



CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



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www.LBParks.org

selected
best in the nation

December 18, 2014

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the concept of a Memorial Wall in Rosie the Riveter Park to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who have died since September 11, 2001, and authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute a Right of Entry Permit and any other documents necessary for the installation of the Memorial Wall, with Honoring Our Fallen, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization based in Cypress, CA. (District 5)

DISCUSSION

Honoring Our Fallen (HOF) is dedicated to the mission of serving the families of our nation's fallen by providing their families with comprehensive support services. In November of 2014, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (Department) received a proposal from HOF to install signage and a memorial wall in Rosie the Riveter Park with the engraved names of all 8,289 members of the United States Armed Forces who have died since September 11, 2011 (Memorial Wall). As soldiers are killed in action, their names will continue to be added to the wall by HOF.

Rosie the Riveter Park and Interpretive Center, located on Clark Avenue and E. Conant Street, does not recognize veterans; it was named specifically to honor the American women who worked in factories during World War II, many of whom produced aircraft, munitions and war supplies, thereby enabling men to serve in World War II. Many "Rosies", as they were called, worked at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft in Long Beach.

The City of Long Beach currently has several parks or other venues that recognize veterans including:

- Veterans Memorial Park – Recognizing all veterans
- Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier – Recognizing all veterans
- Long Beach Vietnam Veterans Memorial (Houghton Park) – Recognizing Vietnam veterans

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- Long Beach Veterans Mural (facing Houghton Park) – Recognizing all veterans
- The Lone Sailor Memorial (Bluff Park) – Recognizing Navy veterans
- Long Beach Navy Memorial (Shoreline Aquatic Park) – Recognizing the Navy in Long Beach

HOF has proposed attaching the Memorial Wall to the existing cinderblock wall that separates Rosie the Riveter Park from the Douglas commercial property (Attachment). No specific design has been created for the wall pending conceptual approval from the Parks and Recreation Commission, which would have to approve this activity in a City park. HOF will provide volunteers and solicit needed donations and private contractors to construct the Memorial Wall and signage identifying the purpose of the wall, as well as taking responsibility for any vandalism or necessary general upkeep. HOF would submit final plans to the Department for approval and be required to get all approvals and permits as may be required by other City departments for the installation of the wall. The Department will be responsible to continue to maintain the park.

FISCAL IMPACT

All materials for the Memorial Wall will be provided by HOF, and installed by contractors arranged for by HOF, so there is no fiscal impact to the Department for the installation of the Memorial Wall. If HOF can no longer provide vandalism repairs or general upkeep, those responsibilities would fall to the Department.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve the recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,



HURLEY OWENS
ACTING MANAGER
MAINTENANCE & DEVELOPMENT BUREAU



GLADYS KAISER
MANAGER
RECREATION SERVICES BUREAU

APPROVED:



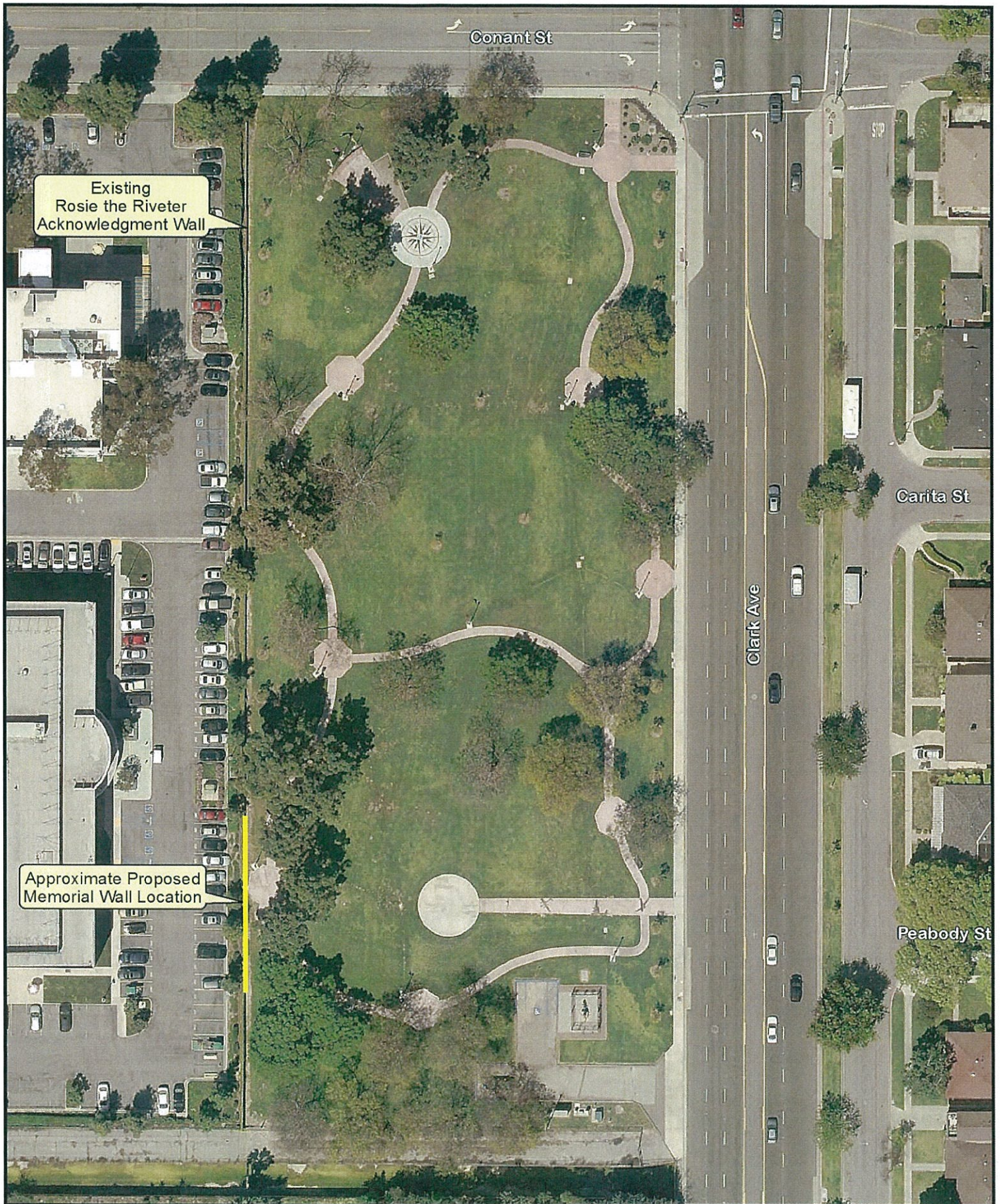
GEORGE CHAPJIAN
DIRECTOR



STEPHEN P. SCOTT
MANAGER
BUSINESS OPERATIONS BUREAU

GC:HO:GK:SS:rl:lh

Attachment: Aerial of Rosie the Riveter Park with proposed Memorial Wall location



Proposed Memorial Wall at Rosie the Riveter Park

