



Building A Better Long Beach

March 2, 2009

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEMBERS

City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve and authorize the Executive Director to adopt resolutions making certain findings regarding the construction of certain public improvements with funds from the West Beach and Downtown Redevelopment Project Areas. (West Beach & Downtown – Districts 1, 2)

DISCUSSION

In April 2007, the Redevelopment Agency (Agency) adopted resolutions making findings regarding the construction of public improvements on The Promenade right-of-way between Ocean Boulevard and Third Street and the amphitheater, with funding provided by the Downtown and West Beach Redevelopment Project Areas. An extension of the improvement area will include the terminus of The Promenade north of Third Street by the WPA Mosaic Mural (Mural Park) and south of Ocean Boulevard in Victory Park (Exhibit A – Site Map). This will address these under-utilized open spaces and provide an important pedestrian link from the various Downtown neighborhoods including West Gateway, Civic Center, Pine Avenue, North Pine, and East Village to the Convention Center and Waterfront venues on the south end of The Promenade and retail, restaurants and residences to the north.

Enhancements will include landscaping, pavement, lighting, seating, public art and a new pedestrian connection from Pine Avenue to Promenade South. Improvements to the Mural Park located in front of the CityPlace Parking Structure will create a destination for residents and visitors to enjoy the park setting and the historic WPA Mosaic Mural. The area is also important to Downtown mobility, serving cyclists using the proposed dedicated bike lane on Third Street and as an access point for the Long Beach Transit Passport that serves the greater Downtown and the MTA Blue Line, with parking available for transit patrons in the adjacent parking structure.

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Before the Agency may proceed with the aforementioned project, California Redevelopment Law requires that the Agency adopt a resolution making the following findings:

- That the construction of such public improvements are of benefit to the redevelopment project area or the immediate neighborhood in which the public improvement project is located;
- That no other reasonable means of financing the public improvements are available to the community; and
- That the payment of Agency funds for the construction of public improvements will assist in the elimination of one or more blighting conditions within the project area.

Resolutions making the necessary findings regarding the construction of these public improvements with redevelopment funds from the Downtown and West Beach Redevelopment Project Areas are attached. The City Council will be acting on a similar resolution following Agency approval.

These improvements will be constructed over the next three years to accommodate ongoing development. The estimated cost for the project (including public art) totals approximately \$3.5 million. As plans and specifications are finished, bid construction contracts will be brought to the Agency Board for review and approval.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Adopt recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

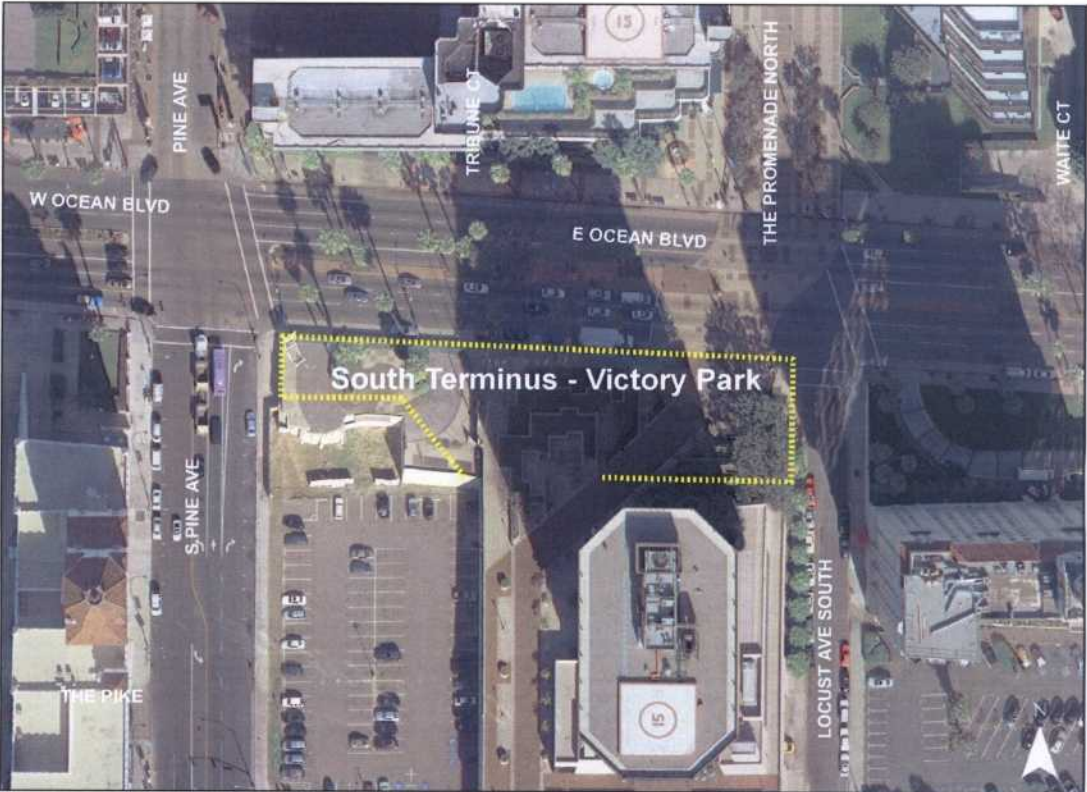
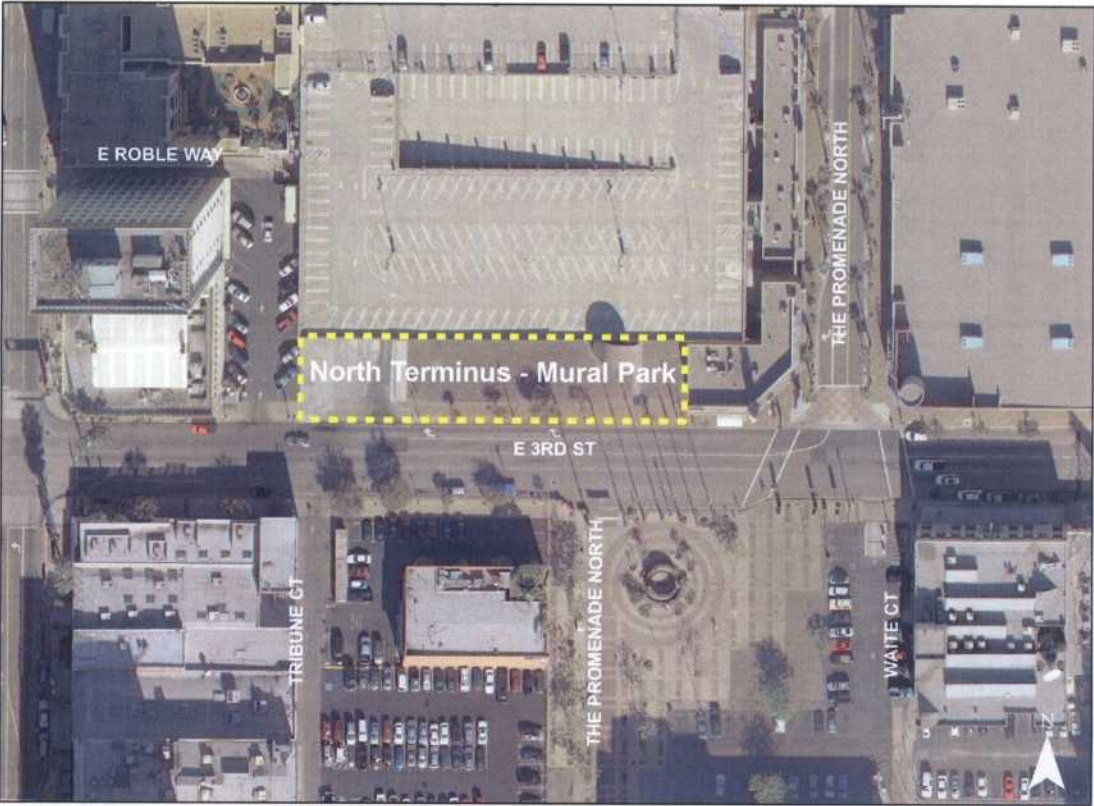
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C. Beck', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

CRAIG BECK
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

CB:AJB:SR:RSW

Attachments: Exhibit A – Site Map
Redevelopment Agency Resolutions (2)

Exhibit A



RESOLUTION NO. R. A.

A RESOLUTION OF THE REDEVELOPMENT
AGENCY OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA
MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS REGARDING THE
CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS
WITH REDEVELOPMENT FUNDS (PROMENADE
IMPROVEMENTS)

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Long Beach adopted and approved a certain Redevelopment Plan (the "Redevelopment Plan") for the West Beach Redevelopment Project (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of the Project and the immediate neighborhood in which the Project is located, the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Long Beach, California (the "Agency"), has recognized the need for certain public improvements, which improvements will be located adjacent to the boundaries of the Project, and proposes to use redevelopment funds to finance these improvements; and

WHEREAS, Section 33445 of the California Community Redevelopment Law (Health and Safety Code Section 33000 et seq.) requires the Agency to make certain findings prior to the acquisition of land and construction of public improvements or facilities thereon; and

WHEREAS, Section 33678 of the Community Redevelopment Law provides that under certain conditions tax increment funds shall not be subject to the appropriations limitation of Article XIII B of the California Constitution;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Long Beach, California resolves as follows:

Section 1. The Agency determines that the construction of public improvements, more particularly described in Exhibit "A", are of benefit to the Project

and the immediate neighborhood in which the Project is located. This finding is supported by the following facts:

These improvements will assist in the removal of blight by providing useable open space for downtown employees and residents, improving pedestrian safety and flow through the downtown, and promoting business attraction along The Promenade and nearby streets.

Section 2. The Agency determines that no other reasonable means of financing the above-described improvements are available to the community. This finding is supported by the following facts:

Before the passage of Proposition 13, most of the City's general operating and capital improvements were funded through property taxes. However, the initiative placed severe constraints on the City's ability to use property tax revenues to offset increases in operating and capital costs. It has also been difficult for the City, by itself, to provide sufficient funds to support the construction of major public improvements. In fiscal year 2008-2009, the limited resources of the City's General Fund are committed to previously incurred obligations and planned projects.

Section 3. The Agency further determines that the payment of funds for the construction of the public improvements will assist in the elimination of one or more blighting conditions within the Project, and is consistent with the implementation plan adopted pursuant to Health and Safety Code Section 33490.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Redevelopment Agency of the City of Long Beach, California, on this _____ day of _____, 2009.

Executive Director/Secretary

APPROVED:

Chair

EXHIBIT "A"

DESCRIPTION OF THE PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

The improvement of The Promenade including new paving, lighting, landscaping, public art, pedestrian seating and similar improvements within the area described in Exhibit A-1.

Exhibit A-1

