

MEETING REPORT

CALIFORNIA INDIAN HERITAGE CENTER (CIHC) TASK FORCE MEETING July 25th - 26th, 2005

PUBLIC MEETING

State Museum Resource Center- Art Space
2400 Port Street
West Sacramento, CA 95691

July 25th, 2005

Task Force Members and Designees present: Cindi Alvitre, Gen Denton, Walter Gray, Susan Hildreth, Cindy La Marr, Bill Mungary, Larry Myers, Jack Norton

DPR Staff present: Maria Baranowski, Gina Diaz, Cuauhtemoc Gonzalez, Pauline Grenbeaux, Paulette Henum, Julie Holder, Daniel Striplen

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – La Marr

Meeting called to order at 8:50am. Denton gave opening blessing. Task Force members introduced themselves.

REPORT ON NORTHGATE SITE – Myers and Grenbeaux

Myers reviewed questions the Task Force had about the Northgate site from the last meeting.

Planning for Heritage Center Functions at the Northgate Site

Grenbeaux reviewed the “split” facility concept and potential benefits to the CIHC. As a split facility the CIHC would be on both sides of the river. The interpretive center, approximately 30,000 sq. ft, would be located within the American River Parkway (ARP) and the offices, storage facility, and a majority of the parking would be located on the south side of the river near Highway 160 and Richards Boulevard. Occasional camping and outdoor programming would occur in the ARP. A pedestrian bridge would connect the CIHC and provide better access to the Two Rivers Trail. Currently there is no agreement to how much development will be allowed within the ARP, but the Task Force should not seek to develop something larger than the trailer park. Visitor amenities will be located on the south side or smaller scale on the north. The south side is open to development as there is room for growth. There are additional opportunities such as partnerships for hotel conference facilities, restaurants, other businesses, other state agencies, and nearby schools. There will be an increased presence within the central city. There would be an abundance of programming opportunities at the facility on the south side of the river because there would be more

accessibility for activities at night without having to enter the ARP. Having distinctive architecture and public art would attract visitors.

The contract with EDAW, the Programming and site master plan firm, will start on October 1st, 2005. They will confirm what the needs of the facility really are and what functions need to be near others. The City of Sacramento will be working on the Gateway District master plan. There are some operational issues on the north side that need to be worked through. Final draft of the American River Parkway Plan will be done in September. There will be plans for the restoration of the Urrutia pond. The CIHC needs to have Indian people actively participate in the management of the land. In October 2006 the CIHC's Programming and Site master plan will be complete. At the same time the Parkway Plan will be finished and the City and County will be approving it. Some of the Parkway advocates still have concern about size and scale of the CIHC in the parkway. Staff meets regularly with the Boy Scouts so they know what is going on. Sacramento City Council passed a resolution to authorize the use of \$2.4 million to buy land for the CIHC and housing on the south side of the river. The bridge connecting the sides would be part of the City's infrastructure.

Mungary stated that the split facility is not a new idea to the Task Force but they chose not to look at it at the time because it was not in the original vision of the project.

City of Sacramento Partnership – Bob Overstreet

Overstreet presented the perspective that Sacramento would be the CIHC's partner and affirmed the city's desire to have the CIHC. Various officials from the city spoke to this subject.

Mayor Heather Fargo, City of Sacramento

Mayor Fargo stated that this project would work well for both California Indians and the City. She understood that the Task Force is to make the best decision for the CIHC. The entire city council is in support and is putting \$2.4 million to acquire land on the south side. This is the state Capital and this project should be in the Capital. There is a chance to build relationships and collaborations with other museums in town. The CIHC would be known worldwide for its proximity to the American River Parkway. The addition of the light rail station nearby as well as the Intermodal station being close will help to bring people to the CIHC. As a split facility the site in the parkway can be centered in nature. She used a PowerPoint presentation to talk about the beauty of the area.

Councilmember Ray Tretheway

Councilmember Tretheway hoped that the Task Force would take advantage of the Parkway. This site is the perfect choice for the CIHC. He stated that the area is maturing and that it could be part of a greater

network of opportunities like the museum mile, transit, and housing opportunities, as well as it being in the State Capital.

Councilmember Sandy Sheedy

Councilmember Sheedy stated that the site needs some rehabilitation but would be a great asset. It would help to create a synergy. The CIHC feels right for this area. Sheedy's husband, Ted Sheedy, sits on the Update Citizens Advisory Committee for the ARP Update Plan and is a supporter of this project. Sheedy ended by saying that this site has been waiting for the CIHC.

County Supervisor Roger Dickenson

Supervisor Dickenson is chair of the County Board of Supervisors and the Chair of the American River Parkway Board. Dickenson stated that he is conscious of history and that it needs to be told correctly. The CIHC would bridge the gap in history. This is a unique asset and should be valued. This has the potential to be the "Crown Jewel" of Sacramento. The CIHC is entirely compatible with what the parkway represents. This would serve not only the city and county but the Indians and all that care about the parkway.

Michael Ault, Executive Director, Downtown Sacramento Partnerships

Ault described that the Downtown Sacramento Partnerships is a business partnership group. There are currently 800 member businesses. The Partnership can help to advocate for certain things and the CIHC can enhance region's perception and bring other opportunities to the area.

Mungary asked if the presenters could articulate how they would help to solve the problems that face the CIHC.

Mike Testa, Sacramento Convention and Visitors Bureau

Testa explained that the Sacramento Convention and Visitors Bureau has a \$6.5 million advertising budget and would help to advertise the CIHC. No other organization can provide this kind of support. They would also feature the CIHC on the cover of the Sacramento Visitors Guide.

Dr. Beverly Scott, CEO, Sacramento Regional Transit

Dr. Scott stated that Sacramento Regional Transit has over 10,000 users per day. There would be a Light Rail station near the CIHC. Regional Transit is in support of the project.

Tim Washburn, Agency Counsel, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA)

Washburn stated that there would be some design challenges but they can be dealt with. There are no high velocity flows at the Northgate site.

The CIHC is feasible at this site when properly done in a flood control management idea. There opportunity to restore habitat and the owner of the Urrutia property is willing to sell. Cost is still an issue, as is mitigation and restoration of the land.

Washburn also addressed the situation at the Riverdale Resort Trailer Park at the site. The owners wanted to upgrade the facility but have been unable to secure permits from the City and County to do so. Currently, only 23 of 80 sites are occupied. Once the site is acquired the appropriate agency will have to find appropriate relocations for the residents of the trailer park. Funds still need to be identified for the acquisition of the two properties.

Washburn projected that the Urrutia property would need to be acquired in 2006 and restoration would take place in 2007- 2008. The trailer park would be acquired in 2007- 2008.

Denton asked about the availability of needed infrastructure like sewer and water to the site.

Mayor Fargo answered that sewer and water will be brought to the north side and that it already available on the south side. The City has sewer credits which will bring the cost of adding new sewer lines down.

Terry Kastanis, Sacramento Zoo

The CIHC would be a great addition to Sacramento. Kastanis talked about the Zoo's plans to relocate in Sutter's Landing Park in the next 10-15 years. He also expressed a desire to build some collaborative efforts.

Connie Miottel, Executive Director, Capitol Station District

Miottel gave some context with regards to the changes occurring on the south side of the river. The area is undergoing a number of planning processes and the CIHC can be involved in this work. The City is actively working to change how the area is going to look and it will grow. There are a number of resources for support; public safety, and advocacy. Miottel suggested something like "River campus" would bring the river into the project and unify the idea rather than "split facility".

Overstreet added that the bridge idea needs to be developed more, but that it is its own stand alone identity.

Mayor Fargo added that the timing of this project is impeccable because it came along at the right time to be included in the process. This area is one of the most renowned areas in the country. Fargo stated that she had been involved in SAFCA for 15 years and that moving much of the facility to the south side of the river would reduce the cost and make it more feasible. She noted that Northgate

Boulevard has never been closed quickly. She moved on to address the issue about public safety. Sacramento is currently working to improve Northgate/Garden Highway intersection to increase pedestrian safety. The City also takes the concerns about homeless very seriously. There has been established a City County Task Force on Homelessness. The City has also added a de-tox facility help those addicted to drugs and alcohol. Currently, there are 80-90 chronic homeless who are resistant to receive services. To resolve the problem of chronic Homelessness the City is creating a new program to get them into housing first and then provide the other services. Fargo noted that the Northgate site is not attractive to the homeless they go to other areas where there are less people. The Richards Boulevard area's industrial setting is changing and is not all industrial. More businesses are coming and more people will want to come and live in the area.

Hildreth expressed concern about parking at the CIHC and whether it would occur on the Richards Boulevard side.

Overstreet answered that the south side offers the opportunity to have a large amount of parking.

Ron Suter, Director, Sacramento County Parks noted that there would also be some parking for the interpretive center in the APR but that most of the parking would be provided on the south side.

Mungary observed that the ARP could be the major impediment to the project. Some may see this as an urban intrusion into the parkway. This presence will be a positive statement and it is not the Task Force's intent to destroy. This is the best thing that we have and it is a remarkable fit to the vision of the project.

Overstreet said that the details about how it will all work out are yet to be determined and that all groups will have a chance for participation and input. There is a partnership that can be formed between the CIHC and the Conservationists.

Suter talked about the Effie Yeaw Nature Center (EYNC) and suggested that it could be a model for the interpretive center at the lower end of the parkway. He said that at EYNC they have had to turn away schools. If Sacramento County were to build another they would increase its size to serve more people. This site is the ideal setting to serve school children. He also recommended that the project be seen as a campus not a separate site. He urged that the Task Force work to keep the parkway sacred.

La Marr asked Miottel about when she saw that redevelopment would begin in the Capitol Station District.

Miottel answered that new infrastructure is being added and people are buying parcels of land to develop into housing. In the next five years housing will appear in the area and it will change dramatically.

Mungary also shared that he was concerned about the uncertainty of development happening in the Capitol Station District. He noted that he saw the plans for the area and that this is very early in the process but we can see that the City wants to work with the CIHC. The CIHC can be part of the planning process of the area. It is to the benefit of the CIHC not to the detriment. This project will attract other efforts and significant projects will come in quickly.

Alvitre asked what the process is to relocate the trailer park tenants.

Washburn answered that finding the money will take a while and then it takes time to relocate them somewhere comparable to where they are now.

La Marr was curious about the annual homeless veterans event, Stand Down, held at Camp Pollock.

Paul Helman, a representative from Camp Pollock, said that he doesn't see anything changing with regards to the event. The event shows the veterans about services available to them.

Mayor Fargo also said that the event is working well at Camp Pollock and that it is successful. It could eventually relocate to a different venue. The event is for one weekend a year.

Gray asked if the CIHC would conflict with any of the vision of the redevelopment of the Capitol Station District and other ideas like Gold Rush Park.

Fargo replied that few projects fit into the vision of the redevelopment of the Capitol Station District and Gold Rush Park; this is one that does.

Grenbeaux added that the City heard the Task Force's concerns about the south side of the river and has moved to help to make the CIHC more secure. The City is also working to improve the Richards Blvd/16th/12th Streets intersection. Regional Transit is waiting to hear the Task Force's decision so that they can plan appropriately for a new Light Rail station. There is a new neighborhood being planned for the area which will consist of low rise condos, townhouses, and apartments. 20% will become low income housing. She added that this is the prime time to integrate Native values into how the land will be managed with this part of the lower ARP. There are some programming opportunities that can happen in the interim as the land was being restored. The actual restoration of the property could be interpreted. There maybe potential to use Camp Pollock during all the times that the Boy Scouts are not using the Camp. The CIHC could also use Camp Pollock for its camping facilities.

Mungary where the redevelopment funds were coming from.

Miottel answered that the tax increment goes back to the community and that the redevelopment is going to shift from road ways to housing.

LUNCH – 12:00pm

RECONVENE – 1:20pm

REVIEW OF NORTHGATE SITE (continued)

FLOOD RISK ANALYSIS – PSOMAS

Ferrell Ensign, PSOMAS

PSOMAS is an engineering firm that was hired to evaluate flood related issues at the Northgate site. Ensign reviewed various handouts about elevations of flood events and the differences between 10 year, 100 year, and 1000 year flood event. He stated that the levees are constructed about 5.5 ft above the 100 year high water level.

Mungary asked how long the high water would last at the site.

Ensign answered that the water would stay no more than a month, but most likely weeks if it were to flood. Discovery Park is lower than this site and it is floods. A building within the ARP would have to go up on pilings to be approved by the Reclamation Board. The CIHC could achieve the most flood protection and avoid controversy if the building was elevated between elevation 36.5 and 40. Ensign added that the cost to build on pilings is that significant.

Adrian Schneider, PSOMAS

Schneider discussed how long the pilings would need to go into the ground for the CIHC interpretive center to be stable in the flood way. He answered that piling length depends on the soil type and how far bed rock was from the soil surface.

Gonzalez reviewed several photos he took, on May 19, 2005, of Discovery Park flooded and the Northgate site dry.

Baranowski reviewed planning and development benchmarks and described the timeline handout with significant dates. By February 1, 2006 staff has to know absolutely where the site is. There is some pre-work that can be done for the EIR. Between October '06 and October '07 need to get funding and the site plan can be used to help get it.

The Task Force discussed the need for an integrated timeline that would combine all the time lines as well as Governance, Federal, specific documents like the EIR and EIS, and Site timelines.

Miottel elaborated more about the Gateway District Master Plan and the street beautification.

DISCUSSION ON NORTHGATE SITE – advantages and disadvantages

Hildreth asked about how the project would be funded.

Mungary said that the site's only weakness is that it is in the flood plain and that it would be more expensive to develop. The issues have not been totally resolved but we can move forward.

La Marr asked the acreage of the Northgate site is and if the CIHC would acquire the county land. The Urrutia property is about is 120 acres.

Mungary asked if the associated outside programming is okay in the parkway—ball field, camping, village structures, native plant garden—because he is concerned that not all would be allowed. He also addressed the fact that fill looks natural and pilings do not. He is not comfortable with pilings and knows that fill would kill the approval from the Reclamation Board. He added that the CIHC could have other uses under the building if it was on pilings.

Grenbeaux answered that that is one of the details that needs to be worked out. There is support for the basic concept of the CIHC but there is concern about the size.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alan Wade, President, SARA

If the CIHC is done right it would be a great contribution to this part of town. He supports the split/bridged facility concept with the larger part on the south side of the river and a more modest sized building in the ARP.

Peggy Berry

A member of the Update Citizens Advisory Committee. She would have liked to hear during the meeting the need to have the area preserved and protected. She also added that at the UCAC meeting the members took part in a straw vote to support a split facility. She recommended that the Task Force support a 90/10 or at the most 80/20 split of the facility where the larger facility would go on the south side of the river.

Betsy Weiland

Weiland noted that she thought some of the information presented by the City officials was not truthful or researched well. She talked about her visit to the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque, NM and its similarities with the CIHC.

Bob Slobe, North Sacramento Land Company

Stated that the county is not a good steward of the Parkway and expressed strong support for sitting the entire CIHC within the ARP. He also talked about why the Crocker Art Museum Board decided that the split would not work well for them—cost would increase and it would complicate the movement of material.

Mungary added that he envisions a group of buildings similar to Potowat Health Village in Eureka.

Letter to the Task Force from Ruth Marquez- Washileski, Volunteer, State Indian Museum

Letter in support of the Northgate site was read aloud by Cindy La Marr.

ADJOURN – 4:30pm

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West Sacramento, CA 95691**

July 26, 2005

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DPR Staff Present: Maria Baranowski, Leo Carpenter, Jr., Gina Diaz, Paulette Hennum, Julie Holder, Cuauhtemoc Gonzalez, Pauline Grenbeaux, Daniel Striplen

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – La Marr

Meeting called to order at 8:57am. Norton gave opening blessing.

APPROVAL OF MEETING REPORT FROM MAY 12-13, 2005 – La Marr

M/S Myers/Alvitre to approve Meeting Report, with amendments, from May 12-13, 2005. Motion unanimously approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS – La Marr

The next Task Force meeting is September 16, 2005. Location to be determined.

October 10-11, 2005 are the dates when the Task Force and Advisory Groups will meet with EDAW. Location to be determined.

UPDATES

Governance – Gray

Gray summarized what happened at the last meeting and what needs to happen. Currently the draft Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws are being reviewed by staff counsel. Gray stated that he would like to send copies to the Task Force in early August. He noted that the Funding and Governance timelines need to be incorporated with them. He hopes to file for nonprofit status with the Secretary of State in September. The first group of Board Members could be drawn from the Task Force and with new members with other expertise added as time goes on. The nonprofit could solicit funding in October/November and get new members in November/December. The Task Force would be able to transition out in Spring '06.

Organization and Staffing – Gray

Currently staff functions to support the Task Force in fulfilling its responsibilities. This process needs more people and skills and there are a number of vacant

curator positions. This is an opportunity to reconfigure the State Museum Resource Center and get that staff to provide support to the CIHC. Staff has also been recruiting people with cultural competence. DPR will be hiring to fill vacancies soon. He is working to integrate hiring selection process with the Capitol District reorganization and consolidate facilities management.

Myers asked where the CIHC fits in the reorganization.

Gray answered that he is going to ensure the CIHC remains a high priority and that it is outside the normal acquisition and development process so that it can receive special attention.

Annual Report – Gray

Gray reported that staff will have a complete Annual Report for the Task Force by the next Task Force meeting.

Gray gave a summary of how the CIHC should expect to be funded in the near future. There is a Resources bond act on the ballot for next year, SB 153, for \$3.9 billion. From that, \$500 million may be allocated to State Parks. This would ensure at least \$20 million to CIHC. Director Coleman would like to give more support to the CIHC.

Update on Advisory Groups – Henum

These are ad hoc groups that are essential to the master plan process. Each has a Task Force member contact and Staff contact.

Library, Research, and Archives – Holder

Holder summarized her report to the Task Force. She began by saying that she had been asking tribes about the kinds of things and information that they wanted access to. She noted that many of the communities in southern California are creating their own cultural centers. Tribes would like to have a list of the collections and access to them as well as have digital media/records available to them. Should provide workshops and trainings but needs to make sure they know how to apply the skills once they return home. The CIHC also needs to identify training with certificates to reinforce merit as well as help tribes develop their own ways to care for their cultural material. Holder is currently looking only in southern California but will reassess what she is doing to see what the need is in the northern part of the state.

Collections – Brian Bibby

Brian Bibby was asked to assess DPR's Native American collections and identify the problems that exist within the collection—problems in TMS, how data was entered (data speak), not all data is correct, needs California Indians to describe the collection, needs consistency. Bibby will bring in California Indian consultants to help him with the work.

La Marr said she would like to see out of state tribes' material returned to them rather than being sold. This going to be for California's tribes.

Mungary would like to trade collections.

Hildreth would like to see Bibby's work online and accessible.

PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES – Gonzalez and Striplen

Gonzalez summarized the outreach meeting he and Hennum attended the Kumeyaay/Digueno Unity Bands in San Diego on July 14, 2005

Striplen reported that he has been working to set up several series of outreach meetings with the Ohlone, one in the north and one in the south of Ohlone territory.

Carpenter expressed concern about the lack of outreach done to tribes in the eastern Sierra.

La Marr stated that outreach should be a priority and is concerned that outreach is not a priority for staff.

Holder suggested that DPR develop a brochure once the location is chosen and this could be used to solicit native people to help.

Carpenter reported that he has been working on organizing a Bird Singing Festival at Lake Perris with Malia Finney. He also assisted on a NAGPRA Repatriation to the Santa Rosa Rancheria. He talked about working that the Sumeg Visitors Center to do some interpretation at the 75th anniversary of Patrick's Point State Park.

LUNCH – 12:00pm

RECONVENE – 1:10pm

DISCUSSION OF NORTHGATE SITE (continued from previous day)

Mungary thought Sierra Health Foundation was a good project along the Sacramento River and the CIHC would do well along the American River. He envisions a village of buildings and this would fit in well with nature. There are still issues that need to be resolved but they can be addressed.

Norton expressed suspicion of the City's support of the project. There has been a long history of betrayal. Worries about the good heartedness of those people that are extending their hands and it weighs heavily on his shoulders. He felt that those involved need to allow Indian people to do what they want. Believes that DPR is sincere and that California Indians can control what is done then.

Gray noted that the vote is Northgate “Yes” or “No”. If Northgate is not chosen the Lake Natoma site is not an automatic “Yes”. Staff would need to evaluate the site to see if it was feasible to locate the CIHC there.

La Marr said that she felt that the Northgate site is the worst scenario and she wants to make the decision that is best for Indian people.

Myers said that everyone is concerned about the protection of the cultural resources. He also thanked all those that are working on the project and said that all his questions have been answered.

Alvitre said she felt this was a difficult decision. She wanted to make sure that she was making the best decision for her constituents; however she had some difficulty in believing the City. She recognized that there are many complicated issues and that there is not one site that is free of issues.

Denton hoped that what was told to the Task Force ,by the local governmental representatives, is true. She said she hopes for the best and feels it necessary to move forward because Indian people might be waiting forever for something that fits their vision.

Hildreth said she was honored to be with the Task Force and that she hopes to support the will of California Indians on the Task Force. She wished there was more information about what the EDAW reports will say and that she thinks the City and others are sincere. She also still has great concerns about the complexities on the issues of the site. She said she hopes the Task Force and DPR can achieve the goals set forth and be respectful of California Indians.

Gray said that the Task Force needs to come together, build trust, and set aside doubts. Once EDAW begins its work the ability to achieve the vision of the Task Force on this site will become clear. The amount of support shown by the city, county and local special districts demonstrates that this is an important project, and also raises concerns about who will follow through. None of the presentations caused him to doubt that the CIHC would work at the Northgate site.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Frank Cirrill, President Emeritus, Save the American River Association

He stated that he supports the CIHC and is pleased that the split facility would make it more palatable to the stakeholders. Would like to see small amount of development for the interpretive center within the ARP because it is a very natural area and it should focus on the outdoor activity.

Randy Yonemura

Yonemura said that he would like to see the building at the Northgate site. "Our people are from the river. The river brings life and is cleansing. These items are living and the spirit from the land would help to feed them. The songs from the people will come and make them live. We need to listen to the city and go forward. His uncles had said that they did not like the Folsom site. We need to grow our plants and teach our youth about traditions. This is an opportunity to bring back the land, bring back the spirit of the land, and bring Indian people together." He noted that he has been working with the City to preserve sites. People need to be educated to understand. The Northgate site is the ideal location and it might be a good thing that the floods come and wash these items away; they will be free from being imprisoned in a warehouse.

Peggy Berry

Berry had some comments regarding the Sacramento Bee article about the site and the CIHC. Need to live in harmony with the natural environment.

CIHC TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION ABOUT THE NORTHGATE SITE

Vote was conducted by secret ballot. Votes were counted and confirmed by La Marr and Myers. The vote was 7-1 in favor of moving forward with development at the Northgate site.

ADJOURN – 2:00pm