

MOTION

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA), in consultation with Council District Three seeks to formally name the City-owned property located at 7242 Owensmouth Avenue (Property) in Canoga Park as the Taxco Theatre. The City acquired the Property formerly known as the West Valley Playhouse in December 2018 in an effort to further the vision of the Canoga Park Cultural Arts District (C.F. 14-1174-S22).


In 1963, actor and philanthropist Francis Lederer initiated a sister city relationship between the community of Canoga Park and Taxco, Mexico. Although the official sister city of the City is Mexico City, the relationship between Canoga Park and Taxco has endured decades and has bridged the two communities through art exchanges, student exchanges, annual visits, and extensive philanthropic works.

In 2017, DCA began development of a Strategic Plan for the Madrid Theatre Cultural Hub that, among other things, included the physical and economic revitalization of the Madrid Theatre located at 21622 Sherman Way; the Canoga Park Youth Arts Center located at 7222 Remmet Avenue; and the Taxco Theatre (formerly the Clyde Porter Theater) located at 7242 Owensmouth Avenue. Investment in these cultural institutions is aimed at fueling sustainable economic development in and around the Canoga Park Cultural Arts District with users and vendors that cater to the cultural arts. Furthermore, the naming of the Taxco Theatre fits into the comprehensive theme of the Canoga Park Cultural Arts District.

The Taxco Theatre will be the only publicly-owned incubator for the performing arts in Southern California. It will serve to support the development of new and innovative productions and enjoy a symbiotic relationship with the Madrid Theatre while creating the regular production of family-friendly theater accessible to and reflective of the diversity of the surrounding community for many years to come.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City-owned facility located at 7242 Owensmouth Avenue in Canoga Park be officially named the Taxco Theatre.

PRESENTED BY:


BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

SECONDED BY:





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