



Historical Society of Long Beach

4260 Atlantic Ave Long Beach CA 90807 562.424.2220 www.hslb.org

August 14, 2019

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Julie Bartolotto

Mayor Robert Garcia
Long Beach City Council Members
City of Long Beach
411 W. Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach CA 90802

Subject: Support for Sunnyside Cemetery

Dear Mayor Garcia and City Council Members,

As you know there is a recommendation coming before the Council on August 20, for the City of Long Beach to accept the transfer of property and assets of Sunnyside Cemetery. On behalf of the Historical Society of Long Beach (HSLB), I am asking that you support this recommendation.

For the past 23 years the HSLB has presented its annual Historical Cemetery Tour in Sunnyside and Long Beach Municipal cemeteries. History is made of individual stories of men and women who lived and worked here.

Researching and telling those stories has given us a unique perspective about the people buried in Sunnyside. There are mayors, bankers, Water Department and Port Commissioners. There are professors, architects, and veterans from wars dating back to the Civil War. There are bootleggers and prohibitionists. There are African American preachers, and Japanese soldiers who served in World War II while their families were held in internment camps. Walking through the cemetery is to walk through the history of Long Beach and of the United States.

When you vote to accept Sunnyside Cemetery you affirm the value of history in understanding the present and embracing the future. Again, I urge you to vote yes to accept the transfer of Sunnyside Cemetery to the City of Long Beach.

Sincerely,

Julie Bartolotto, Executive Director