

# Agenda Report

June 20, 2011

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and City Council

**FROM:** Planning Department

**SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PASADENA TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FOR THE TRANSFER OF DESIDERIO ARMY RESERVE CENTER FOR PUBLIC PARK AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution authorizing an application to the National Park Service requesting support for the transfer of Desiderio Army Reserve Center through a Public Benefit Conveyance for public park and recreational purposes.

**BACKGROUND:**

On June 4, 2007, City Council approved a Concept Plan for the reuse of the Desiderio Army Reserve Center after a lengthy public participation process. The Plan requires 25% of the land to be transferred through a public benefit conveyance to Habitat for Humanity to build nine affordable single-family residences in a bungalow court format and the remaining 75% to be transferred to the City through a public benefit conveyance for use as city parkland.

The Plan was submitted to the Army and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for review, along with a Homeless Assistance Submittal as required by Federal regulations. The first step in the process required approval from HUD for the Homeless Assistance Submittal. After a collaborative effort over three years with representatives of the City's Housing Department, Abode Communities, Union Station Homeless Services, and the County of Los Angeles, a plan for providing housing assistance for formerly homeless people at Centennial Place was submitted to HUD, thus satisfying the homeless assistance requirements. In February 2011, HUD approved the Homeless Assistance Submittal which allows the City to move on to the next step of applying for acquisition of the land through a Public Benefit Conveyance.

A Public Benefit Conveyance transaction for parkland requires support from the National Park Service (NPS). The first step is to submit an application to NPS demonstrating the property's suitability as a park. The resolution requested in this report

is a required component of that application. If the NPS approves the application it requests assignment of the property from the Department of Defense to the City. The City must then negotiate directly with the Army for the transfer of the property. Once the City takes possession of the property it is estimated the building demolition, park design and park construction could be completed in 18 months.

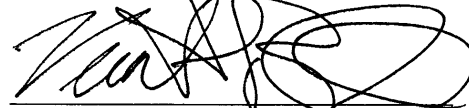
**COUNCIL POLICY CONSIDERATION:**

The action set forth in this report is consistent with the vision of the Green Space, Parks & Recreation Element of the General Plan "to create, maintain, protect, and restore an interrelated system of parks, trails, and natural open spaces. To provide recreational opportunities which sustain a vibrant and healthy community with an emphasis on ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education."

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

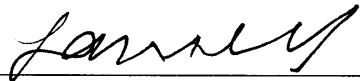
If the public benefit conveyance for use as City parkland is approved, the city would obtain the property at low or no cost. Cost estimates for the project including demolition of the existing buildings, mitigation of hazardous materials, removal of asphalt and grading, park design and construction are estimated to be between \$1.66 and \$2.08 million.

Respectfully submitted,



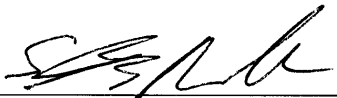
VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP  
Director of Planning

Prepared by:



LAURA FITCH DAHL  
Senior Planner

Approved by:



*Per* MICHAEL J. BECK  
City Manager

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF PASADENA TO MAKE APPLICATION TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FOR THE TRANSFER OF DESIDERIO ARMY RESERVE CENTER FOR PUBLIC PARK AND RECREATIONAL PURPOSES**

WHEREAS, certain real property owned by the United States of America, located in the city of Pasadena, County of Los Angeles, State of California, has been declared surplus and, at the discretion of the Army, may be assigned to the Secretary of the Interior for disposal for public park or recreational purposes under the provisions of 40 U.S.C. & 550, and any regulations and policies promulgated pursuant thereto, more particularly described as follows:

Desiderio Army Reserve Center

WHEREAS, City of Pasadena needs and will use said property in perpetuity for public park or recreational purposes as set forth in its application and in accordance with the requirements of said Act and any regulations and policies promulgated thereunder;

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it Resolved, that the City of Pasadena shall make application to the National Park Service for, and secure the transfer to, the above-mentioned property for said use and subject to such exceptions, reservations, terms, covenants, agreements, conditions, and restrictions as the National Park Service and the Federal disposal agency may require in connection with the disposal of said property under said Act and the regulations and policies issued pursuant thereto.

Be it Further Resolved that the City of Pasadena has legal authority, and is willing and able, to properly develop, maintain, operate, and assume liability of the property, and that Michael Beck, City Manager, is hereby authorized, for and on behalf of the City of Pasadena to do and perform any and all acts and things which may be necessary to carry out the foregoing resolution, including the preparing, making, and filing of plans, applications, reports, and other documents, the execution, acceptance, delivery, and recordation of agreements, deeds, and other instruments pertaining to the transfer of said property, including the filing of copies of the application and the conveyance documents in the records of the governing body, and the payment of any and all sums necessary on account of the purchase price thereof or fees or costs incurred in connection

with the transfer of said property for survey, title searches, recordation or instruments, or other costs identified with the acquisition of said property.

Adopted at the \_\_\_\_\_ meeting of the City Council on  
the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

AYES:

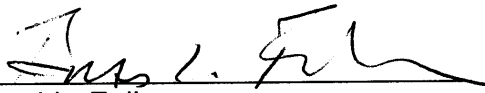
NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Jomsky, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brad L. Fuller  
Assistant City Attorney