



**Date:** December 14, 2010

**To:** Members of the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee

**From:** Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine

**Subject:** Recommendation that the portion of Whaley Park in which the cherry tree grove was planted, be named "Cherry Tree Peace Grove," and include a recognition of Soka Gokkai International Long Beach's 50 years of working in communities

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DISCUSSION

On May 15, 2010, volunteers with the Soka Gokkai International (SGI) Long Beach organization planted a cherry tree grove at a portion of Whaley Park.

SGI Long Beach is a lay Buddhist organization, part of a worldwide network, which is dedicated to "a vision of a better world through the empowerment of the individual and the promotion of peace, culture and education." The network includes 84 constituent organizations and 12 million members in 192 countries and territories. SGI Long Beach participates and volunteers at numerous events throughout our city.

On September 21, 2010, Fourth District Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell sent a memo (Attachment A) to the Mayor and Members of the City Council requesting that a portion of Whaley Park in which the cherry tree grove was planted (Attachment B site map), be named "Cherry Tree Peace Grove."

Pursuant to Administrative Regulation (AR) 8 – 7, the City Council referred the request to the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee.

The Parks and Recreation Commission considered this request at their October 21, 2010 meeting (Attachment C), unanimously approved this request, and are forwarding their recommendation to the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee for adoption.

The Administrative Regulations AR 8 – 7 applies to the naming of all public land, buildings and facilities. AR 8 – 7 provides several policies to guide the consideration of a naming request. The following are those policies:

- The name should incorporate Long Beach whenever important for civic recognition or identification;
- A name in honor of a recognized geographic area, a topographic feature or a historically significant event may be appropriate;
- A name in honor of persons or families who have donated the land or a substantial portion of the improvement costs may be appropriate when applicable;

- A name in honor of a person or persons who have served the nation, the State of California, and/or the City of Long Beach in an exceptional or distinguished manner may be appropriate if warranted by service of major significance;
- A name in honor of a living person, or of a deceased person within one year of their death, is not appropriate, unless the significance of that person's contribution is worthy of an exception to the policy;
- A name in honor of a person is not appropriate when a name in honor of another person has been given to the same site, building or facility in the past;
- A name in honor of a person is not appropriate if that person has been overly recognized in the past; and,
- A name may be selected through a competition or a contest.

Members of SGI Long Beach have respectfully requested that the portion of Whaley Park in which the cherry tree grove was planted be named in recognition of their organization and its mission. The organization has requested that the grove be named "Cherry Tree Peace Grove" and include a recognition of SGI Long Beach's 50 years of working in communities.

#### TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this matter is not time critical.

#### FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact with the recommended action.

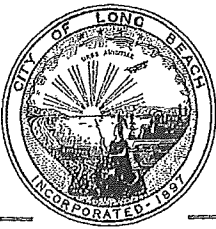
#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE COMMITTEE:

Concur with the recommendation that the PORTION OF Whaley Park in which the cherry tree grove was planted, be named "Cherry Tree Peace Grove," and include a recognition of SGI Long Beach's 50 years of working in communities.

PTH:rb  
C:\MYDOCUMENTS\COUNCIL\HNC CHERRY TREE PEACE GROVE.DOC  
Attachments

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICK H. WEST  
CITY MANAGER



# CITY OF LONG BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



2760 N. Studebaker Road, Long Beach, CA 90815-1697  
(562) 570-3100 • FAX (562) 570-3109

[www.LBParks.org](http://www.LBParks.org)

selected  
**best in the nation**

Attachment C

October 21, 2010

## MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

City of Long Beach  
California

### RECOMMENDATION:

Recommend to the Housing and Neighborhood Committee, and the full City Council, that the portion of Whaley Park in which the cherry tree grove was planted, be named "Cherry Tree Peace Grove," and include a recognition of SGI Long Beach's 50 years of working in communities.

### DISCUSSION

On September 21, 2010, Fourth District City Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell sent a memo (Attachment A) to the Mayor and Members of the City Council requesting that a portion of Whaley Park in which the cherry tree grove was planted (Attachment B site map), be named "Cherry Tree Peace Grove." The Parks and Recreation Commission recommendation will be transmitted to the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee and the full City Council.

The Administrative Regulations AR 8-7 applies to the naming of all public land, buildings and facilities. AR 8-7 provides several policies to guide the consideration of a naming request. The following are those policies:

- The name should incorporate Long Beach whenever important for civic recognition or identification;
- A name in honor of a recognized geographic area, a topographic feature or a historically significant event may be appropriate;
- A name in honor of persons or families who have donated the land or a substantial portion of the improvement costs may be appropriate when applicable;
- A name in honor of a person or persons who have served the nation, the State of California, and/or the City of Long Beach in an exceptional or distinguished manner may be appropriate if warranted by service of major significance;
- A name in honor of a living person, or of a deceased person within one year of their death, is not appropriate unless the significance of that person's contribution is worthy of an exception to the policy;

*"We create community and enhance the quality of life through people, places, programs and partnerships"*

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On May 15, 2010, volunteers with the Soka Gokkai International (SGI) Long Beach organization planted a cherry tree grove at a portion of Whaley Park.


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Members of SGI Long Beach have respectfully requested that the portion of Whaley Park in which the cherry tree grove was planted be named in recognition of their organization and its mission. The organization has requested that the grove be named "Cherry Tree Peace Grove" and include a recognition of SGI Long Beach's 50 years of working in communities.

**SUGGESTED ACTION:**

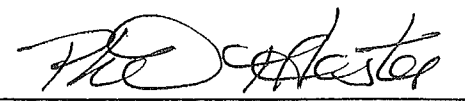
Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

  
JC SQUIRES  
MANAGER  
BUSINESS OPERATIONS

  
RAMON AREVALO  
MANAGER  
MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS

APPROVED:

  
PHIL T. HESTER  
DIRECTOR




**City of Long Beach**  
*Working Together to Serve*

*Memorandum  
Councilmember  
Patrick O'Donnell  
4<sup>th</sup> District*

**Date:** September 21, 2010

**To:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From:** Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, Fourth District 

**Subject:** **Cherry Grove at Whaley Park**

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Attachment A

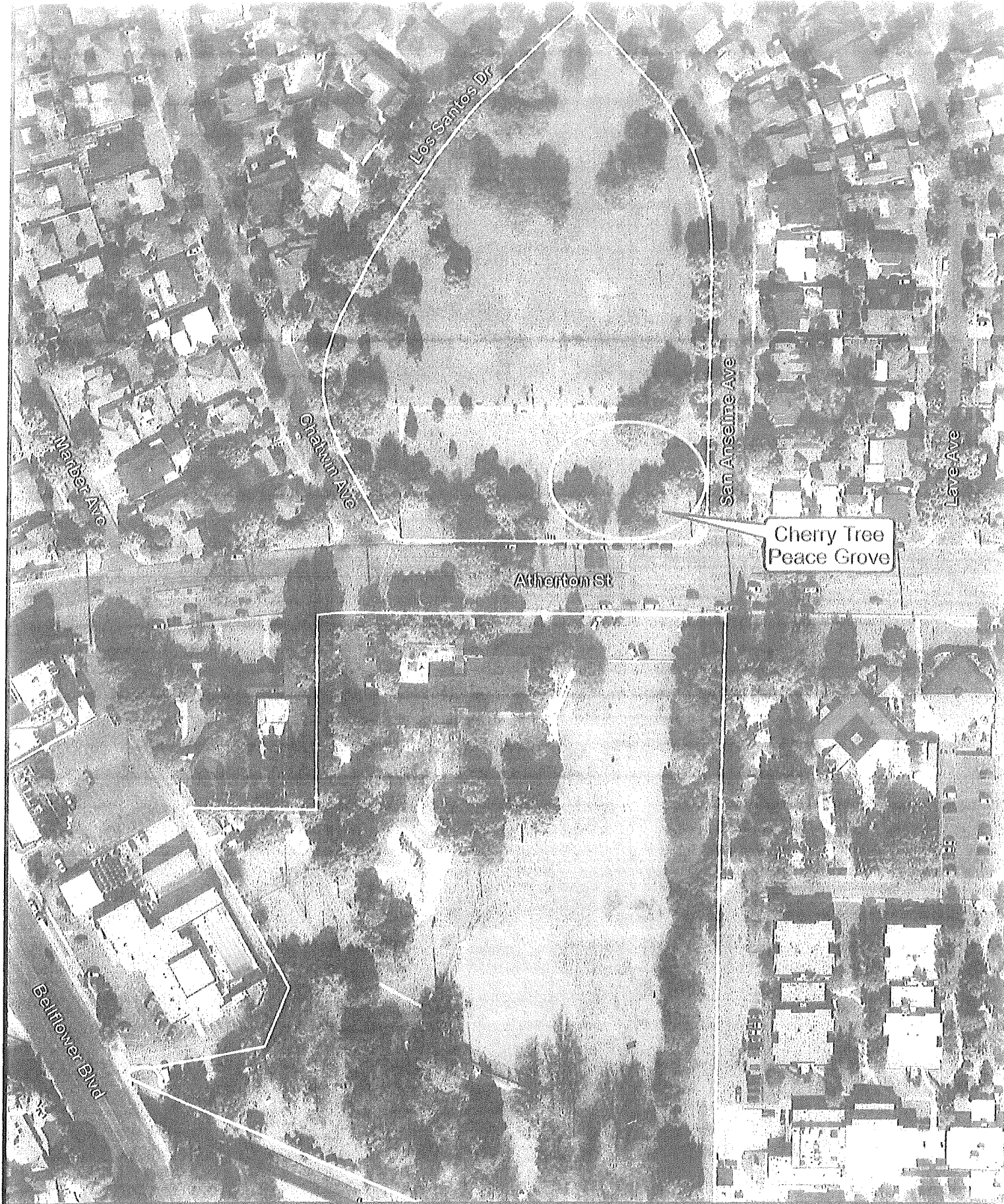
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Members of SGI have respectfully requested that the portion of Whaley Park in which the cherry tree grove was planted be named in recognition of their organization and its mission. The organization has requested that the grove be named "Cherry Tree Peace Grove" and include a recognition of SGI Long Beach's fifty years working in communities.

**Recommendation:**

**Request that the City Council refer the naming of a portion of Whaley Park "Cherry Tree Peace Grove" to the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee and Parks and Recreation Commission.**



# Whaley Park Proposed Cherry Tree Peace Grove

Attachment B

0 50 100 150 Feet

