



Hon. Charles C. Dail, Mayor and Members of the San Diego City Council San Diego, California

Dear Sirs:

This refers to the report of the Balboa Park Citizens Study Committee in 1957, in which numerous recommendations for improvements to the Park were made.

Insofar as it is known, no action has been initiated on these recommendations, nor has the report been brought up for public discussion. Considerable time has elapsed since publication of the report.

Please advise the San Diego County Grand Jury the reaction of the Council on this report and if action has been taken, or if none, what action the Council intends to take.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Ernest L. Chezem

Ernest L. Chezem, Foreman San Diego County Grand Jury

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OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

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July 1, 1958

Mr. Ernest L. Chezem, Foreman San Diego County Grand Jury Civic Center San Diego, California

Dear Mr. Chezen:

Your letter of June 21, addressed to the Mayor and City Council, relating to the status of the report of the Balboa Park Citizens Committee, has been referred to this office for review and reply. I am pleased to have the opportunity to apprise the Grand Jury of the important steps that have been taken by the City Council, the various City Commissions and the administrative forces relating to the formal consideration of a master plan for Balboa Park as recommended by the Citizens Committee.

On January 27, 1958 a joint workshop meeting was held by the Park & Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission with the City's administrative and planning staff. The purpose of this meeting was to review the Citizens Committee conclusions and to propose effective techniques and procedures for the development and subsequent adoption of a master plan for Balboa Park. These commissions concluded that the recommendations of the Citizens Committee should be adopted as a guide for the establishment of a master plan for Balboa Park and they proposed the following procedure and program assignments be utilized in accompliahing this end:

- 1. That the city staffs prepare a basic land use plan of Balboa Park.
- 2. That after discussions by the Park & Recreation and City Planning Commissions, official hearings be held and a basic land use plan adopted.
- 3. That a firm of Engineering Consultants be employed to prepare a complete survey for the buildings, electrical equipment, foundations, structures, etc.
- 4. That said firm prepare a report of the life expectancy and maintenance costs of the various park buildings.
- 5. That city staffs prepare a report on the size, needs and types of uses to be accommodated in the park.
- 6. That the Park & Recreation and City Planning Commissions hold public hearings, to give the various interested citizens' groups an opportunity to express their views relative to uses, size, and allocations of park space.
- 7. That eminently qualified architects and park consultants be employed to plan building locations and landscaping of the "Exposition Area" of Belboa Park, in accordance with the basic land plan space



7. (Cont'd.)

allocations, and types of uses to be approved within the park.

- 8. That city staffs prepare plans for arterial streets, park roads and parking lots based on the needs, building plan locations and landscape designs.
- 9. That city staffs design landscape and development plans of the active recreational areas of the park.
- 10. That city staffs design general landscape plan of all portions of Balboa Park excepting the "Exposition Area."
- 11. That the various consultants, city staffs and commissions develop a complete Master Plan of Balboa Park.

The City Council approved the recommendations of these commissions in conference on March 11, 1958 and authorized the City Manager to employ the necessary consultants to assist in the technical aspects of this work whichwill lead to the implementation of general policies and conclusions of this citizens committee as summarized on Pages 8 through 11 of their report. The City Council is of the opinion, however, that since the conclusions of the Citizens Committee have received wide attention and inasmuch as meetings have already taken place by the affected commissions that additional hearings will be restricted to the official public hearing to be held by the City Council.

On the basis of this action, we have determined the subject matter areas in which consultative and technical assistance are both necessary and desirable. Subsequently, I have communicated with the country's leading park planning consultants in order to further define the scope of this project and to establish definate working procedures and relationships. It is anticipated that a progressive program of action, terminating with formal hearings for the adoption of a master plan for Balboa Park, will be outlined to the City Council in the very near future.

Very truly yours,

George E. Bean City Manager

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cc: City Clerk √