

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 05-105


DATE April 20, 2005

C.D. 15

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: CABRILLO BEACH BATHHOUSE: SIGN DESIGNATING SITE AS HOME OF CABRILLO BEACH POLAR BEARS

* K. Chan	<u>kc</u>	J. Kolb	_____
J. Combs	_____	F. Mok	_____
H. Fujita	_____	K. Regan	_____
B. Jensen	_____		



 General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve a sign, and its wording, to designate the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse as the official home of the Cabrillo Beach Polar Bears; and,
2. Authorize staff to install the sign on the exterior of the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse, adjacent to the existing Department facility sign.

SUMMARY:

Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse is located at Cabrillo Beach, 3720 Stephen White Drive, in San Pedro. Councilwoman Janice Hahn proposed that the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse be officially designated as the home of the Cabrillo Beach Polar Bears (see Exhibit A). The Councilwoman requested that this proposal be approved by the Board as an opportunity to publicly honor the Polar Bears for their civic service.

The Cabrillo Beach Polar Bears is a civic organization and social club that has been based in the San Pedro community for over 50 years. Since 1953, they have held an annual New Year's Day swim event at Cabrillo Beach. The Polar Bears' motto is "Health, Physical Fitness, and Community Service." The Polar Bear's club does volunteer work in the area and support local community and youth groups. They help staff in maintaining the bathhouse, removing graffiti, and repairing vandalism. The Polar Bears were enthusiastic supporters of the City's recent historic refurbishment of the bathhouse.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2

NO. 05-105

Upon reviewing this proposal and in discussion with Region staff and the Council Office, it was determined that a sign, in lieu of a plaque, could be installed to honor the Polar Bears and to designate the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse as their official home. Further, there are already numerous plaques affixed to the Bathhouse building. This sign, similar to a memorial plaque, could be approved under the same policy and procedures the Department uses for plaques, which does not require that a community meeting be held.

Staff recommends the installation of a sign on the exterior of the building, adjacent to the Department's facility sign for the Bathhouse, designed to match the Department's standard facility sign (Exhibit B). The sign will cost approximately \$700.00. The Department will use Account Number 1300-316 to pay for the fabrication and installation of the sign. The Councilperson of this District and Pacific Region staff support this project.

Staff has determined that the subject project will consist of the placement of an on-premise sign, which is a minor structures that is accessory to (appurtenant to) the existing park facilities, and therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 11 (1) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There will be minimal expenditures for installation of the sign.

Prepared by Camille Didier, City Planner, Planning and Development.

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JANICE HAHN
Councilwoman
Fifteenth District

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February 7, 2005

Jon Kirk Mukri, General Manager
Department of Recreation and Parks
200 North Main Street, 13th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Mukri:

Attached is a copy of a letter I received from Ray Falk, President of the Cabrillo Beach Polar Bears. The Polar Bears are requesting that the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse be officially designated the home of the Cabrillo Beach Polar Bears, an idea I whole heartedly support!

For many, many years, the Polar Bears have been located at the Bathhouse, and were instrumental in the City's recent historic refurbishment of the building. The Polar Bears are a very active social organization and serve the community well from their office at the Bathhouse. In fact, each January, I join them in their New Year's Day swim! The Polar Bears enjoy a good relationship with your staff at the Bathhouse and they routinely help with building issues as they arise. In my opinion, this designation is far overdue.

Please forward this letter to the appropriate departmental staff to prepare the necessary Board approval. Of course, my staff will provide all necessary support. If you have any further questions, please contact Eric Moody, of my staff, at (213) 473-7015. Thank you, in advance, for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

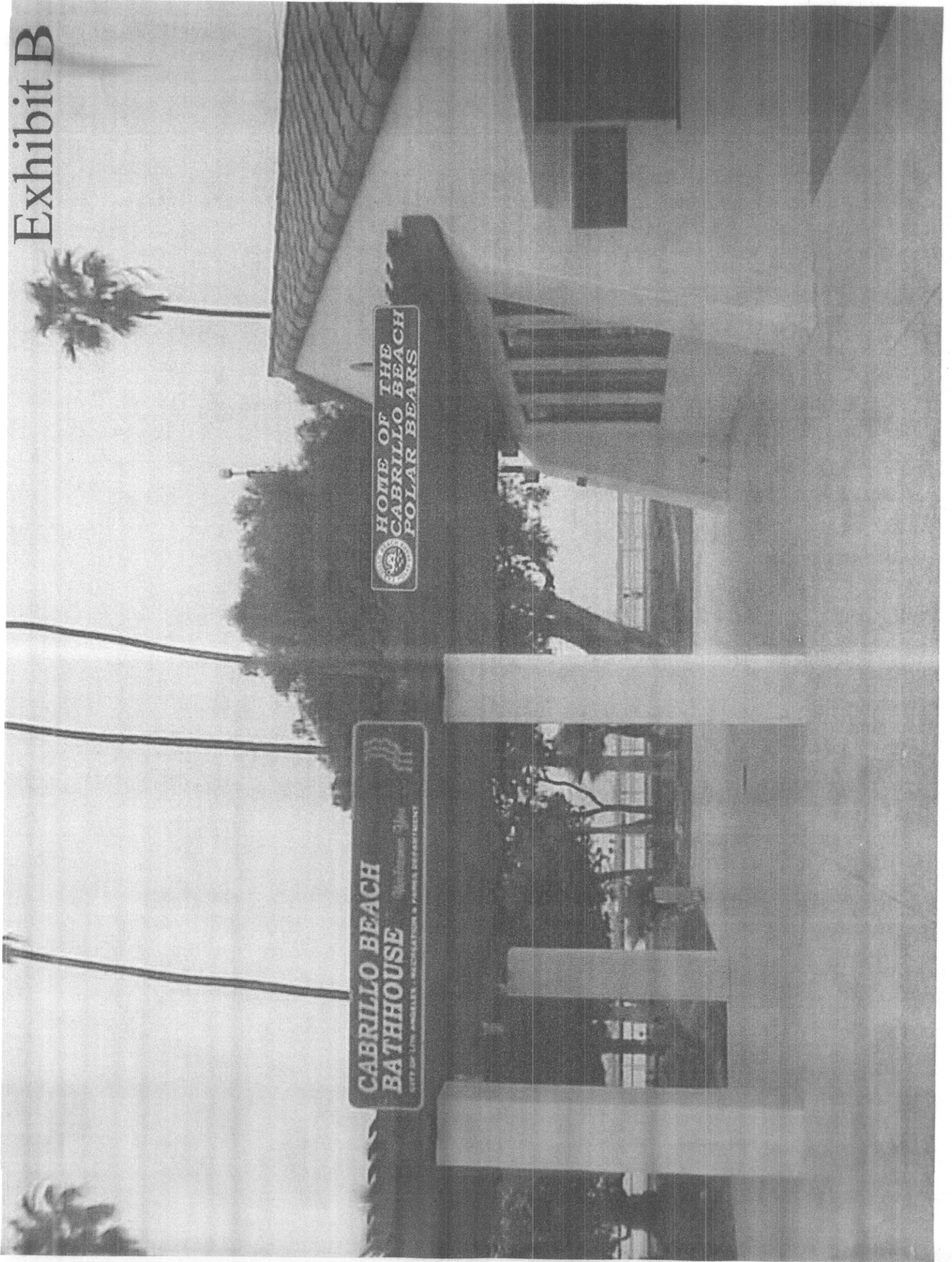
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Janice'.

JANICE HAHN
Councilwoman, 15th District
City of Los Angeles

Attachment

JH:elm

Exhibit B



**CABRILLO BEACH
BATHHOUSE**
EST. 1917 • AMENITIES • RESTORATION & FURNISHING

**HOME OF THE
CABRILLO BEACH
POLAR BEARS**