



City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve

Office of Gerrie Schipske
Councilwoman, Fifth District
Memorandum
R-22

Date: October 20, 2009

To: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

From: Councilwoman Gerrie Schipske, Fifth District
Council Member Tonia Reyes Uranga, Seventh District
Councilwoman Rae Gabelich, Eighth District

Subject: **AGENDA ITEM:** Request for Inventory and Plan to Preserve Historical Items and Artifacts Stored at the Public Service Yard at San Francisco Avenue

DISCUSSION

Over the years, the City of Long Beach has stored numerous historical items and artifacts at the Public Service Yard at San Francisco Avenue. For instance, when buildings were demolished in the downtown area, sconces and other parts of these buildings were taken by the City and stored at the Public Service Yard. Other items from different periods of the City's history are also stored at the same location. Additionally, there is the last remaining *Southern Pacific Passenger Depot Pacific Electric Trolley building* in the vicinity of the Public Service Yard.

The items have not been inventoried, photographed or assessed for their condition and value. Most are irreplaceable.

The City is in the process of exchanging the Public Service Yard with a private investor for property at and around 2nd and Pacific Coast Highway. The private investor may utilize the Public Service Yard for a truck depot and nothing has been negotiated or arranged for the inventory or preservation of the historical artifacts and *Southern Pacific Passenger Depot P&E Trolley building*.

Before this exchange is completed, the City needs to conduct an inventory, photograph the items and develop a plan to preserve these historical items and artifacts, including the *Southern Pacific Passenger Depot P&E Trolley building*.

Recommendation

Request that the City Manager direct the Public Works and Library Services departments to work with the City Auditor and the Long Beach Historical Society to immediately inventory and photograph all the contents of the storage buildings at the Public Service Yard and to determine the value of each item and the location where the items will be moved. Additionally, to prepare a report outlining what will be done to preserve these items as well as the *Southern Pacific Passenger Depot P&E Trolley building* prior to the property exchange being executed.