



***MASTER PLAN OF
DEVELOPMENT***

GOALS STATEMENT

The year 1971 finds us at a period of time unique in the history of Southern California. It is a time when people in general are finding that "progress" has left a great void in our environment which until recently was filled by the seemingly endless picnicking and hiking areas always available in the valleys and hills around the population centers. More recently, an adequate road system and two cars for most families made the countryside readily available. Little by little these favorite spots have disappeared and today we find several million people with few places to go for such activities. Therefore a second look at some of the old parks, such as Elysian, becomes a necessity. The forests and meadows of this park have continued to grow and develop the character which has attracted the attention of nature lovers and people who simply wish to spend a few hours in a quiet setting close to home or work.

The park has caught the attention of the Audubon Society, horticulture experts and cross-country runners, among others. It is so valued by some citizens that a group known as "Save Elysian Park" was formed some years ago to fight plans to locate the Convention Center in Chavez Ravine.

Now after hiking the many miles of trails in the park in fall, winter and

spring, as a prime requisite to the preparation of this report, we have come to feel a deep sense of affection for the park also and have gone back again and again to explore a new canyon or glade hitherto unknown to us.

Elysian Park cannot completely be appreciated or understood simply by a drive through Chavez Ravine; one must hike the back trails, and watch the flocks of migratory birds, or enjoy the fantastic view points to know this park.

Perhaps the most significant feature of the park is the mild climate to be found in the sheltered valleys. It is this condition which has made it possible to introduce a wide variety of exotic plant materials and suggests a plan for long range development. It is the recommendation of this plan that the direction indicated by existing uses and resources be expanded upon and that the park be a haven for flora, fauna and those people who are seeking forms of recreation other than highly organized sports or concessions. Such a program carried out over a ten or fifteen year period would restore the park to the status of a first rate park facility and, with the imaginative introduction of plant material and wildlife, would become world-famous as one of the great botanic collections of the world.

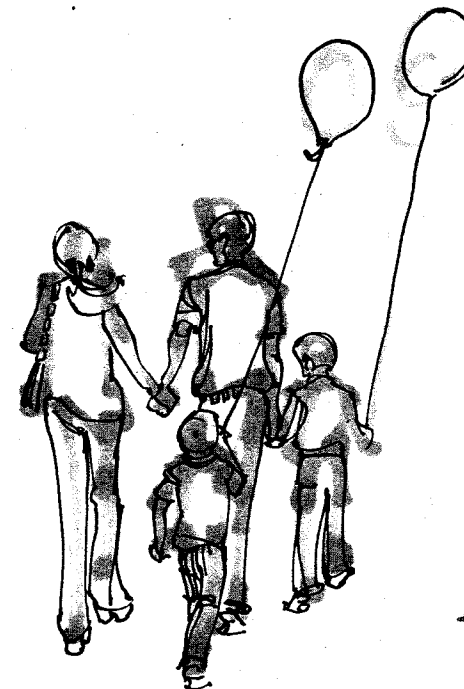
Griffith Park and Elysian Park are the two largest "inner city" parks and are about two miles apart, but there is a sloping corridor of land largely undeveloped, just south of Riverside Drive, which varies in width from a few hundred feet to nearly a quarter of a mile. This was occupied by the old Southern Pacific Electric Streetcar right-of-way for about a mile until shortly after World War II.

This panhandle should be acquired as park land and added to, until a significant corridor exists between the two parks to be used for bike riding, hiking or just walking from one park to the other, thus tying these two great facilities together. There could be many opportunities for beautification and use areas along the way, making this one of the most significant land acquisition proposals in the city.

The most important aspect of the fully developed park will be its attraction for the traditional Saturday and Sunday picnickers with unsupervised play in the open meadows and the single individual or small group who wish to walk the trails, ride the proposed tram or simply enjoy an hour or two in the quiet beauty of the park.

This becomes especially significant in view of plans to revitalize Downtown

Los Angeles which includes many kinds of multiple housing. Elysian Park would serve these people well and with the installation of proposed people movers throughout the area connecting to the park tramway, there would be adequate transportation to the park and to all parts within it.





MASTER PLAN




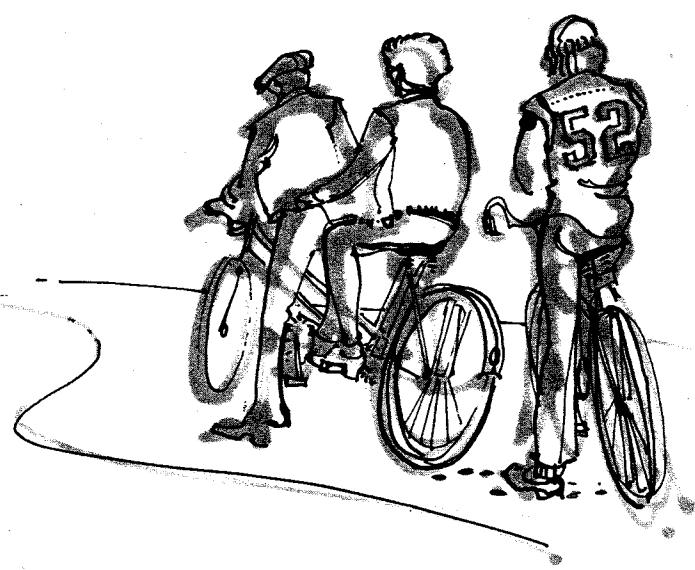
LEGEND

- PICNIC AREAS ————— 1
- PLAY AREAS ————— 2
- HIKING AND NATURE ——— 3
- SWIM CENTER ————— 4
- VIEW OVERLOOK ————— 5
- AMPHITHEATER ————— 6
- NEW LODGE ————— 7
- OLD LODGE ————— 8
- RECREATION CENTER ——— 9
- GENERAL PARK AREAS ——— 10
- POLICE ACADEMY ————— 11

USE AREAS



 ELYSIAN PARK



GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Having established the goals of this master plan, the pieces begin to fall into place. Generally, the land forms would remain undisturbed and those values which now exist in low key would be enhanced to gain maximum use of the vast park acreage. There are certain basic land values which should be established before the description of individual areas.

We believe that the continued use of one of the park canyons by the Police Academy, while comforting in a security aspect, is in conflict with the spirit of the park as set forth in this report. The noise from the police target ranges is at odds with the otherwise peace and quiet which prevails in the park. Therefore we recommend that the police facility be relocated in an area where they can readily expand without restriction to meet their new challenges and future needs.

It is also the recommendation of this report that the parcel of land bounded by Stadium Way, Academy Road and Elysian Park Drive be obtained for park use and to protect the fabulous views from Angel's Point. Development of this land for anything other than low key park use would be disastrous to the form of the park and seriously cripple efforts to solidify park functions.

The area south of Academy Road and north of the Dodger Park parking (about 35 acres) is zoned for parking and will be turned over to Dodger Park in about 12 years. We propose that the Dodger group consider the possibility of developing this area into a first rate pony league and little league ball complex as a community involvement program which would relate to youth development with the Dodger organization as the sponsor, which could have interesting long-range potential for the Dodgers as far as community involvement is concerned.

This facility should have a clubhouse to direct the activities and adequate restroom facilities and parking. There should be provisions for concession stands and sensitive landscape development to make the area attractive.

