

CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION and NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE REPORT relative to proposed partnership agreement with the Griffith Observatory Foundation for the fabrication, installation, and donation of a new Celestial Globe.

Recommendations for Council action:

1. AUTHORIZE the Department of Recreation and Parks to approve a proposed partnership agreement between the City and Griffith Observatory Foundation for the fabrication, installation, and donation of a new Celestial Globe.
2. DETERMINE that the approval of the Agreement and resulting fabrication, installation, and donation of the Exhibit (Project) is categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301 [Minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use] of the California CEQA Guidelines as well as to Article III, Section 1, Class 1 of City CEQA Guidelines, and direct Staff to file a Notice of Exemption with the Los Angeles County Clerk and the California Office of Planning and Research.

Fiscal Impact Statement: The Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners reports that there is no significant fiscal impact to the City, though there will be a significant non-monetary benefit to Observatory visitors and to the Observatory's reputation and visibility. The Foundation will invest approximately \$900,000 to design, fabricate, and install the exhibit. The Observatory expenditure will be limited to the modest amount of electricity needed to power the Globe's rotation and any necessary maintenance and/or repairs to the exhibit in the future.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

Summary:

On October 23, 2024, your Committee considered the October 3, 2024 Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners report relative to proposed partnership agreement with the Griffith Observatory Foundation for the fabrication, installation, and donation of a new Celestial Globe. The report attached to the Council file includes some background on the matter.

After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee moved to approve the recommendations detailed above. This matter is now forwarded to the Council for its consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT COMMITTEE

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
HERNANDEZ:	YES
LEE:	YES
HUTT:	ABSENT

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-NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL COUNCIL ACTS-