



DBE Certified by Department of Transportation

August 18, 2014

Office of Historic Preservation
Department of Parks and Recreation
ATTN: Lucinda Woodward, State Historian III
1725 23rd Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95816-7600

Re: Fairview Park Entryway Concept Plan

Dear Ms. Woodward,

Enclosed you will find a hardcopy of the *Archaeological Phase I: Cultural Resource Survey of the South West Quadrant of Fairview Park, Costa Mesa* report. This study encompasses the results of an extensive literature review and Phase I: Cultural Resource Survey on 53 acres of the park. The project focused on aspects of the Fairview Park Master Plan associated with the creation of new entryways at the terminus of Pacific Ave and Canyon Drive, a small play area, and improved trails between the entrances and the play area. Originally the project also called for placing an underground drainage pipe below the improved trail, which would have included an excavation of a 6 to 12 foot deep trench. As a result of an earlier draft of this report, the City opted to redesign the drainage pipeline associated with the project. The new pipe will run parallel to the south end of Fairview Park, just north of the Pacific Avenue housing development. In addition, the new storm drain will be placed by micro-tunneling at varying depths that range from approximately 16 feet at the top of the mesa, traveling to approximately 80 feet at the bottom of the slope, avoiding impact to surface soils.

On September 24, 2013, the City of Costa Mesa received a letter from the Office of Historic Preservation addressing the following concerns:

- The project area should be further researched.
- CA-ORA-58 site boundary should be resurveyed, especially in the southern portion where the City plans the current improvement to park entry.
- The bluff trail should be investigated as visitors report seeing exposed midden and artifacts eroding out of the bluff edge.
- All work should include the involvement with the Native American Community
- All future work should be in accordance with CEQA and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act depending on funding.

After reviewing the letter sent by the OHP and the City's current plans, SRSinc devised a scope of work in adherence to the guidelines and criteria with CEQA (California code of Regulations, Title 14 §15000 et seq.). The scope of work included the following:

- Produce an update to the background of CA-ORA-58 including a survey of past Cultural Resources Studies of the site and surrounding areas comprised of a literature review, records checks with the SCCIC and the NAHC, as well as paleontological sources.

SRS, 2324 N. Batavia St. #109, Orange CA 92865 www.srscorp.net ph: 714-685-0204 or fax: 714-685-0082



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- Create a Research Design for the Phase I Cultural Resource Survey based on the newly formed background.
- Conduct a systematic survey of all areas identified for improvements as well as a linear survey of the “Bluff Trail”. This includes checking and updating as needed the previously identified site boundary.
- Produce a report based on the findings of the background information and the survey. The report identifies and recommends possible mitigation and preservation methods.
- Conduct all work in accordance to CEQA and City of Costa Mesa Cultural Resource guidelines of the National Historic Preservation Act.
- All field activity would be done in the presence of Native American monitors from both the Juaneño and Gabrielino tribes.

The evidence from our archaeological investigation show that no cultural resources are located subsurface in the southwest corner of the SW Quadrant of Fairview Park. The proposed Entryway Improvements may continue as revised, including the entryways and a planned turnaround, play area, and connecting dirt trails. However, it is anticipated that these Park improvements will encourage additional people to use the park. An increased presence may become detrimental to nearby archeological site Ora-58 and result in an indirect impact. Project Redesign is not necessary as long as the following protective measures are instituted:

1. Retain archaeological and Native monitors to observe all earthmoving activities in the Park.
2. Since capping the archaeological site is not possible, then fencing needs to be placed around the “core” site area, inside of pedestrian trails, both asphalt and dirt trails, up to and north of the vernal pools, but not impacting the ponds.
3. Slope restoration is necessary in order to prevent erosion to help protect the site.

This concludes a brief summary of the report. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your time,

Connie “Destiny” Colocho
SRS Project Manager