



OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
Long Beach, California

ORD-32

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June 14, 2016

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation to declare ordinance amending the Long Beach Municipal Code by adding Section 16.52.2220, relating to the nomination of the property located at 6509 Gundry Avenue as a historic landmark; and adopting in Sections 2 and 3 hereof uncodified findings and determinations relating to said landmark, read the first time and laid over to the next regular meeting of the City Council for final reading. (District 9)

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to your request on May 10, 2016, this ordinance has been prepared and is submitted for your consideration.


SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Very truly yours,

CHARLES PARKIN, City Attorney

By


ROBIN C. ZUR SCHMIEEDE
Deputy City Attorney

RCZ:bg A16-01255
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1 Council of the City of Long Beach hereby designates the property located at 6509 Gundry
2 Avenue as a historic landmark based on satisfying significance criteria A and C, as
3 defined in the City's Cultural Heritage Commission Ordinance (Long Beach Municipal
4 Code, Section 2.63.050).

5 A. Location, description and reasons for designation.

6 The former Fire Station No. 12 is located at 6509 Gundry Avenue, is
7 located within a residential neighborhood on the northwest corner of Gundry
8 Avenue and 65th Street between Brayton Avenue and Falcon Avenue, in the
9 City of Long Beach, California, and is identified as Los Angeles County
10 Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) 7114-012-900 and legally described as
11 Tract No. 7845, Lot 102 and Lot 103. Fire Station No. 12 was previously
12 utilized by the City's Fire Department until 2013 when it was
13 decommissioned and a new fire station was constructed blocks away. The
14 building is now utilized as a field office for the 9th Council District.

15 The former Fire Station No. 12 is designed in the Spanish Colonial
16 Revival architectural style which is influenced by Spanish, Baroque, Moorish
17 and other European styles. The one-story building exemplifies the style with
18 its asymmetrical façade, cross-gabled clay tile-clad roof, rounded rafter tails,
19 clay tile attic vents, stucco exterior, and deeply recessed window frames.
20 Despite removal of the original windows, garage door and a few decorative
21 elements, the building retains its essential form and character from its period
22 of significance. Fire Station 12 is a modest example of the Spanish Colonial
23 Revival style, but is a well preserved building that retains the essential form
24 and character of the Spanish Colonial Revival style. The station is capped
25 by a medium-pitched cross-gables roof with barrel clay tiles, and has slightly
26 over overhanging eaves with exposed rafter tails. Round clay tile attic vents
27 are visible beneath some of the roof gables. The building is clad in
28 contemporary textured stucco. A chimney flue extends vertically from the

1 south wall with a simple chimney top and the original tower located at the
2 north corner of the building remaining. The building broadly falls in the
3 cross-gable subtype which creates the classic asymmetrical front façade
4 associated with the Spanish Colonial style residential buildings that typically
5 would feature a large centered focal window. In this case, the large focal
6 window located under the front-facing gable roof is substituted for the front
7 garage door with an arch opening. From the 1910s to the late 1920s, the
8 Fire Department expanded in response to the growth of the city, the rise in
9 tourism, and development of the oil industry. The discovery of oil in Signal
10 Hill in 1921 led to significant growth in the north Long Beach area. Fire
11 Station No. 12 was built to serve the fast-growing north Long Beach area
12 through City revenues resulting from City oil revenues. Fire Station No. 12
13 was constructed during the Depression and completed in 1930; however,
14 funding was so scarce that the building was not officially opened as a fire
15 station until 1936. In the interim, the building was unoccupied until 1933
16 when it became occupied by the Works Progress Administration (WPA) and
17 was used as a sewing center. As part of the WPA programs, Fire Station
18 No. 12 served the City as a sewing depot, providing jobs to hundreds of
19 unemployed women. These women turned donated items into quilts or
20 mended clothing and gifted them to the needy. The structure is also
21 significant because it is associated with the New Deal in Long Beach and
22 was one of the last remaining operating pre-1930s stations located within a
23 residential neighborhood. The station was constructed within a residential
24 neighborhood because the original placement of fire stations was based
25 primarily on "localized necessity," instead of a comprehensive plan. Of the
26 City's 23 fire stations, Fire Station No. 12 is one of the last remaining pre-
27 1930s fire stations located in a residential neighborhood.

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B. Rationale for historic landmark designation.

The City Council finds that relative to the designation of the subject property located at 6509 Gundry Avenue as a historic landmark, the following criteria are manifested as set forth in the Long Beach Municipal Code Section 2.63.050 based upon the following:

A. It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of the City's history.

C. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction, or it represents the work of a master, or it possesses high artistic values.

C. General guidelines and standards for any changes.

Any maintenance, repair, stabilization, rehabilitation, restoration, preservation, conservation, or reconstruction work proposed for the building shall be conducted in a manner consistent with the "Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring, and Reconstructing Historic Buildings" (1995), by Weeks and Grimmer, as amended, as well as the "Procedures for Certificate of Appropriateness" (the "Standards") found in Section 2.63.080 of the Long Beach Municipal Code. Also, reference should be made to the recommended mitigation measures contained in the Historic Resources Assessment for Fire Station No. 12 by Laura G. Carius, LSA Assoc., dated March 2016.

The Standards are incorporated herein by this reference and shall be used as the authoritative guidelines for reviewing and approving any proposed exterior work on the building.

The provisions of this ordinance shall regulate the building's exterior walls and other external features. There shall be no restrictions on the building's interior.

1 Original historic fabric on the exterior of the building shall be
2 executed in a manner that does not materially impair in an adverse manner
3 those physical characteristics of the structure that account for its
4 designation as a City landmark. Any such work must be done in keeping
5 with the building's historic character, period, and architectural style.

6 No exterior changes to the building shall be allowed unless an
7 approved Certificate of Appropriateness has been applied for by an
8 applicant and is issued by the City authorizing such environmental change.

9
10 Section 3. (Uncodified) The City Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be
11 recorded in accordance with the provisions of 2.63.060(c) of the Long Beach Municipal
12 Code and Section 5029 of the California Public Resources Code and Section 27288.2 of
13 the California Government Code.

14
15 Section 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this ordinance by
16 the City Council and cause it to be posted in three (3) conspicuous places in the City of
17 Long Beach, and it shall take effect on the thirty-first (31st) day after it is approved by the
18 Mayor.

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OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY
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I hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of _____, 2016, by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: _____

Noes: Councilmembers: _____

Absent: Councilmembers: _____

City Clerk

Approved: _____
(Date)

Mayor