 9, 2024
- 4) Attachment 4 – RAP Naming Policy and Guidelines
- 5) Attachment 5 – Letter from Fernandefio Tataviam Band of Mission Indians













JOHN S. LEE
COUNCILMEMBER, 12TH DISTRICT

July 5, 2024

City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
221 N. Figueroa Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Naming of New 50-Acre Park and Pavilion in Porter Ranch

Honorable Commissioners:

As we approach the completion of the new 50-acre park in Porter Ranch, I respectfully request that the Commission consider two names for the park and pavilion, superseding previous naming requests and actions. I request that the park be named “Jane and Bert Boeckmann Park” and that the pavilion located within the park be named “Sesevenga Pavilion.”

Jane and Bert Boeckmann were local residents who became San Fernando Valley icons, perhaps most recognized for their roles at the head of Galpin Motors. They were individuals of unwavering faith, limitless energy and boundless optimism, as well as selfless humanitarians, civic leaders, and astute businesspersons.

When Bert joined the Galpin team in 1953 as a salesman, it was a small dealership struggling to pay its bills. Bert quickly worked his way up the ranks, becoming Galpin Motors' general manager in 1957, president in 1964, and sole owner in 1968. Jane served for many years as Galpin Motors' Treasurer and Corporate Director. Together, they built a business that prides itself on integrity, the highest standard of service and treating its employees like family. Today, Galpin Motors is the #1 Volume Ford Dealership in the world, and the Boeckmanns are the most recognized automotive family in the country.

In addition to their accomplishments as business leaders, Jane and Bert built a long and distinguished record of local community involvement, and their hearts for serving the San Fernando Valley community were boundless.

Bert served for two decades on the Los Angeles Police Department's Board of Police Commissioners, was an executive board member of the Boy Scouts of America, served on former Mayor Tom Bradley's blue-ribbon committee on budget and finance, and held a seat on the CSUN Association Executive Advisory Council. Bert was also President of the Prince of Peace Foundation and, in 2006, presented Mother Teresa with a \$1 million award for food and medical supplies.

For 25 years, Jane Boeckmann was publisher and editor-in-chief of Valley Magazine, which profiled San Fernando Valley's businesses and chronicled the region's social, cultural, and civic life. Examples of Jane's community activism include serving as a Trustee of the Valley Industry and Commerce Association and King's College and as a Board Member of such diverse groups as the Valley Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley, Valley Presbyterian Hospital, and the Salvation Army. Jane has also held key roles in organizations such as the Olive View Medical Center

Foundation Advisory Board, Excellence in Media, the Heart Foundation, and many more groups that benefit communities and those in need.

In 1976, Bert received the prestigious Fernando Award, widely regarded as the highest recognition for civic accomplishment and community service in the San Fernando Valley. Thirteen years later, Jane became the first woman to receive the Fernando Award since its inception in 1959.

Two of the many local organizations Jane and Bert provided major support to were the North Valley Family YMCA and Shepherd Church. Both organizations are mainstays in the Porter Ranch community. The North Valley Family YMCA is one of California's most successful Ys. Shepherd Church provides Porter Ranch with everything from a place for community and civic meetings, an annual local 4th of July fireworks show, and food and shelter for Porter Ranch residents during emergencies such as the 2019 Saddleridge Fire.

For nearly 40 years, Jane and Bert lived and raised their family just south of the new 50-acre Park in Porter Ranch. Numerous local residents and people throughout the Valley the Boeckmanns have reached will enjoy this park for years to come.


An exciting component of the new park is the pavilion, which features a stage for arts and performances for the community. Naming the pavilion Sesevenga, which means “the place of the sycamore-woods” in the Takic language, promotes land acknowledgment through culturally-competent naming that honors the legacies of Indigenous people. Using the Sesevenga name highlights the area's history and acknowledges the “first people of the land.”

This magnificent, community-oriented 50-acre park and pavilion will not only be a stunning landmark but also the true heart of this community. As approved by the Commission, the park design includes drought-tolerant and native landscaping, hiking trails, and various sports courts. Most importantly, the park and pavilion will provide a safe, tranquil, and inspiring environment for the community to come together.

I am confident that this park and pavilion will quickly become one of the gems of the Northwest San Fernando Valley. For the reasons above, I cannot think of more befitting names for these future community treasures than “Jane and Bert Boeckmann Park,” and “Sesevenga Pavilion.”

I thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



JOHN S. LEE

Councilmember, Twelfth District

Attachment 3

Re: the proposed Jane Boeckmann name:

The biographical information previously provided by the Office of Council District 12 does not demonstrate an exceptional contribution to the Porter Ranch community specifically. In order to clearly define the boundaries of the Porter Ranch community, RAP will be referring to the specific plan map.

- Please provide the following information to demonstrate exceptional contribution to the community:
 - philanthropic event dates and locations
 - financial contributions and dates to specific organizations within the boundaries of the map provided,
 - involvement in groups or organizations located within and that benefited the community in the map provided, or similar information.

Shepherd of the Hills Church

With the support of Jane and Bert Boeckmann, Shepherd of the Hills Church located at 19700 Rinaldi Street in Porter Ranch, serves the community as much more than a house of worship for over 10,000 congregants every week- it is truly a place of community for Porter Ranch at large.

Shepherd of the Hills Church, with its doors always open, has been a venue for numerous Porter Ranch town hall meetings. In times of crisis, such as the 2019 Saddleridge Fire, it has served as an emergency shelter for the displaced Porter Ranch residents. Shepherd of the Hills hosts one of the largest Independence Day fireworks celebrations in the San Fernando Valley.

Jane and Bert Boeckmann generously supported the church and its causes and outreach efforts that benefit the community. They have donated tens of thousands of dollars for our local events that bring the Porter Ranch community together. This includes donating annually to the Shepherd of the Hills' annual 4th of July fireworks celebration since its inception in 1997. They have also supported Shepherd of the Hills local community car show.

YMCA

Jane and Bert Boeckmann contributed over \$100,000 to the North Valley Family YMCA, located at 11336 Corbin Avenue since 1999. Their generosity has made the North Valley Family YMCA a staple of the Porter Ranch Community.

Jane and Bert Boeckmann's support of the North Valley Family YMCA's Annual Golf Tournament, Capital Campaign, Operations, and Booster dinner has allowed the Y to provide numerous services for Porter Ranch and the entire North Valley, including afterschool programs, affordable gym memberships, and the promotion of healthy lifestyles. To ensure their representation, Jane and Bert Boeckmann always had someone from Galpin Motors on the North Valley YMCA Board.

Chatsworth • Porter Ranch Specific Plan

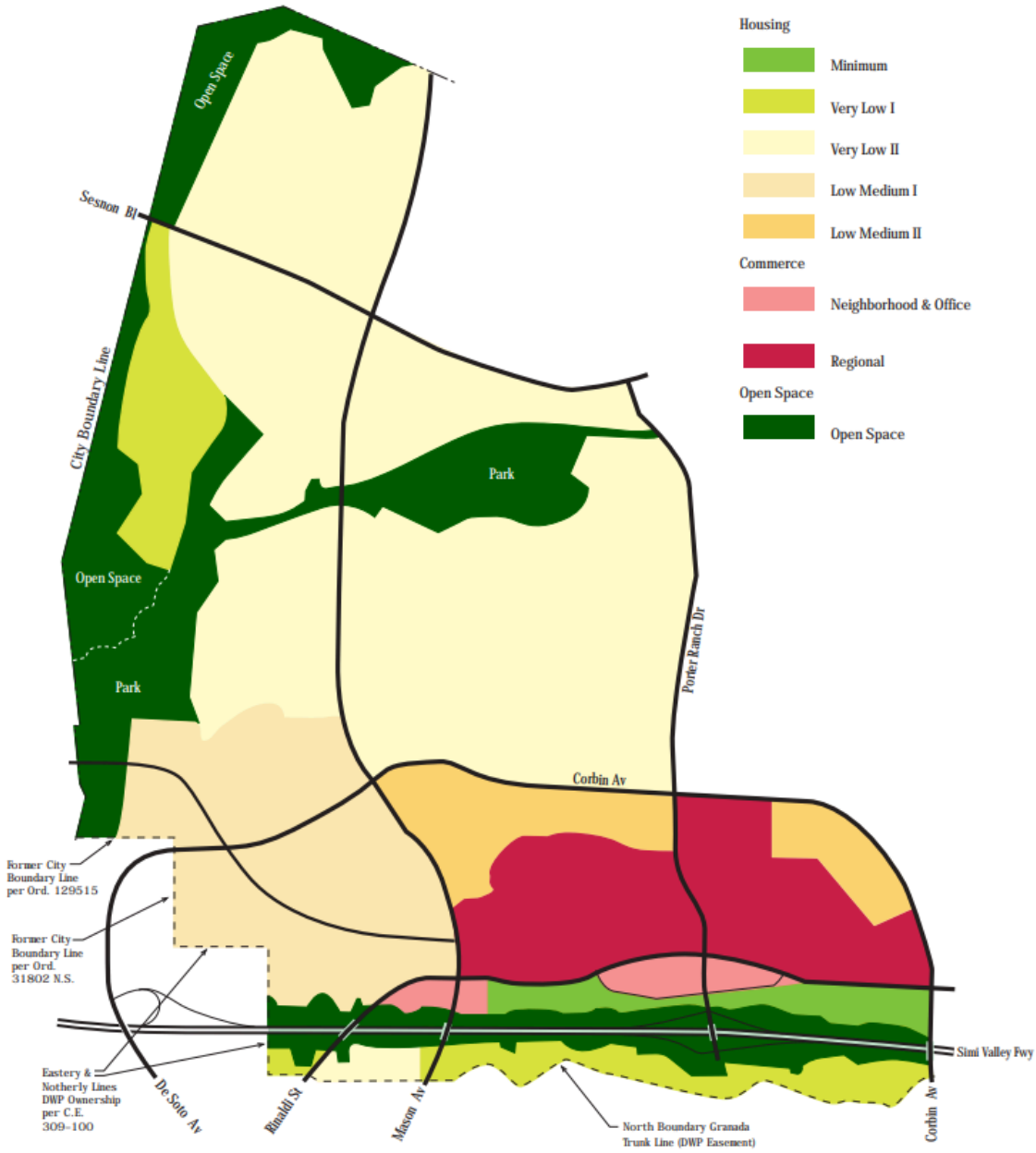


Exhibit I
Specific Plan Area Boundaries

Prepared by City of Los Angeles Planning Department - Graphic Services Section - June, 2002



All information should show direct correlation and benefit to the Porter Ranch community.

Re: the proposed Sesevenga name:

- Please provide information on the source material referenced that validates its meaning in the Tactic language.
 - Tataviam tribal leader Mark J. Villasenor; [CSUN Today](#)
 - [May 2019 letter](#) from Fernandefio Tataviam Band of Mission Indians Tribal President Rudy J. Ortega, Jr to Board of Rec and Park Commissioners states: Sesevenga (seh-sehveng-na), which means “the place of the sycamore-woods” in our Tactic language.

- Please demonstrate the relationship between the Tactic language and this community. Was the Tactic language used by the indigenous group that inhabited the area?
 - Yes, see May 2019 letter linked above.

- Please advise where the proposed name originated and if any Indigenous groups were consulted in the selection of the proposed name.
 - Initial outreach meetings in 2018- name was suggested.
 - Consulted with Tribal President Rudy J. Ortega Jr.
 - Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council placed on its agenda and approved a [motion](#) to name the pavilion “Sesevenga Pavillion” in July 2019.

- If so, please provide information about any meetings or discussions held with those Indigenous groups and points of contacts.
 - Councilmember John Lee discussed naming the pavilion “Sesevenga Pavillion” with Fernandefio Tataviam Band of Mission Indians Tribal President Rudy J. Ortega, Jr. approximately at the beginning of 2023.

 - A [July 2023 Daily News article](#) quotes Ortega Jr.: “We thought it would be favorable to name the park after Jane Boeckmann and the pavilion after the tribe.” and noted that “the Boeckmann family has contributed to many organizations in the Valley. We felt it would be honorable to support each other.”

City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
Naming Policy, Procedures and Guidelines for
Parks and Recreational Facilities

The mission of the Department of Recreation and Parks (“RAP”) is to enrich the lives of the residents of Los Angeles by providing safe, welcoming parks and recreational facilities and affordable, diverse recreation and human services activities for people of all ages to play, learn, contemplate, build community and be good stewards of our environment.

One of RAP’s objectives under the Mission is to enhance and expand recreational programs, services, and significant financial support and contributions through public and private collaborations.

Policy:

RAP recognizes that parks and recreational facilities are an essential and integral part of the communities they serve, and that the names of parks and recreational facilities, and park amenities within them, play a significant role in fostering identities in the surrounding communities. This Naming Policy (“Policy”) establishes the criteria and requirements, and sets forth the guidelines and procedures, for the naming and renaming (collectively, “Naming”) of parks, recreational facilities, landmarks and any other assets determined appropriate by RAP (collectively referred to herein as “Park Assets”), which are owned, managed or controlled by RAP.

Pursuant to this Policy, the initial name of a new park or recreational facility, which may be temporary for purposes of administration and accounting, shall be administratively assigned by RAP staff in the traditional manner utilized prior to the establishment of this Policy, based on geographic features such as street and community names or prominent features. In addition, the Naming of existing Park Assets, pursuant to a RAP recommendation relevant to a Naming proposal received from a private or public entity, shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners (“Board”), as described herein. In accordance with this Policy and pursuant to RAP recommendations, the Board shall consider the following two types of Naming proposals. The first type encompasses situations in which RAP receives or is offered a donation, gift, sponsorship, and/or other contribution from an outside entity that presents a decisive benefit and shows a direct connection to a Park Asset and serves the interests of the City and its residents. This type of Naming proposal would require a Naming Agreement to summarize the terms and conditions necessary to effectuate the financial or other benefits connected to the Naming proposal with a term (time period) recommended by the GM and approved by the Board, depending on the scope or nature of the agreement, and value, visibility, and lifespan of the donation, gift, sponsorship and or other contribution. The second type comprises Naming proposals to use a major historic event and/or unique significance of a specific place or person, as the basis for the proposed Name; again with the requirement that there be compelling and impressive substantiation demonstrating how the interests of City and its residents were served or impacted. The key in both types of Naming proposals is the importance of demonstrating direct connections to the Park Asset and clear community benefits as a foundation for considering any Naming proposal.

For purposes of this Policy, and with the exception of the temporary Naming of new Park Assets, the authority to approve the Naming of existing Park Assets shall be solely with the Board. Any exceptions to this Policy shall be subject to the prior approval of the Board.

Criteria and Guidelines for Evaluating Park Asset Naming Proposals:

For purposes of this Policy, the following shall be considered when evaluating the appropriateness, feasibility, and implementation of Naming proposals:

- The Naming of parks after individuals shall be limited to those who are deceased and have made exceptional contributions to the park or community within which the park is located.
- Parks shall only be named after living persons under circumstances requiring such naming as a condition precedent of a grant deed or covenant.
- The Naming of a park after a major historic event must be based on a direct connection between the park and such event.
- The Naming engenders a positive public image which does not unduly commercialize the park or recreational facility.
- The proposed name for the park or recreational facility, and/or contributor, must be compatible with the Mission of RAP.
- Park Assets that are held by RAP through a lease or use agreement may be considered for Naming under this Policy, subject to any requirements or restrictions contained in such document.
- RAP reserves the right to limit the duration of time a Name will be in place and/or in effect.
- No specialized signage or advertisement containing a commercial message to purchase a good or service shall be authorized for use on park property.
- All forms of signage placed on or within a Park Asset shall meet RAP's graphic and sign standards.
- There shall be no religious symbols included on Naming signage.
- Park Assets not under the operation of RAP (shared or exclusive), although under the ownership or jurisdiction of RAP, shall not be subject to this Policy; such as for example, the Los Angeles Zoo in Griffith Park.
- Parks should not be subdivided for purposes of Naming, unless there are readily-identifiable physical divisions in the park (major roads, waterways, hillsides, etc.) which facilitate or warrant a subdivision; or there exist other compelling reasons for having more than one name connected to a park. This should not prevent independently Naming a recreational facility or amenity located within a park, as long as the selected name will not cause confusion for park patrons.
- RAP shall seek to inform the public with regard to the Naming of a park in their community.
- Any exception to the above shall be subject to the Naming criteria contained herein, and the Board's prior approval.

Procedures:

The Board retains the authority to name or rename Park Assets situated on park property. The following shall be the protocol for evaluating, considering and denying or approving Naming proposals:

1. A written proposal for the Naming of a Park Asset must be initially submitted to the RAP Board Office, to the attention of the Board Secretary. In accordance with this Policy, the Board Office shall forward the proposal to the RAP General Manager (“GM”) for consideration.
2. Prior to any form of Naming Policy being implemented, sponsorship proposals shall be evaluated by RAP staff, with recommendations to the GM for possible consideration.

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
Native Sovereign Nation

Attachment 5



Rudy J. Ortega Jr., L.H.D
Tribal President

October 30, 2024

Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department
Office of Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 86328
Los Angeles, CA 90086-0328

RE: PROPOSAL OF THE FERNANDENO TATAVIAM BAND OF MISSION INDIANS TO SUPPORT NAMING PAVILION AT 50-ACRE PARK IN PORTER RANCH, CALIFORNIA “SESEVENGA PAVILION”

Dear Honorable Commissioners,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians (“FTBMI” or “Tribe”), a native sovereign nation of northern Los Angeles County. The Tribe supports naming the pavilion at the 50-acre park in Porter Ranch *Sesevenga Pavilion* (*seh-seh- veng-na*), which means “the place of the sycamore-woods” in our Takic language. *Sesevenga* was documented in 1916 by Smithsonian ethnographer John Peabody Harrington on reel 106, frame 43 slide 2:2. The root word, *seseve*, means “sycamore-woods,” while *-nga* is a locative suffix that translates to “place of.”

In my capacity as Commissioner for the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission, I have been a vocal advocate for culturally appropriate signage. I was directly involved with Motion No. 15-1341, filed on November 13, 2015, by the City of Los Angeles Arts, Parks, and River Committee for Native American Locations / Report on History and Cultural Impact. Naming the pavilion, *Sesevenga Pavilion* is a significant step towards this goal.

Indigenous place names in Los Angeles County are still visible today. For example, Tujunga, Topanga, and Cahuenga are traditional village names, while places like Encino and Calabasas are Spanish translations of our village names. More recently, my Tribe renamed a park in San Fernando to *Rudy Ortega Sr. Park* and a trail in Chatsworth to *Apeta Momonga (Trail to Chatsworth) Mission Trail*.

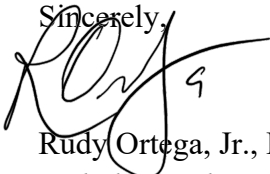
As the first government of northern Los Angeles County, my Tribe has always advocated for its cultural spaces to exhibit names that promote land acknowledgment through culturally competent naming that can honor the legacies of our people and still be enjoyed by all communities.

The Tribe’s distinct community, cultures, villages, and political structure pre-date the establishment of Mission San Fernando in 1797, from which we received the name *Fernandeño*, or San Fernando

Mission Indian. Our people are traced to traditional lineages located in the geographically surrounding areas of Simi, Santa Clarita, San Fernando, Antelope valleys, and parts of the Angeles National Forest. Today, the Tribe consists of a voluntary coalition of those lineages bound together by a Tribal constitution.

Renaming our cultural areas has arguably erased the indigenous story of the lands. My tribe supports naming the pavilion ***Sesevenga Pavilion*** to honor our legacy by acknowledging the first peoples of that land, which will be enjoyed now and for generations to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rudy Ortega, Jr.', with a stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Rudy Ortega, Jr., L.H.D
Tribal President