



## CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS STAFF REPORT

**Meeting Date:** October 6, 2009

**To:** Honorable Mayor & City Council

**From:** Steve Zoet, Assistant Director of Community Services/Recreation and Parks 

**Subject:** Proposed Installation of Historical Bridle Path Signage at Coldwater Park

**Attachments:** Project Illustrations

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### INTRODUCTION

This report is to request City Council's consideration and direction regarding a proposed site location and funding sources to design, construct and install replica signage of the old Bridle Path.

### DISCUSSION

It is the interest of the Community Services Department, the Beverly Hills Historical Society and the Beverly Hills Rotary Club to construct replica signage of *Ye Bridle Path* at a specified location in Coldwater Park that is in proximity to an old section of original Bridle Path. The Historical Society and Rotary Club have collectively committed funds, which total approximately eighty percent of the architect's anticipated costs of the project. The purpose of the proposed signage is to preserve a piece of Beverly Hills' history and to inform patrons of how the paths were used as an historical mode of transportation. An informational plaque would provide a history and orientation of the paths' existence and purpose within the City of Beverly Hills.

This is not an identified project within the City's approved 2009/10 Capital Improvement Projects program, however, staff anticipates the costs associated with the project to be rather small. Community Services Department staff made inquiries of organizations it felt likely to show an interest in and possibly financially support such a project in an effort to cover its estimated costs. Representatives of the Beverly Hills Historical Society and the Beverly Hills Rotary Club, both of whom have had a history of partnering with the City in the past on various historical preservation issues, presented the proposal to their membership. Both organizations showed an interest in the project and collectively committed funds sufficient to cover a majority of anticipated costs associated with the design, construction and placement of the replica signage and complementary improvements. Staff seeks City Council's approval to commit the balance of monies

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needed to cover the landscape architect's preliminary cost estimates for the project as identified within the Fiscal Impact report noted below.

In addition to the nominal amount needed to cover the balance of funds, staff is also desirous of making some other basic site improvements that were previously intended to occur. As part of the construction of the adjacent Coldwater Reservoir, staff had previously negotiated with the selected contractor to use this portion of the park as a staging area for their construction needs. The intention called for the contractor to make site improvements to the area upon completion of the project and their vacating the site as significant damage would have occurred as a result of their interim use.

Staff delayed intended improvements to the site due to this mutually beneficial proposed use of the location. The contractor found alternative options for their staging needs, however, and this intended use, including the planned renovation that would have occurred, was never realized. As staff have always desired improvements to the area, including an updated irrigation system, removal of a concrete pad that remains after the demolition of an unsafe gazebo, and some new landscape features, we are asking for City Council's consideration and approval to commit an anticipated additional \$30,000 from existing parks CIP funds to aid in renovating this area as previously intended and to complement the proposed new Bridle Path signage. Staff is hopeful to negotiate a possible change order with an existing CIP contractor to save on mobilization and related start-up costs.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Funding to cover the anticipated costs for the proposed signage as estimated by the City's consultant would come from the following sources:

- Beverly Hills Rotary Club           \$8,500
- Beverly Hills Historical Society   5,000
- City of Beverly Hills                 3,500
- \$17,000

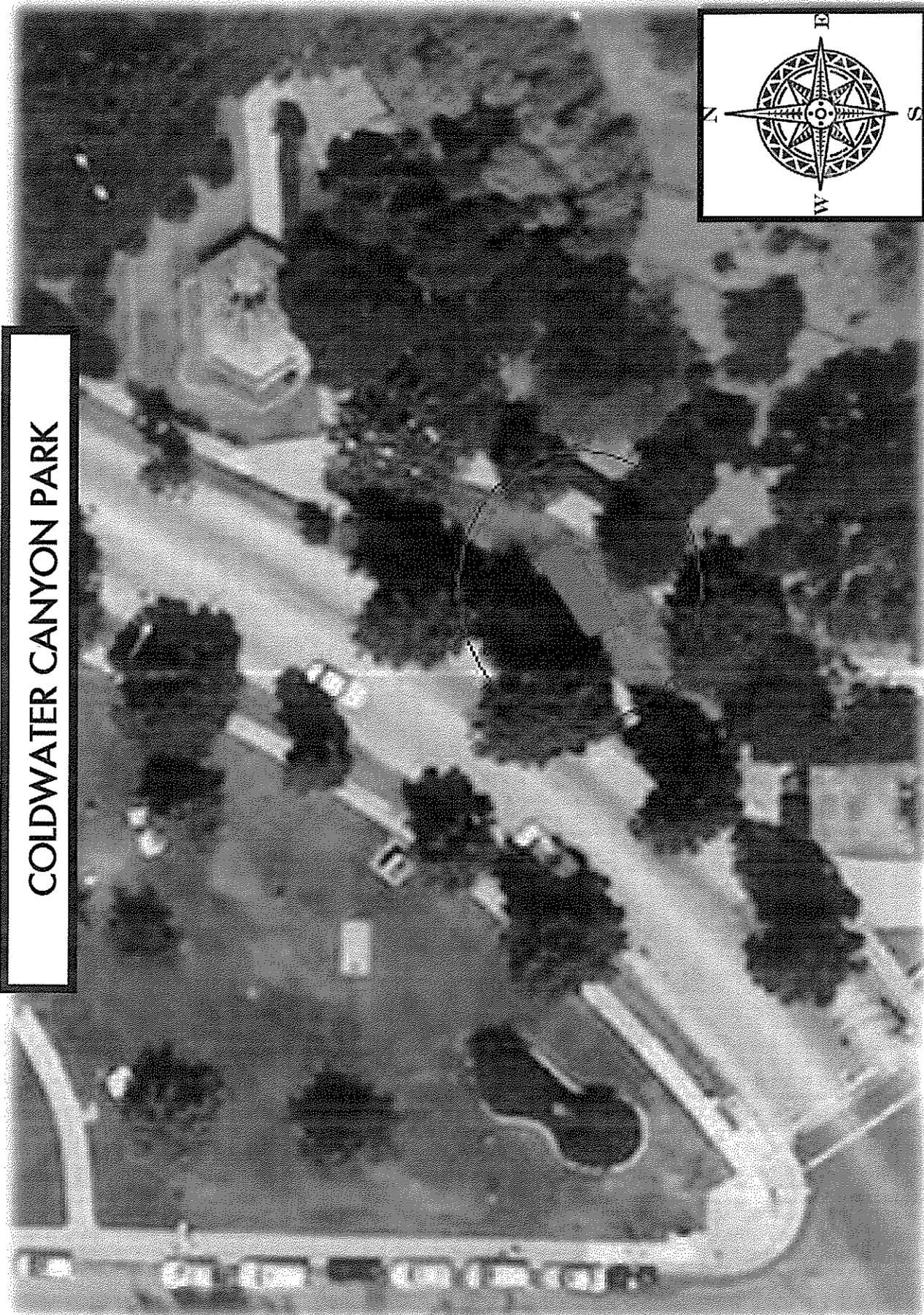
The above referenced City contribution, along with additional funds to cover anticipated costs associated with desired complementary site improvements in the sum of \$30,000, would come from the following funded source:

Project 35160315-85040 Park Facility Maintenance/CIP Construction

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Staff seeks City Council approval to proceed with the design and construction of the replica Bridle Path historical signage as presented. This item was initially presented to the Recreation and Parks Commission at their February 24, 2009 meeting and was unanimously endorsed for proposed location, materials and funding sources.

Steve Miller  
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 Approved By



COLDWATER CANYON PARK

