

APPROVED
DEC 10 2014
BOARD OF RECREATION
1 PARK COMMISSIONERS

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 14-317

DATE December 10, 2014

C.D. 4

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: EL PASEO DE CAHUENGA PARK – CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL OF PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS AND OF PROPOSED DONATION AGREEMENT

R. Adams	_____	V. Israel	_____
*R. Barajas	<u>CSB</u>	K. Regan	_____
H. Fujita	_____	N. Williams	_____

Vol Israel for

General Manager

Approved _____ Disapproved _____ Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board:

1. Approve, in concept, the proposed improvements to El Paseo de Cahuenga Park as described in the Summary of this Report; and,
2. Direct staff to begin negotiations with NBC Universal for the preparation of a Donation Agreement, subject to final approval by the Board.

SUMMARY:

El Paseo De Cahuenga Park is an unstaffed, 1.2 acres park located at 3300 Cahuenga Boulevard Los Angeles, California 90068. It is also located adjacent to the Hollywood Freeway. The park is a passive park that currently features turf and trees (See Exhibit A).

The Cahuenga Pass Homeowners Association, as well as stakeholders from the Cahuenga Pass area, have expressed their desire to have the subject park renovated to make it more desirable for community use. The Office of Councilmember LaBonge (Council District 4) and NBC Universal, an immediate neighbor to the park with a long standing commitment to community participation, have met with the stakeholders and support the desire to renovate the park.

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2 NO. 14-317

Based on community feedback, the proposed improvements renovations of the park include: new tables and benches that take advantage of the existing trees to provide shade areas; increased Americans with Disabilities' Act (ADA) accessibility using stabilized and permeable surface materials; installation of a wall along the northernmost portion of the park to buffer the park from the freeway pollution and noise; the addition of evergreen trees along the interior of the wall to further screen out air pollutants; and the creation of a new formal entry garden with drought tolerant plants (See Exhibit B).

NBC Universal has agreed to donate the proposed improvements for the benefit of the community. It is estimated that the total cost for the park renovations could reach \$600,000 or more. Should the Board grant conceptual approval of this proposal, NBC Universal will begin the process to design and construct the renovations which includes obtaining all appropriate and required permits. Staff will also begin discussions and meetings with NBC Universal representatives to a Donation Agreement.

When the final plans and draft Donation Agreement are complete, they will be presented to the Board for final approval.

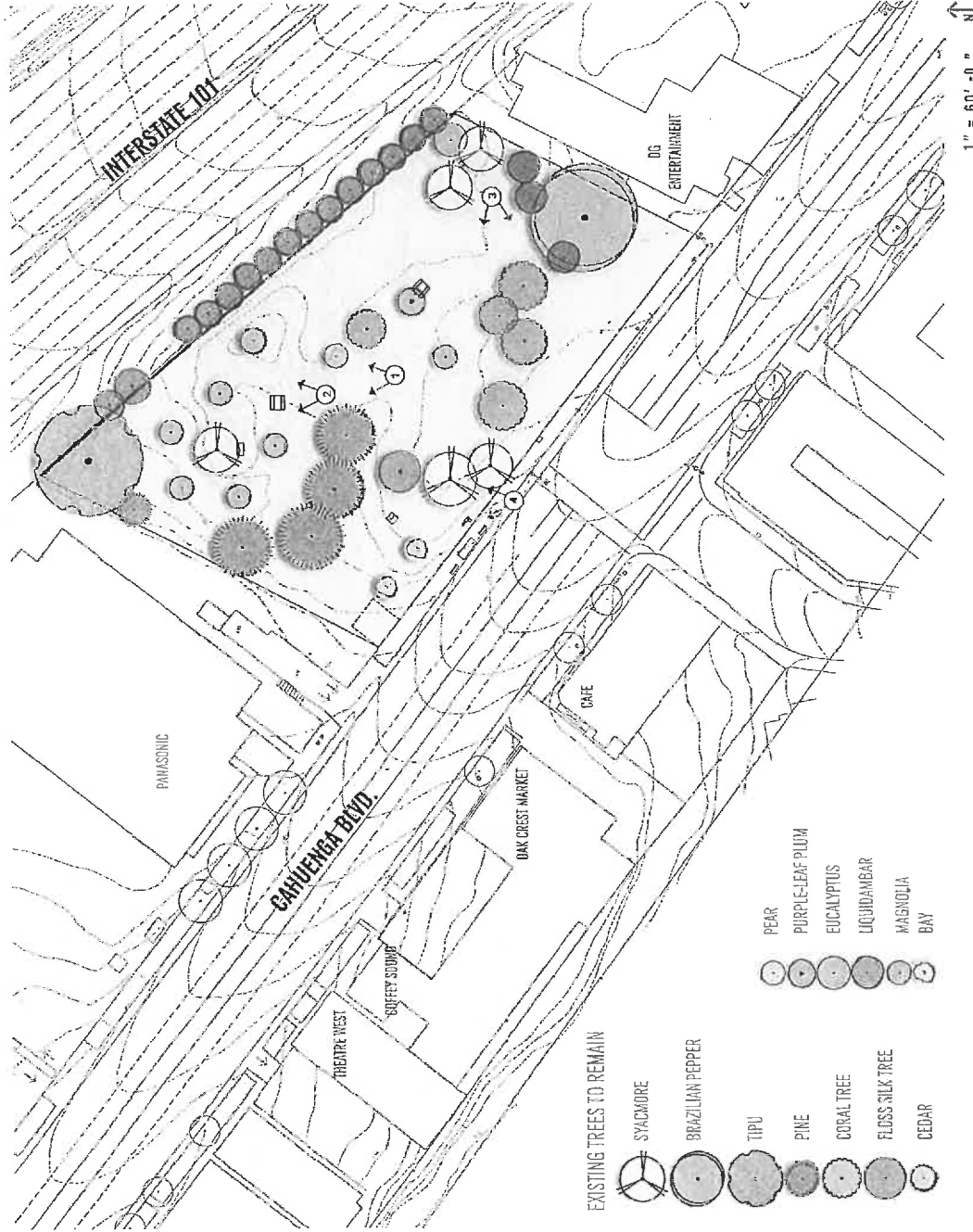
The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) determination will be addressed before the final plans and Donation Agreement are presented to the Board for final approval.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The conceptual approval of the proposed improvements will not have any impact on RAP's General Fund.

This Report was prepared by Cid Macaraeg, Sr. Management Analyst II, Planning, Construction, and Maintenance Branch.

Exhibit A



VIEW 1
LOOKING NORTH TO 101 FREEWAY



VIEW 2
9/11 MEMORIAL AND TYPICAL PICNIC TABLE



VIEW 3
EXISTING SHADED AREA ON SITE



VIEW 4
COMMEMORATIVE BELL AND BUS STOP

EXISTING CONDITIONS

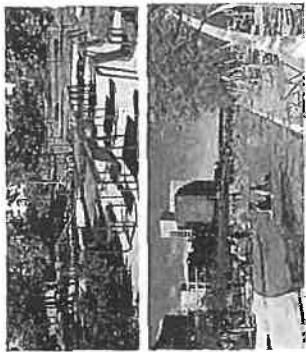
Exhibit B

ISSUES ADDRESSED BY THE PROPOSED PARK PLAN

- Take advantage of shady places to eat and sit by providing decomposed granite picnic areas with new tables and benches under existing trees.
- Provide ADA accessibility to seating areas by creating stabilized decomposed granite walkways.
- Buffer the park from highway pollution and noise by planting Pine trees and understory plantings that will screen the view and help filter out air pollutants.
- Create a formal entry garden with drought tolerant plants that will be viewed along the park frontage from Cahuevenga Boulevard.



DROUGHT TOLERANT ORNAMENTAL ENTRY GARDEN

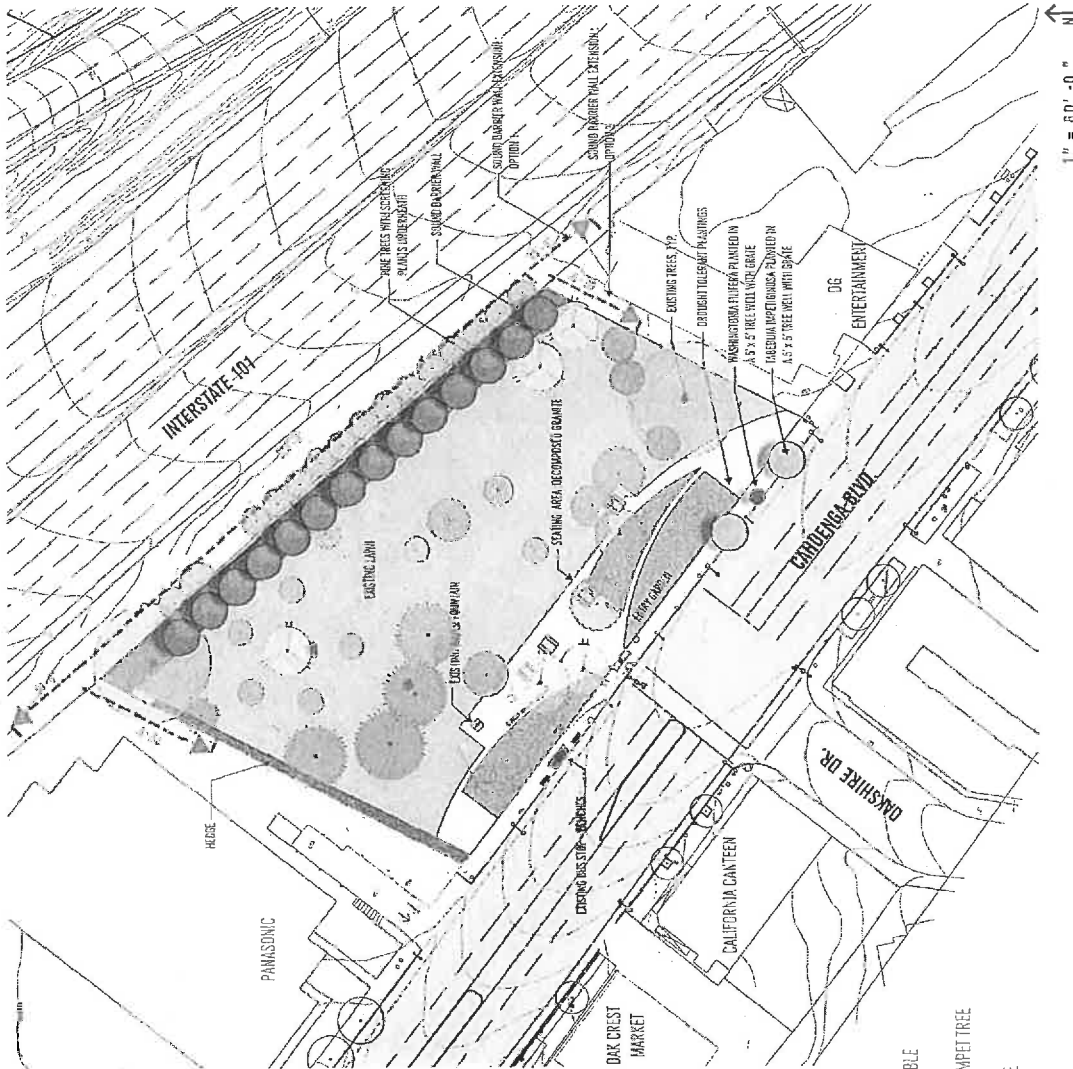


DECOMPOSED GRANITE SEATING AREAS / PICNIC AREAS

EXISTING TREES TO REMAIN

- SYCAMORE
- BRAZILIAN PEPPER
- TIPU
- PINE
- CORAL TREE
- FLOSS SILK TREE
- CEDAR

- PEAR
- PURPLE-LEAF PLUM
- EUCALYPTUS
- LIQUIDAMBAR
- MAGNOLIA
- BAY
- NEW BENCH
- NEW PICNIC TABLE
- NEW PINK TRUMPET TREE
- NEW PINE TREE



PROPOSED PARK IMPROVEMENTS