



LONG BEACH REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD, THIRD FLOOR • LONG BEACH, CA 90802 • (562) 570-6615 • FAX (562) 570-6215

September 18, 2006

REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY BOARD MEMBERS

City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to approve Stage III Design Review Plans for the Long Beach Transit / Visitor Information Center. (Downtown – District 2)

DISCUSSION

On May 9, 2005, the Redevelopment Agency Board (Board) approved a Disposition and Development Agreement with Long Beach Transportation Company (Developer) for the development of a Transit / Visitor Information Center (Center). Subsequently, the City Council approved the Agreement on May 10, 2005.

The Project is located on the southeast corner of Pine Avenue and First Street immediately adjacent to the City's main transit mall (Exhibit A – Site Map). The project site is an approximately 2,670-square-foot parcel of land purchased in 1987 by the Redevelopment Agency (Agency) as part of a larger parcel, the majority of which was used to widen First Street to accommodate the construction of the transit mall. The new Center will be a 1,900-square-foot facility that will provide a full range of transit-related services including route and real-time schedule displays, transit pass sales and restroom facilities for transit coach operators and the public. The Center will also include space and a pullout kiosk for the Long Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) and Downtown Long Beach Associates (DLBA) to provide tourist/visitor information services and special event information.

The initial design concept was presented to the Board in a study session on August 23, 2004. The plan was favorably reviewed by the Downtown Long Beach Associates Board of Directors and by the former Council member for the 2nd District and Mayor Beverly O'Neill. Following the execution of the Disposition and Development Agreement in May 2005, Long Beach Transit requested proposals for the final architectural design. The City's Urban Design Officer and Planning staff reviewed the final design and materials in August 2006 (Exhibit B).

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With Agency Board approval of the Stage III design review, the Developer will proceed with the final construction drawings. The site will be conveyed after they have obtained their building, zoning and other required permits. Under the terms of the Disposition and Development Agreement the Developer will pay the Agency \$1.00 for the site. In addition, they will transfer ownership of the current Transit Center building, located at 243 First Street, to the Agency. That building will be used as the new, expanded home of the Long Beach Bikestation, which compliments the other transit operations along the First Street corridor.

The Developer has secured grants to fund the construction of the Center. Construction of the new Transit / Visitor Information Center is scheduled for completion at the end of 2007.

Staff recommends approval of the plans.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



PHW
PATRICK H. WEST
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

APPROVED:



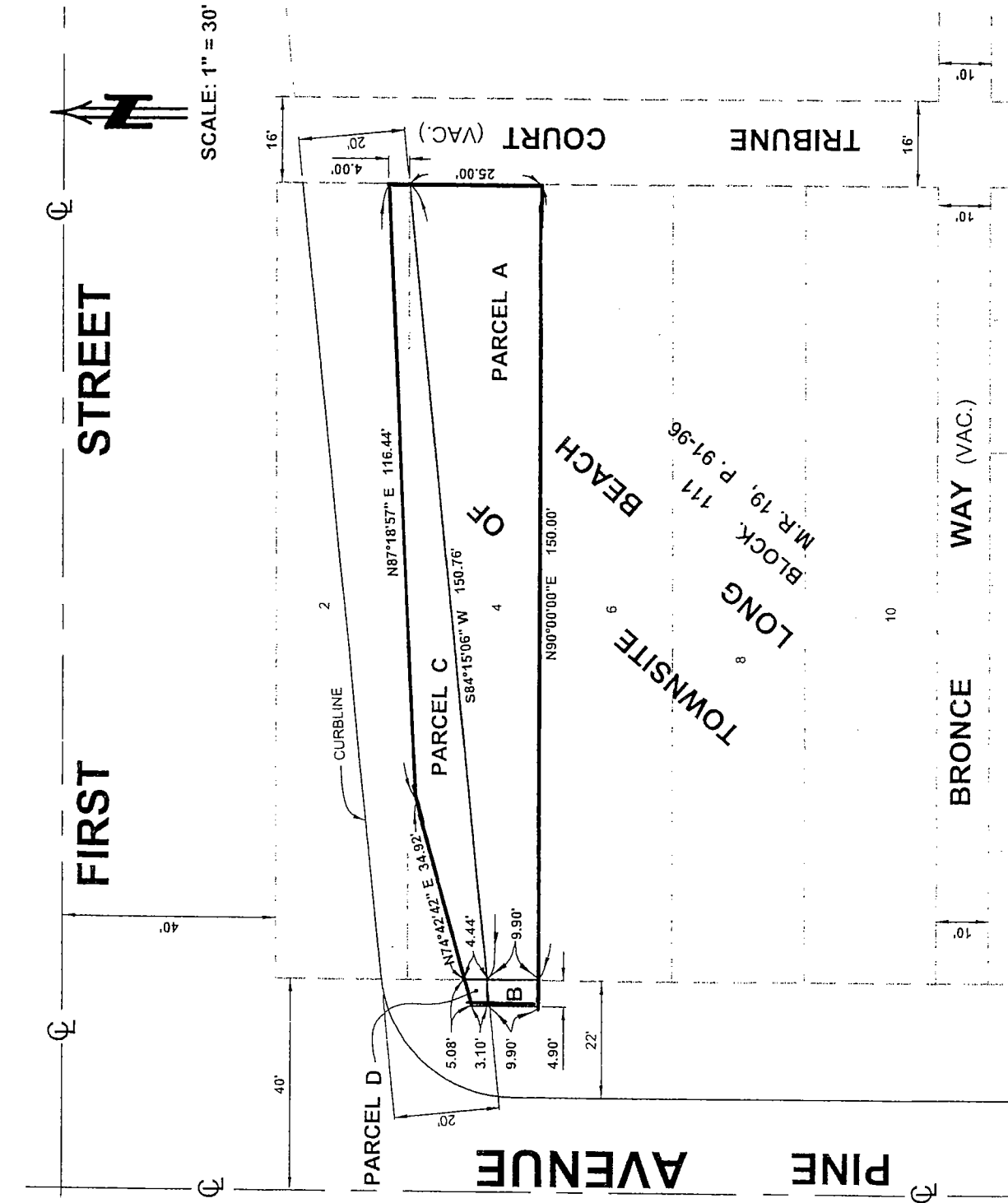
GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER

PHW:CAB:rsw

Attachments: Exhibit A – Site Map
Exhibit B – Site Plan and Elevations

LONG BEACH TRANSIT / VISITOR CENTER

EXHIBIT A



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
 ENGINEERING BUREAU
 CITY OF LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA
EXHIBIT A