

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: General Services
Department No.: 063
For Agenda Of: November 13, 2012
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: General Services Bob Nisbet, Director (560-1011)
Contact Info: Robert Ooley, AIA County Architect (568-3085)
SUBJECT: **Authorize County Architect to seek Landmark Designations for the Santa Barbara Veterans Memorial Building; Second District**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: No

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: No

Other Concurrence:

As to form: No

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Authorize the County Architect to prepare and file a landmark nomination request for the Santa Barbara Veterans Memorial Building (Second District);
- b) Authorize the County Architect to prepare a National Register of Historic Places application for filing with the California Office of Historic Preservation; and
- c) Find that the filing of such requests is Categorically Exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and an administrative activity not constituting a "Project" within the meaning of CEQA, as set forth in 14 CCR 15378(b)(2).

Summary Text:

Each Boardmember received the attached letter from the Chair of the Santa Barbara County Veterans Services Committee. The letter requests that the Board consider requesting that the Santa Barbara Veterans Memorial Building be designated as a historical building. General Services agrees that the building should be submitted to the Santa Barbara City Historic Landmark Committee for formal designation.

The Santa Barbara Veterans Memorial Building was originally constructed in 1928 as a local dance hall and later converted into the present day Veterans Memorial Building in 1938. The site and buildings embody historic quality and are deserving of City Historic Landmark designation and very likely will qualify as a State Historic Landmark. The entire site has already been determined to qualify for the National Register of Historic Places.

Background:

The City of Santa Barbara had identified the site as a potential historic landmark in the early 1980s and is ready to take action to designate the site a City Historic Landmark upon the authorization of your Board. The City Landmarks Commission is the first step in the request with the Santa Barbara City Council in making the designation within a few days of the recommendation for designation.

Under another project, the site has undergone a CEQA/NEPA review as part of funding from HUD-CDBG. This review included a Section 106 review as required by National Historic Preservation Act and was determined to be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. A formal application for the Register designation was not required for the State Office of Historic Preservation to determine whether the site was eligible, only that the site meets the criteria to be eligible. Because there is already a significant amount of the research and documentation prepared, the effort to file a formal National Register request will be short, with a formal designation possible by the end of the year.

In addition, the State Office of Historic Preservation has been interested in conducting a “theme study,” where a group of similar buildings or sites are studied across the state. In recent years there has been interest in studying how Veterans Sites have impacted communities and the public’s value on these places that honor Veterans of Foreign Wars. This effort may take the better part of 2013 as the process makes its way through the Office of Historic Preservation. The documentation is almost identical to that used for the Registry Nomination, so there will be minimal duplication of effort.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

There are no impacts to budgets.

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
Total	\$ -	\$ -	

Staffing Impacts: None

<u>Legal Positions:</u>	<u>FTEs:</u>
0	0

Special Instructions:

Please forward one copy of the minute order to Robert Ooley, AIA County Architect, General Services Department - Support Services Division, Courthouse East Wing.

Attachments: Letter from Chairman, Santa Barbara County Veterans Advisory Committee