# CORRESPONDENCE



# HISPANIC-AMERICAN AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION LOS ANGELES CHAPTER P.O. BOX 946, PICO RIVERA, CALIFORNIA 90660

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

To whom it may concern,

I am the President of the Hispanic American Airborne Association (HAAA) - Los Angeles chapter. I have served in the United States Army's 101st Airborne Division from 1960 to 1966. The HAAA has chapters throughout Southern California ranging from Coachella Valley to San Diego. The Los Angeles chapter encompasses the San Gabriel Valley, to include Pasadena. We are veterans that have served in the Airborne units of all branches of the United States Armed Forces. In our chapter alone, we have over 500 members. Many members of the HAAA, including myself, reside in Pasadena.

As an association, we recognize that a genocide occurred against the Armenian people, during World War I by the Ottoman Turkish government. As a result, over 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children were systematically slaughtered by their hands. The HAAA solemnly supports the Armenian Genocide Memorial and its location in Memorial Park, Pasadena. It is a fitting location, to where people of all ethnicities can come to reflect, meditate, hope and pray that atrocities of this magnitude never occur again against humanity.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eddie Robledo,

HISPANIC AMERICAN AIRBORNE ASSOCIATION ...... EDDIE ROBELDO, PREJIDENT (626)-791-2222

CITY CLERK

'13 SEP 05 08:45AM

From:

Nelson Afian

To:

cityclerk

Subject:

Armenian Genocide Project

Date:

Wednesday, September 04, 2013 12:40:44 PM

Hello! My name is Nelson Afian. I am a sculptor, Doctor of Arts.

On September, 9 will take place the official Government meeting where the will be reviewed.

I want to take part and to criticize this project. How can I do this? Do I need to pre-register in the minutes of speeches according to the protocol or can I do it personally at a meeting?

I tried many times to call the phone numbers (626) 744 7509, and (626) 795-1750, but there was no answer. So once again, please accept this my letter as formal application to participate in the meeting and would you like to confirm my involvement.

Best regards, Nelson Afian

Phone: 949-382-5816. nelson\_afian@yahoo.com

Dear Council,

I am writing this letter regarding the plans to place a memorial to the Armenian Genocide at Memorial Park in Pasadena. It recently was brought to my attention that there are some concerned individuals who do not believe Memorial Park is the proper venue for such a monument. Their argument is that the park is meant to only honor the men and women of America's military forces, and that a monument to a foreign genocide would infringe on such a purpose.

While I am no authority on what function Memorial Park serves, I can speak about my own beliefs and opinions. Having been born and raised in the beautiful city of Pasadena, I feel the need to voice my position on such a significant matter. As someone who spent six years in the Marine Corps, and had the privilege to serve in Iraq with some of the bravest men and women I have ever known, I must say that I am not offended at all with the placement of a genocide monument in Memorial Park. While I understand the concern of those who oppose the location of the monument, their opinion does not reflect my own, nor do they speak for me.

As a grandson and great grandson of survivors of the Armenian Genocide, the impact of that horrific event was the catalyst which motivated my enlistment into the Marine Corps. I knew then, as I know now, that there is an individual responsibility among citizens of a free nation to do their part in maintaining that freedom, and protecting liberty from those who wish to oppress and tyrannize. To overlook such aspects of history in the name of honoring veterans is disrespectful to those same veterans, as it attempts to sanitize history and choose which events to remember.

I sincerely hope the right decision is made, and Pasadena's rich history of tolerance and community is continued.

Faithfully.

Steven V. Matossian

#### Dr. Mark Tufenkjian, P.E. Ms. Ciran Hadjian, AICP 1630 San Pasqual Street, Pasadena, CA 91106 phone/fax (626) 793-6276 tuf-had@pacbell.net

September 4, 2013

Honorable Bill Bogaard & Honorable City Council Members City of Pasadena 100 North Garfield Avenue Pasadena, CA 91109

Re: Support for Armenian Genocide Memorial in Memorial Park

Dear Mayor Bogaard & City Council Members:

We would like to thank you and city staff for the thoughtfulness in vetting the proposed Armenian Genocide Memorial project. We support staff's recommendation to approve the Armenian Genocide Memorial in Memorial Park for the following three reasons:

#### 1. Accomplishes Key Objectives in Master Plan

- The proposed memorial is consistent with the Memorial Park Master Plan, which doesn't limit memorials to US war veterans/organizations.
- The proposed memorial enhances Memorial Park by accomplishing key objectives in the Master Plan (excerpts):
  - --Make Memorial Park memorable. "There needs to be one or two elements in the park that are strong enough to be carried around in our minds."
  - --Dramatize Memorial Park's natural features. "Memorial Park's strong natural features should be made even more powerful, thus connecting Pasadenans to a piece of nature."
  - --Make Memorial Park accessible. "Presently, Memorial Park is blocked visually, physically and psychologically. In order to create an alive, cared-for park, these barriers must be altered and connections made between the park and its potential constituents."
- The proposed memorial meets the Public Park and Recreational Facility Park Monument Policy.

#### 2. Improves Unused Area

- The proposed memorial connects "dead" north-west part of Memorial Park to the rest of the park.
- The proposed memorial enlivens an area made vacant by trees lost in the wind storm.
- The proposed memorial will bring new visitors to an underutilized park.

#### 3. Harmonizes with Surroundings

- The proposed memorial design is understated, reverent, and powerful.
- The proposed memorial fits into the current serene ambiance of the park.
- The proposed memorial scale is well balanced among the mature vegetation.

We appreciate your consideration and urge you to affirmatively vote for the Armenian Genocide Memorial in Memorial Park.

Sincerely,

Ciran Hadjian & Mark Tufenkjian

Ciron Wanh

cc: Michael Beck, City Manager Siobhan Foster, Director of Public Works

## Bernard Melekian bmelekian@aol.com

Council members,

August 26, 2013

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, the Pasadena City Council will hear a recommendation to place a memorial to the 1.5 million victims of the Armenian Genocide in Memorial Park. The Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee has worked tirelessly with both the community and the city to design a fitting memorial. Further, with the cooperation of city staff, we have found a beautiful corner of Memorial Park in which to place that memorial.

I am writing to urge you to support that recommendation. The design submitted for your consideration, besides being a truly artistic masterpiece, captures the spirit of those victims of the first genocide of the twentieth century. Many of those survivors came to Pasadena in the aftermath of that horror. The Armenian community has been a critical part of Pasadena since those first survivors arrived. I am proud to be descended from that community just as I am proud to have been given the opportunity to serve as your chief of police for thirteen years. I am equally proud to have served for twenty eight years in the military reserve including three tours of active duty, one in a combat theatre.

Among the survivors of that genocide was a young boy who lost his mother, four brothers and sisters. His father, held in slave labor, survived, but the boy never saw him again. That boy came here with his aunt and uncle, attended PHS & PCC before graduating from Occidental college. He had a career that included being a professor of speech at the University of Tulsa and worked as an executive for Douglas Aircraft. He raised four children and, along with the only parents he ever knew, went to his final rest at Mountain View cemetery in Altadena.

That man was my father. It is to honor his memory and that of my grandparents, both the ones I knew and the ones I only heard about, that I have involved myself in this project. It seems imperative to ensure that all of Pasadena learn about this event and remember that the unthinkable can happen. That is why I support this memorial both in design and location.

In early 1942, Adolph Hitler and the leaders of Germany's Nazi government gathered to plan the final extermination of the Jewish people. When asked about whether he was concerned about world opinion, he is quoted as saying; "Who today speaks of the Armenians?" Even today very few people today speak of the Armenian Genocide because it is seldom acknowledged. This memorial will serve not only as a remembrance of the past, but as a beacon for the future generations to ensure that they do not forget, not just the Armenians, but all victims of injustice.

Sincerely,

Bernard K. Melekian

# MEMORANDUM - CITY OF PASADENA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

DATE:

8-27-13

TO:

Mark Jomsky

FROM:

**Stacy Houser** 

RE:

Armenian Genocide Memorial

Attached is the original paperwork submitted to the Recreation and Parks Commission from the Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee on July 26, 2013.

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#### 1576 EAST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD PASADENA, CALIFORNIA 91104 (626)794-9834

4/20/2013

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee for their full-hearted efforts to honor the victims of the first genocide of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The memorial statue not only honors the 1.5 million Armenians who were massacred ruthlessly, but also reminds their descendants that we care and will not let the memory of this tragedy to be forgotten.

On behalf of the Armenian Evangelical Brethren Church of Pasadena, I would like to express our full support for this worthy cause, and commend the city of Pasadena for being one of the few city governments who has realized the importance of this work and is giving their full support for the successful completion of this project.

Thanks you and God bless you

Sincerely,

Herach Hacoupian,

H. Harouguson

Pastor

613 E. Broadway, Room 110 Glendale, CA 91206-439: Tel 818.548.2090 Fax 818.241.5386 ci.glendale.ca.us

July 10, 2013

City of Pasadena

100 N. Garfield Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91109 Phone: (626) 744-4000

#### RE: IN SUPPORT OF THE PAGMC'S ARMENIAN GENOCIDE MEMORIAL IN PASADENA

Dear Honorable Mayor Bogaard:

I am writing to you to express my strong support and deep gratitude for the approval and construction of a memorial dedicated to the Armenian Genocide of 1915. As an elected official serving one of the largest population of Armenian-Americans in the U.S. and the descendant of Genocide survivors, I am appreciative that Pasadena has taken this important step to memorialize one of the twentieth century's darkest chapters.

I, like many Armenian-Americans, have followed closely the development and plans for this proposal. I am very impressed with the work carried out by the Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee and the selected design. Catherine Menard has done an incredible service to not only the Armenian-American community to but to everyone who cares about human rights. Her design is a moving, evocative and appropriate tribute to those who perished and the fortunate few who survived.

The project is being administered by committed and professional individuals in the PAGMC who will ensure that this monument is completed and looked after for many years to come. I am confident that you will stand by your commitment to Pasadena's Armenian community and the PAGMC to realize this project as we approach the centennial of this great tragedy.

Again, thank you for your service and dedication to this effort.

Sincerely,

Ardashes "Ardy" Kassakhian, CMC

City Clerk, Glendale, CA

Honorable Pasadena City Councilmembers cc:

Mr. Michael J. Beck, City Manager

PASAGMC Board of Directors



#### PAUL KREKORIAN Councilmember, Second District

June 17, 2013

The Honorable Mayor Bill Bogaard City of Pasadena 100 N. Garfield Avenue, Room S228 Pasadena, CA 91109

#### RE: IN SUPPORT OF AN ARMENIAN GENOCIDE MEMORIAL

Dear Honorable Mayor Bill Bogaard,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposal to construct an Armenian Genocide Memorial in the City of Pasadena. As we approach the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and the number of survivors sadly dwindles, it becomes even more important to ensure that their struggles are never forgotten. A memorial honoring the victims of the Armenian Genocide, as well as the horrific events that resulted in the murder of 1.5 million from 1915 to 1918 will serve as a testament that the tragic history, even if denied, will not lapse into the dustbin of history.

Throughout my career, I have worked to raise awareness about the Armenian Genocide and fought for its recognition. Today, four cities in California already feature a monument to the Genocide and our state and the city of Los Angeles annually recognize the historical truth of the Genocide. A landmark in Pasadena memorializing the victims of the Genocide will not only commemorate those who perished, but it will also promote tolerance and understanding.

Very truly yours,

PAUL KREKORIAN

Councilmember, Second District

cc: Honorable Pasadena City Councilmembers

> Mr. Michael J. Beck, City Manager **PASAGMC Board of Directors**

Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee





April 29, 2013

Bill Paparian
Board President
Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee
272 South Los Robles Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91101

Dear Mr. Paparian,

I am excited to offer my support and endorsement of the proposed Genocide Memorial Monument effort that your committee is spearheading. As you know, Montebello is home to a thriving Armenian American Community of whom I am proud to represent. We are also home of an impressive and well-regarded Genocide Memorial. I have researched your proposal and have been personally touched by its strong emotional presence and design. Your effort is complimentary to the memorial in my home city and something for you to be proud.

I am very heartened by the open process you went through to arrive at such a powerful design concept. Engaging Art Center College of Design has given your proposal a flair that is very rare for such a monument. You have my complete trust and support and I look forward to attending its unveiling in Pasadena's Memorial Park. I know it is your effort to bring this monument to completion in time for the 100 anniversary of the horror that faced many of our families and those of our friends.

Respectfully/

Honorable Jack Hadjinian

Councilmember

City of Montebello



# City of Sierra Madre

June 4, 2013

Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee Attn: Board of Directors

Re: The Armenian Genocide Memorial

#### Dear Board:

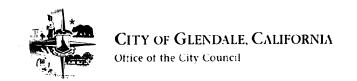
I write to express my full support for the Armenian Genocide Memorial that the Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee has proposed. The unique "Teardrop" design will serve as both a constant reminder of the horrific Armenian Genocide that occurred almost a century ago and a tribute to those whose lives were lost. More importantly, the Memorial will serve as an important source of pride for Armenians throughout Pasadena, Sierra Madre, and the surrounding San Gabriel Valley. Indeed, as the Memorial will stand tall and unwavering, so will the Armenian community.

I humbly ask that the City of Pasadena grant any necessary approvals for this historic project to come to fruition.

Very truly yours,

Mayor Pro Tem John Harabedian

City of Sierra Madre



613 East Broadway, Suite 200 Glendale, California 91206-4391 Tel. 818 548-4844 Fax 818 547-6740 www.ci.glendale.ca us

July 11, 2013

City of Pasadena 100 N. Garfield Avenue Pasadena, CA 91109 Phone: (626) 744-4000

#### RE: IN SUPPORT OF THE PASAGMC'S ARMENIAN GENOCIDE MEMORIAL IN PASADENA

Dear City of Pasadena,

My name is Zareh Sinanyan and I am a City Council person for the neighboring City of Glendale. I would like to express my wholehearted support for the establishment of the Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial. As a grandson of an Armenian Genocide survivor I greatly appreciate the efforts of the City of Pasadena, its people, and its leadership in taking the steps to commemorate the memory of 1.5 million victims of the 20th century's first genocide.

I would also like to stress my support for the design proposal composed by Pasadena Art Center's Catherine Menard, which best captures the spirit and the sentiment of the memorial.

Once again, allow me to express my strongest support and deepest appreciation for the efforts of the Pasadena Armenian Memorial Committee, and the City of Pasadena in general for this great undertaking.

Sincerely,

Zareh J. Sinanyan

Glendale City Councilman

cc: The Honorable Mayor Bill Bogaard

Honorable Pasadena City Councilmembers

Mr. Michael J. Beck, City Manager PASAGMC Board of Directors



#### PETITION SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

The Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee (PASAGMC), a non-political and independent California non-Profit 501(c)3, is working with the City of Pasadena to establish and maintain an Armenian Genocide Memorial in the City's Memorial Park. The selected design proposal is from the Pasadena Art Center, and an Armenian Genocide Memorial Foundation has been established with the Community Foundation of the Verdugos (CFV).

**ACTION PETITION FOR** 

We, the undersigned, express our support for the Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee's (PASAGMC) Armenian Genocide Memorial Project, and the design proposal made by the Pasadena Art Center, to be established in Memorial Park of the City of Pasadena.

First Name	Last Name	Address, City, State, Zipcode	Signature	Date
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First Name	Last Name	Address, City, State, Zipcode	Signature	Date
Brigit	Veranian	720 N. Isabel Stiglendale, Ct	The ,	07   08   13
MARIMA	VERANIAN	11-11-11-11-11	Fireunt	07 /08/13
Kristina	veranian	11-11-11-	Priorina	07/08/13
Aline	Habeshian	1055 Honolulu Auto CAHAR	le Hali	7/9/13
VAL	HACOPIAN	333 & Glenoalis, Glendal	Val Hareoni	7-9-13
Mary	Morrison	1325 Valley View Rd #201 Groudale Co	19122 Mary & Myrispy	7/9/13
JUBY	SCHLEGEL	1433 FOOTHILL BL, LA CAUSSA 910/1-	Judy Milesl	1-9-13
Hilda	LaFerla	307 Ganava ST. Glandala	( ) filled to the	7-9-13
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Nazeli	Torossian	10708 Brookfield Rd. Chatscurth CA	Mun/ Jordson	5 23 13
Mike -	torossin	10703 Brookfield R 1 Chatscorth CA	M. torasin	5 23 13
seta	Nalbandian	1556 North Columbus Ave, Glena 19120	ale - Scto Halfond	5/23/13
Jacquelini	Kurkjian	11920 Addison // 9160	Dulin:	5/23/13
SONIA	BARSOUMIAN	4846 STANSBURY AVE Sherman Oak	Sonia Parson	5/23/13
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First Name	Last Name	Address, City, State, Zipcode	Signature	Date
Talar	Kebabuan	3673 C.Del Mar Blyd. Passadeno, as	tolene	5/8/17
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First Name	Last Name	Address, City, State, Zipcode	Signature	Date
Esmeralda	Naarek	3376 E. Green St Pasadena (A 91107)	Eul	7/9/13
Naira	Valian	2747 Henrietta Ave lacres	centa, CA 9121 Felle	D 7-9-13
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First Name	Last Name	Address, City, State, Zipcode	Signature	Date
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The Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee (PASAGMC) is an independent non-profit organization formed to establish and maintain a memorial in the City of Pasadena which commemorates the Armenian Genocide and stands against all crimes against humanity. For more information, please contact the PASAGMC at 272 South Los Robles Ave, Pasadena, CA 91101, U.S.A.



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First Name	Last Name	Address, City, State, Zipcode	Signature	Date
Kina	Muralian	1548 Snowa Ave, Pas 9/104		6/7/13
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Liana	Muradian		Murailin	5/7/13
Nailee	Chiranian	1120 Altern St. Arcadia Cagu	06 have	5/7/13
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JACK	OGANESTAN	1461 E WOODBURY RD PASADELA CA 911		5/8/13
Kodolfo	Villagray	V.s. Boy 8028, Ca Cresrenta, CA		5/8/13
Astro	Sossilan	SIQ Justin Are #4 Glendale (A	Agos	5-8-13
Mike	Mercurio	1627 Leatensed Dr. Marrovia, CA	Marie	5-8-13
Go as-	Muschyan	1014 M Lincoln St. Burles	uk Good Mlat	5-8-13



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First Name	Last Name	Address, City, State, Zipcode	Signature	Date
Hasnig	Tabakias	1295 Der Rey Ale #2	Hurban.	5-7-13
Vanda	Wastourias	2368 Elwannington Blud	13.	5,7-13
Marie	Kojatajagas	/ I	Marie Koralele	5-7-13
Albert	tojara laizers	2364 E Warni Jos Burgh	. A	5-7-13
Kiror	Wartourias	2368 E-Warnington Swed	K. Uz ti	5-7-13
Viei	toralara	111111	UPMANN	5713
ALL	Titizan	731 Farmen Ree #2	av	52213
Kaspar	Tabarian	1295 Del Rey Alle #2	Awar Can	5-7-13
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#### PETITION SUMMARY AND BACKGROUND

The Pasadena Armenian Genocide Memorial Committee (PASAGMC), a non-political and independent California non-Profit 501(c)3, is working with the City of Pasadena to establish and maintain an Armenian Genocide Memorial in the City's Memorial Park. The selected design proposal is from the Pasadena Art Center, and an Armenian Genocide Memorial Foundation has been established with the Community Foundation of the Verdugos (CFV).

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t Name Address	, City, State, Zipcode	Signature	Date
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		f ma	5/9/13
an 1558 Vort	th Hill Pasadena ca		5/5/13
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oryan 100 N-6	or field Pey 91109	- Gund	5/9/13
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2 Pian			
	Socian 1376 NG yon 3556 E are an 1558 Vort	Socian 1376 N. G. and Cooks Frederic 416 you 3536 E arean St Fasadon CA, 9110 an 1558 Vorth Hill Pasadona ca	yon 376 Noveth Hill Pasadena ca strong to 200



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First Name	Last Name	Address, City, State, Zipcode	Signature	Date
NAZARETH	KARNTKIAN	6338 KRAFT AVE, NHEUMON	Howling	5-25-13
MARIA	KARNIKIAN	6338 KRAFT" AVE N. HOLLYWOU	M. Karn	5-25-13
TALINN	JARAMILLO	9047 RIDERWOODR, SUNLAND	Talin Jaromillo.	5-26-13
Samantha	Taramillo	9047 RIDERWOOD DR, SVALLAND	STEDA.	5-26-13
MARIA	KAHOUATI.	9047 RIDERWOOD DR, SUNIAND PASABENT YIM 2480 E ORANGE GROVE BY	There &	08/01/13
Savkis	Berjikly	6966 Melba Ave, w. Hillsch 9130	, t ( ) ,	5/2/13
KEVORIS	PILOYM	525 S. Borondu St. LA.CA	Lout When	£/21/3
Housep	NALBANDIAN	12454 Hortense st. Studio Gi	1491604 HN Melbordis	6/2/3
Caroline	TASMAS, AN	7120 Nahak Ane Var Mays Cop		6/3/13
		<i>y</i>		/ /