



Agenda Item #: _____

Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Tell and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Geoff Dolan, City Manager

FROM: Lindy Coe-Juell, Assistant to the City Manager
Leadership Manhattan Beach, Class of 2007

DATE: February 6, 2007

SUBJECT: Presentation of the Proposed 2007 Leadership Manhattan Beach Project to Refurbish the Exterior of the Lifeguard Tower on the Pier Including Replacement of the Clock

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that City Council discuss, support and provide direction as appropriate for the Leadership Manhattan Beach Class of 2007's project to refresh the appearance of the lifeguard tower building at the entrance to the Manhattan Beach Pier.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

There are no fiscal implications associated with the recommended action.

- The 2007 Leadership class will provide funding to purchase and install the new clock and sign.
- The Los Angeles County Beaches and Harbor Commission will provide paint and other materials needed to paint and clean the tower.
- The Leadership class of 28 members will provide the labor to repaint the tower.

BACKGROUND:

Leadership Manhattan Beach is an ongoing community leadership development program designed to identify and educate existing and potential community leaders, increase their knowledge of the Manhattan Beach community and develop a growing network of individuals who can help each other solve community problems. This year's class includes 28 members made up of a mix of local high school students, business leaders, career professionals and city employees.

In a nine month course, participants explore the governmental, economic, environmental, educational and social systems of Manhattan Beach. The first half of the nine month course provides opportunities for participants to learn about their community, to enhance their leadership skills and to explore current issues through conversations with civic leaders and corporate sponsors, seminars, field trips and a weekend leadership retreat. The second half of the program is devoted to developing and implementing, as a class, a project that will significantly benefit the

community.

This year's class selected project – the refreshment of the Manhattan Beach Pier Lifeguard Tower – is unique in that it encompasses both the city and county governments. Because the lifeguard tower is Los Angeles County property, we have worked diligently to ensure the support and approval from both governmental entities. During the last three months, the Leadership class met with several city and county officials in order to ensure that our project would be successful.

In November 2006, we conducted preliminary project discussions with several Manhattan Beach City Council members and City Manager, Geoff Dolan. Our proposed plan to refresh the lifeguard tower was well received by these city officials. Next, we met with Los Angeles County officials, including Wayne Schumaker, Division Chief of Facilities & Property Maintenance, to discuss feasibility of the project. We also consulted Chief Michael Frazer, Los Angeles County Fire Department, Lifeguard Division, and Section Chief Garth Canning, Los Angeles County Fire Department, Lifeguard Division, on the possibility of restoring the Lifeguard Operation sign. Finally, on January 24, 2007, we presented the project proposal to the Los Angeles County Beach Commission. The commission voted unanimously to approve this project.

We will continue to seek involvement from appropriate city and county officials in the project as we proceed.

DISCUSSION:

Rationale for the Project

The Manhattan Beach Pier serves as "the" symbol for Manhattan Beach. It has appeared in many works of art and is visited by thousands of visitors every year. The lifeguard tower, located at the Pier's entrance, is an integral part of the Pier and, as such, is an important part of the image of our city. However, in recent years the appearance of the lifeguard tower has deteriorated: the paint has faded, the metal work is rusting, and the woodwork has lost its finish. Even more telling, a large clock, once occupying a prominent place on the tower where it was regularly viewed by the community as well as beach visitors, has disappeared entirely.

Project Scope

This year's Leadership class has proposed refreshing the lifeguard tower's appearance. This project will not change the general appearance of the tower. We do not propose to "make over" the tower, only to restore it to its original appearance. The main contribution from the class to this project would be to purchase and install a large, flush mounted tower clock to the upper south wall of the structure where the entire community would enjoy its use for years to come. The Leadership class has already received Los Angeles county approval to purchase and install the tower clock.

Fundraising

In order to raise money for this project, the Leadership class will hold a fund-raising event on Sunday, March 11, 2007 from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at Towne Restaurant in Manhattan Beach. The event will be catered by Towne Restaurant and there will be a silent auction of goods/services donated by local merchants. The class will sell tickets for this event at \$35.00 per person. Tickets will also be available at the door on March 11, 2007. In addition to the Towne

fundraising event, the Leadership class may conduct additional fundraising activities in order to raise enough money to complete the project.

Four Phases to the Project

There are four phases to this project, which include: (1) repairing structural damage to the tower, (2) painting/cleaning, (3) replacing the clock, and (4) replacing the lifeguard operations sign. We plan to complete the project by the end of April 2007.

Phase I: Repairing Structural Damage

Phase I of the project has already begun. In late December 2006, the Los Angeles County Facilities and Property Division repaired major structural damage to the first level of the lifeguard tower including damage to the first level office entrance, stucco damage, and a broken water fountain.

Phase II: Painting/Cleaning

The second phase of the project will occur during the weekend of April 13-15th, 2007. On this weekend, the Leadership class will repaint the structure, including both outer walls and metal work, in addition to cleaning and performing other minor maintenance tasks that are needed to restore the appearance of the tower.

Phase III: Replacement of the Clock

The third phase of the project – the installment of a new clock for the lifeguard tower – is projected to begin April 20-22nd, 2007. The new clock will measure three feet in diameter and will have the capability to self-adjust its time setting after any power loss. The clock will also have associated electronics for setting the time remotely, if necessary.

Phase IV: Replacement of the Lifeguard Operation Sign

In addition to replacement of the clock, we envision that this project will also encompass replacement of the lifeguard operation sign. We are currently evaluating the possibility of replacing or restoring the small lifeguard operation sign attached to the building. Most importantly, the Leadership class is pursuing every effort to add "Manhattan Beach" to the new lifeguard operation sign.

Clock Dedication

On or about Saturday, April 28th, 2007, the Leadership class will dedicate the clock to the City of Manhattan Beach and the County of Los Angeles. The clock will be revealed for the first time to the public. We plan to ask members of the City Council, as well as Los Angeles Beaches and Harbor Commission, to speak at this event.

Attachments: Photographs of the Manhattan Beach Pier Lifeguard Tower (Fall 2006)

