



Metro

**PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE
July 16, 2008**

SUBJECT: HOLLYWOOD WALK OF FAME

ACTION: RECEIVE AND FILE

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the Hollywood Walk of Fame Status Report.

ISSUE:

At the April 2008 meeting, the Board approved a motion by Director Yaroslavsky directing the Chief Executive Officer to take a leadership role in initiating discussions with all interested parties to develop a commitment plan among the City of Los Angeles (City), Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority and other affected parties to repair/replace damaged and/or unsafe areas of the terrazzo tile sidewalks along the Hollywood Walk of Fame (Walk), subject to the Board's approval, and the report back to the Board within 90 days on progress toward a plan to effectuate those goals.

BACKGROUND:

We and the City have been working with the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) since 2006 to assess the conditions and causes of damage to the black terrazzo sidewalks along the Walk and have collaborated to develop new specifications and construction methods to improve upon the original terrazzo sidewalk design. The Walk consists of pink terrazzo stars within black terrazzo panels which, in turn, contain bronze stars outlining the names of prominent entertainers, directors, producers and others, signifying which of the four forms of entertainment (Theatre, Film, Television or Radio) the person honored has contributed and is therefore being honored.

The Walk is located on both sides of Hollywood Boulevard running east to west from Gower Street to La Brea Avenue and also on Vine Street running north to south from Yucca Street to Sunset Boulevard. There is assorted damage to many section of the Walk, with the most extensive damage due to the inadequacy of the original Walk's terrazzo design and its inability to resist thermal expansion caused by prolonged exposure to the sun. Although there have been intermittent repairs to the Walk over the past 50 years, the current condition of the sidewalks has become

unsightly and potentially dangerous to the many thousands of pedestrians who frequent the area.

In 2007 we, along with the City, the Chamber, with funding from the Hollywood Historic Trust (Trust) and the owner of the Hollywood/Highland Center, contributed equally to the cost of installation of a test-strip to repair damage to the Walk along the northwest corner of Hollywood and Highland. The test-strip that was constructed from specifications developed by our and the City's terrazzo consultant has proven successful as the desired repair method.

The City has also prepared a repair assessment report which all parties are now evaluating in order to develop a repair plan for the entire Walk, subject to funding availability, and an initial plan is also being developed to fund a limited portion of the Walk on Hollywood Boulevard along the north side of the Walk of Fame between Highland Avenue and Orange Drive. The initial assessment indicates that the total costs of repair/replacement, including engineering fees, construction management, inspection fees, escalation and contingency is approximately \$4.1 million.

In the interim, several meetings among the City, the Chamber, the Trust and other interested parties have been held and we have taken the lead in preparing and finalizing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish a Walk of Fame Restoration Committee (Committee) to oversee the proposed funding, repair, oversight and operational responsibilities of the parties.

In addition to securing direct contributions from affected parties, the Committee intends to continue its efforts to secure corporate, local business and individual contributions for funding and will establish priorities and sequencing for Walk repair/replacement. Commitments for funding have been tentatively secured from the Trust as well as from several corporate sponsors and continuing efforts on all fronts are underway, including plans for public outreach and education through advertising, the internet and other means.

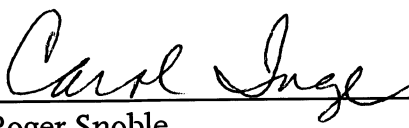
NEXT STEPS:

We intend to finalize the MOU and continue efforts to secure funding from the various agencies and affected parties as well as corporate and general public sources. The MOU will establish regular meetings and will allow the Committee to oversee the estimating and contractor selection process as well as the assignment of responsibilities for continued funding, engineering, construction, permitting and oversight of the project.

We will provide regular progress reports to the Board in the coming months, including contractor selection, projected repair/replacement schedules and milestones and funding.



Roger Moliere
Chief, Real Property Management & Development



Roger Snoble
Chief Executive Officer