# **Balboa Island Benches and Community Recommendation Report**

Presented by BIPA to PB&R Ad Hoc Committee September 5, 2021



Wood benches on Balboa Island

Marine Ave Wood Bench in the 1950's



Marine Ave, Mayor O'Neill and Councilman Blom

Refinished Jatoba Bench on Marine Ave, 2020



Balboa Island Boardwalk

## Balboa Island Benches and Community Recommendation Report

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- 1. Balboa Island Budget used for Bayside Drive Benches/Trash Cans
- 2. Article, Jan 29, 2020 "Costly wooden benches are on their way out
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#### Staff Report to City Council, RAMCO Bid – January 28, 2020

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DM Braum, Laguna Hills

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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

September 5, 2021

City of Newport Beach
Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission
Ad Hoc Committee Members
Diane Daruty, Chair
Laird Hayes, Commissioner
David Granoff, Commissioner

Re: Balboa Island Benches

Dear PB&R Ad Hoc Committee:

The Balboa Island Preservation Association, on behalf of the residents and community of Balboa Island, is very interested in finding a way to retain and maintain the iconic wood benches currently on Balboa Island. Our group of citizen volunteers has spent countless hours over the last two years collecting relevant information about the different wood species, product details, maintenance requirements and cost options, documenting the benches with photos and compiling a list of bench donors, as well as soliciting vital community input on the benches.

Balboa Island's wooden benches along Marine Avenue and the Bayfront are enjoyed and cherished by residents and visitors alike and are a major tourist draw - constantly photographed by visitors and tourism groups. Most were given to the City by private donors who paid for the original cost as well as a lump sum for the initial ongoing maintenance; saving the city almost 250,000.00 for 109 benches.

Private donors and Balboa Island residents remain motivated to keep the wood benches on both Marine Ave and the Bayfront.

Many of the existing Bayfront teak benches (dating from the mid '90s) are now nearing the end of their useful life. We believe the most cost-effective and environmentally-sustainable solution is to procure and install new Jatoba (Brazilian Cherrywood) benches (the same ones located on Marine Avenue) to replace the Bayfront teak benches as and when they need replacement. Our plan is a cost-effective, community-driven approach to maintain the tradition and character of our iconic, historic look on the Island, while substantially reducing costs.

Brazilian Cherrywood is a sustainable hardwood known for its durability and strength, being many times denser than teak, with a long useful life well in excess of the anticipated ten-year lifespan of concrete and plastic alternatives. The Brazilian Cherrywood benches can be resealed approximately every two or three years to increase their useful life. The City Council unanimously selected the Brazilian Cherrywood benches for Marine Avenue in 2004, upon overwhelming community input and support, and the unanimous recommendation of the City Public Works, Planning and General Services Departments.

BIPA commissioned a poll of Balboa Island residents concerning their choice for bench replacement. <u>Over 90%</u> selected the Brazilian Cherrywood benches over the plastic and concrete alternatives.

Enclosed for your review and consideration is supporting documentation and cost analysis for the proposed plan to retain and maintain Balboa Island's benches. This approach also provides a significant reduction in both short and long-term costs to the City and the taxpayers of Balboa Island.

As part of the liaison process adopted by the Commission, the BIPA and our board members stand ready to meet with the Ad Hoc Committee members to provide further community input and respond to any questions the Committee may have regarding the information attached.

#### **Balboa Island Preservation Association**

## **COMMUNITY SURVEY**

## Balboa Island Preservation Association



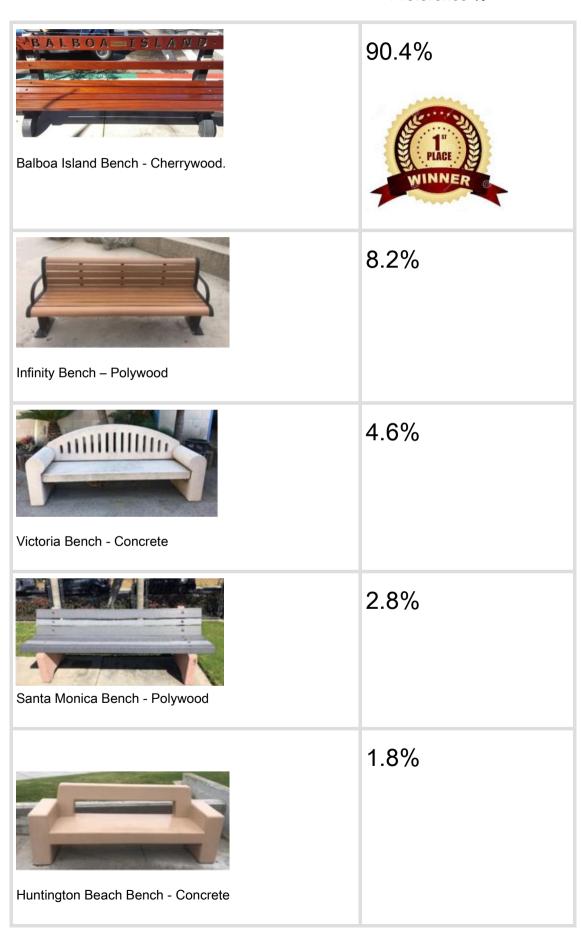
## Benches, Street lamps, Trees and BI Preservation

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

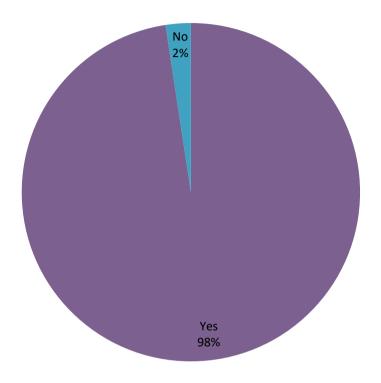
May 10, 2020

1. The City of Newport Beach has recently proposed to replace all the wood benches on Balboa Island (along the boardwalks and Marine Ave). Vote for your bench preference:

Preference %

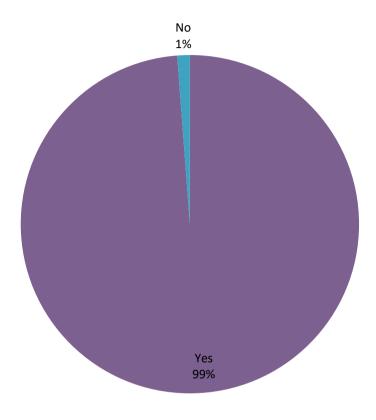


2. As part of the redevelopment infrastructure project, the City of Newport Beach is considering replacing the existing historical street lamps on Balboa Island, including on Marine Ave. Do you support retaining the existing street lamps and only replace the filaments if necessary?



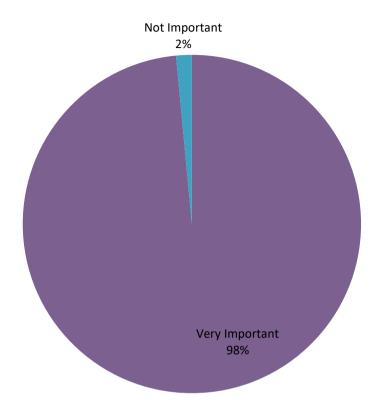
Value	Percent
Yes	97.6%
No	2.4%

3. While the City considers future infrastructure upgrades, do you believe all reasonable efforts should be taken to preserve the many historical elements on Balboa Island, such as utilizing professional preservation approaches and engineering practices?



Value	Percent
Yes	98.8%
No	1.2%

4. How important is keeping Marine Ave quaint and historical, including keeping our designated 'Special' eucalyptus trees, wooden benches and existing street lamps?



Value	Percent
Very Important	98.5%
Not Important	2%

#### EMAILS IN SUPPORT OF WOOD BENCHES

## Save our original charm!

Inbox

Susan Bartoletti 3:29 PM (18 minutes ago)

to me

Please save our original charm of Balboa Island. Concrete benches get very dirty and always snag clothes. Plastic benches look cheap. Who is behind this stupid idea???

Happy Labor Day weekend!

\_\_\_\_\_

#### SAVE THE WOOD BENCHES ON BALBOA ISLAND

Inbox

Jennifer Samuel 1:59 PM (51 minutes ago)

to me

Here we go at again, just like with our beautiful eucalyptus trees, we have to fight for our beautiful wood benches. Who are these people who want to put ugly metal or concrete benches? They need to go live some place else. We are trying to preserve the beauty of our iconic Island. We who live here enjoy and appreciate its beauty. Balboa Island has a wonderful charm for us and our visitors to enjoy., and the wooden benches are a part of the total beautiful downtown.

Sent from my iPhone

\_\_\_\_\_\_

-----Forwarded message ------

From: **Dennis K** <dskristan@earthlink.net> Date: Mon, Aug 23, 2021 at 1:26 AM Subject: Balboa Island wood benches To: <jim@balboaislandpa.com>

Cc: Jodi Boles <jodipatrich@gmail.com>

Dear Jim.

I am an island homeowner at 229 Pearl Ave. and I am very opposed to getting rid of our Island's wood benches. When I purchased our bench it was my understanding it was to be a permanent bench on Marine, maintained by the city. It certainly was not to be a temporary placement. The wooden benches add to the quaint beach village atmosphere we love about Balboa Island. Beside the aesthetics of the benches, this particular bench was donated in the name of my father who as a Marine fought in both World War II, in the South Pacific, and on the Korean Peninsula during the Korean War. That is important to our family. Because if that, I am also happy to augment the cost of maintenance of that bench if that seems necessary in the off years of the city's obligation.

Sincerely, Dennis Kristan

#### Page 2.

## **Wood Benches**

Inbox

Matthew Pour < matthew@balboaislandmerchantsassociation.com>

2:07 PM (46 minutes ago)

to me

As the President of the Balboa Island Merchant Association, I am writing on behalf of the merchants on Balboa Island.

It has been a difficult time for businesses on Balboa Island and we count on our representatives to do the right thing. The wood benches on Balboa Island are comfortable, attractive and convey the image of a charming and inviting tourist area. Many of the merchants took a poll a few years ago and the consensus was they DO NOT want to see plastic or concrete replace the beautiful and iconic wood benches that have graced the island for many years.

It is important that the city provide regular and routine maintenance as this is the responsibility of our public works department, and to meet the demand of what the community wants.

As in **PUBLIC** works.

#### **Matthew Pour**

Balboa Island Merchant's Association Founder-CEO "BIMA"

Keep the Wood Benches!!

Inbox

Jill Mainard

3:12 PM (27
minutes ago)

to me

When (Jill Stouse Mainard) we purchased the bench for\$2,865 (15 years ago) in memory of Mom n Dad Stouse it was forever.

The bench was to be maintained as is; by the city of Newport Beach in the agreement we signed up for. It was purchased as a very special donation for memories of family time on Balboa Island . Mr. and Mrs Stouse Mainard .

Local home owner of Newport Beach, Balboa.

Sent from my iPhone Jill Mainard

#### Maintain the wood benches

Inbox

#### **Lyndon Taylor**

to me

As a past Balboa Island resident and now frequent guest, the wooden benches around the island boardwalk are one aspect of what makes Balboa Island unique and charming. I remember these benches from years ago when I lived on the Island, and I believe the city should do its job and maintain these benches to keep the charm of the island alive. It would be a real shame to see ugly concrete or faux wood in their place.

I vote YES - KEEP the WOOD BENCHES!

Dr. Lyndon Taylor Sent from my iPad

## Save our history and charm

Inbox

Carol Bryan 2:00 PM (55 minutes ago)

to me

Wooden benches, like the eucalyptus trees and original cottages, are part of the iconic and historic image of Balboa Island. Loss of any of these diminishes the unique charm of our beloved home and renders in its place a village without a heart.

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Marine Avenue wood benches

Inbox

#### mammacub2@reagan.com

4:54 PM (1 hour ago)

to me

Dear Jodi,

The wood benches with donor plaques are a wonderful feature of Marine Avenue. These are welcome and well used, usually by husbands waiting for their wives to enjoy shopping there.

Last year or before, I remember there was a resident survey offering alternatives to the wooden benches. There was overwhelmingly result for keeping and maintaining the wooden benches.

However, it looks like they are being neglected and need up-keep/refreshing. Pretty sure city must have budgeted maintenance for such things on Marine Avenue.

Vicki Cubeiro Harbor Island Drive 25 year resident

#### **BENCHES**

Inbox

Gregory Cox 2:02 PM (55 minutes ago)

to me

The wooden benches speak of the authenticity of the unique character of Balboa Island. Replacing them with plastic copies is a guaranteed path to a loss of design, tradition and history. Best,
Grégory

#### **Grégory Pierre Cox**

Vice President of Development and External Relations | Pacific Symphony t: (714) 876-2398 | m: (310) 882-8259 | e: GCox@PacificSymphony.org

#### Page 4.

From: B. C. Clerx < bclerx@aol.com >

Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 10:19 AM

To: Jim M < iim@balboaislandpa.com >

Subject: Re: Wood Benches

Jim,

I am in favor of keeping the original wooden benches and plaques. The cheap benches proposed by the city are not appropriate for Newport Beach, and would likely require a similar cost to maintain. The cost to install new benches will be far more than maintaining the existing benches. Concrete benches will cost even more. Just to move them, or maintain them will, will involve large costs. Those high costs and man-hours are more difficult to estimate compared to the known costs of the existing benches. A civil engineer should be able to provide numbers that can support retaining the original wooden benches.

Ben Clerx

#### Wood Benches Inbox ×

← Pam Phillips

to me 🔻

Jodi.

We would like to keep our wood benches located on Marine Ave., Balboa Island.

Thank you

Maxwell Phillips
JP Maxwell

.....

#### SAVE THE BENCHES ON BALBOA ISLAND

Inbox

#### joelmarkss@aol.com

4:08 PM (0 minutes ago)

Dear PB&R: My wife Ann and I live at 126 Apolena Ave. Balboa Island. Most every day weather permitting we go to the end of our street at South Bay and sit on the and beautiful and pretty comfortable wooded benches, watch the boats, talk to the walkers and visit with out neighbors. As the Island is a unique!

#### PLEASE HELP US SAVE the WOOD BENCHES ON BI

Inbox



Sonia Derryberry

8:24 PM (27 minutes ago)

to me

Yes! save the Benches! We have so many family pictures sitting on those benches, adds charm to the island Sonia Derryberry

## **Balboa Island Benches**

Inbox

Pat Makris
6:14 PM (28
minutes ago)

to me

This email is to **the members of the PB&R Committee** and to the aldermen of Newport Beach but is being sent to Jodi of BIPA for handling.

I am in total disbelief of a city employee's attempt to take away our gorgeous wooden benches on Balboa Island on Marine as well as at our bay fronts. Where in the world would a city employee get the power and the ability to go against a community's almost unanimous wishes, when \$\$ or public safety is not a factor?

Our community is tight knit, and we like Balboa Island the way it was and somewhat still is, but it seems as though there are those on the city payroll who want to change our community or hurt our sense of pride...i.e. the trees, the overall look of Marine Avenue, the distinct village atmosphere, the almost Disneyland appearance of our friendly conclave.

My wife and I are in total support of the BIPA plan to preserve the already donated memorial wooden benches, and in fact, would like to "buy one" through a donation for the memory of our parents if allowed. Like many residents, we are willing to contribute handsomely to keep the stained wood on the island and to create a maintenance fund for perpetuity if needed, but I thought there was already a fund in the city budget for annual maintenance. What has happened to that budget line for the last # of years?

Many years of memories of our particular lives and that of our children have taken place on those wood classy benches. In fact, it is the same throughout the community, why do you think there was a close to unanimous response to keep and support the existing wooden benches? That is a community coming together, not drifting apart like so many groups in these times. Regardless of political bent, we have come together on the issues of the trees and now the benches, and will continue to, when the peaceful tranquility and uniqueness of this classy little island in the Pacific is threatened, especially when city \$\$ or public safety is NOT concerned.

Too much government overreach and in this case, it is an employee of the city, who doesn't even live here on the island. "Leave us alone" on these issues of our traditions & atmosphere. Work with us on public safety and long-term planning, flood control, utilities, etc.... but it is a neighborhood like no other. And we want to remain that way, and the wooden stained benches are a key part of that neighborhood feel and look.

Look at the islands of Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Mackinac Island, Mercer Island, Bainbridge Island, and the list goes on.....all have beautiful, classy comfortable, welcoming benches....not concrete or plastic. Do a Google search, you will see. I will support ANY initiative to keep what we have, maintain them, and expand them where needed.

"Keep Balboa Island, Bucolic and a Place Like No Other"

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## **Benches**

Inbox

Shawn Mastos 11:30 AM (31 minutes ago)

to me

To whom it may concern. I have lived here 30 years. Are benches are our history. Of friends and loved ones, who have tribute paid to them. They belong to the people. I am requesting to please fix them up. Keep our history going. And keep the economy going giving a job to someone, who want to fix them. Thanks Shawn Mastos.

Sent from my iPhone

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#### SAVE WOOD BENCHES ON BALBOA ISLAND

Inbox

Alan Muney 1:54 PM (51 minutes ago)

to me

The wooden benches are beautiful and should be restored or replaced by wooden ones. They add wonderful character and warmth to the islands.

The replacement of them by anything plastic or concrete would be a shame and cheapen the look and feel of the community. I am willing to contribute/sponsor restoring a bench on the little balboa island.

Alan Muney MD 112 Abalone Avenue 92662

\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Re: Please keep the benches!

Inbox

jdfritz@aol.com

2:04 PM (56
minutes ago)

to me

The wooden benches (and ones that people were kind enough to pay for) are part of our Island. I feel we need to keep more of the nostalgia here. So grateful we were able to keep our beautiful trees. The concrete and plastic benches are NOT pretty, and not comfortable either. So much is changing in our lives...and Balboa Island is precious to so many of us old-timers. Let us keep "our look"

#### Wood bench

Inbox



Miriam Baker 1:59 PM (48 minutes ago)

to me

The benches we have now are comfortable, good looking and easily sanded and refinished for \$400.00 each for 2 years. My sculpture sits on a bench on the Bayside and the Balboa Island Yacht Clubs meets annually. Keeping and refinishing these existing benches should be done immediately; we have waited many years with no maintenance from the city.

We pay huge property taxes and we deserve better!

Thank you, Miriam Baker

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### Maintain the wood benches

Inbox

David Rose

11:40 AM (24
minutes ago)

to me

They add to the charm of our island. Let's maintain them. Sent from my iPhone

## The Wood Benches Belong Here!



**Mary Ker** 

2:07 PM (59 minutes ago)

to me

They belong here because they have been <u>donated by residents</u>, some of whom I have known. Nobody wants those ugly concrete/plastic benches! I know you're not asking for donations, but when that time comes, I'm already stuck with undergrounding expenses. I fear it's going to be one thing after another, and it is the city's responsibility to pay for the upkeep of our island. I certainly hope we don't lose the benches. It makes me wonder what's next?

Mary

\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Keep and Maintain the Benches

Inbox

Fred 2:26 PM (45 minutes ago)

to me

The current benches were sold at a cost of \$1000 <u>PLUS</u> each. Part of that price was to find the purchase of the bench and another \$1000 was to be set aside to provide for the maintenance of those benches in perpetuity. I don't understand why there is any discussion about replacing them as I believe the city is obligated to continue maintaining them.

Sent from my iPhone

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### SAVE THE WOOD BENCHES ON BI

Inbox

#### **Gwen Cruttenden**

2:30 PM (47 minutes ago)

Unlike most Newport residents (and the rest of my Cruttenden family), I grew up in a small quaint southern town. Complete with brick buildings, cute shops, and classic welcoming benches lining the Main Street. I know - Newport is not Georgia. But there's one thing I know. People love the classic historic look of our island. It's a refreshing stop along the glitz and glamor of the rest of the city.

Please be smart. Maintain the already lovely and appropriate wood benches. Do not replace them with plastic or concrete benches. Every other town I know takes pride in maintaining the look, integrity, and cleanliness of their main streets. It's time Newport starts caring about the look of our island.

Thank you. Gwen Cruttenden

Sent from my iPhone

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#### **WOOD BENCHES**

Inbox

john@defrenza.com <john@defrenza.com>

2:44 PM (38 minutes ago)

to me

#### Retain and Maintain.

John De Frenza

.....

#### SAVE THE WOOD BENCHES ON BI

Inbox

#### kewhite546@gmail.com

2:58 PM (25 minutes ago)

My sister and I along with our husbands bought a bench in honor of our parents the year they were first introduced. There is a special dedication plaque on it like all the others. I feel very strongly that these benches should be restored and maintained. I am confident people would be willing to contribute to a fund for this as long as the city does their part in maintaining them. My family had been on the island since 1916 and I feel these benches are a big part of our special history.

I have asked people sitting on them as I walk by and they all want them to remain with some restoration done.

Thank- you, Kathy White

\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Why is this an issue?

Inbox

#### JAMES SHELTON

3:03 PM (23 minutes ago)

RETAIN the wood benches! I am not sure WHY this continues to be an issue. I thought we voted overwhelmingly to keep them! NO concrete benches.!!!! They are ugly, expensive and uncomfortable!

PLEASE try to keep some of the charm that we have had on the island for the past 50 years!

Sent from my iPad

#### Page 9.

Inbox

debora robinson 5:58 PM (3 minutes ago)

Please save the wood benches. Keep the charm of the Island and the bayfront. Our Island needs to remain quaint and understated.

#### WOOD BENCHES ON BALBOA ISLAND

Inbox

Marcy Cook 5:43 PM (15 minutes ago)

to me

Balboa Island has always been known as charming and the wooden benches add to the charm. Concrete or metal benches would redefine us as having benches that appear institutionalized or modernized. Our quaint shopping street needs to be maintained and sterile benches would contribute to the island losing its charm.

SAVE what little we can to keep our charming island.

Sent from Marcy's iPhone

#### SAVE The Wood Benches!!

Inbox

#### **Curt Mainard**

When my wife and I purchased the bench we were told that the city would maintain them. Now the city public works department want to get rid of them. This completely unacceptable, since all of us who paid for them technically own them. Dave Webb doesn't have the right to eliminate them since we all own them. In addition, these benches were purchased in memory of loved ones. Eliminating the benches would eliminate our loved ones memory. Again this completely unacceptable!

Curt Mainard, Husband of Jill Stouse Mainard Sent from my iPhone

\_\_\_\_\_\_

### No Plastic or Concrete!!!

Inbox

Cynthia Carli

3:12 PM (29
minutes ago)

to me

Please keep the wood benches on the Island!!! No plastic or concrete!!! Please!!! The family at 122 Sapphire.

Inbox

#### Linda Fraker < ljfraker@me.com>

3:25 PM (20 minutes ago)

to me

Please Keep the Charm of Balboa Island!

I walk the island daily and see that the benches are used and used. The pretty wooden benches add charm and character to the island as do our beautiful bungalows, restaurants and shops. Maintaining our benches is exactly where our tax money should go. Property and sales taxes should be prioritized to stay local and be used to enhance our area. These dedicated benches are part of our charm. The city should be proud of them and keep them in pristine condition for the benefit of all as they do all the landscaping, etc. Hopefully we can keep them and have them maintained by the city of Newport Beach as they do so many of our other esthetic assets.

\_\_\_\_\_

## Keep our traditional wood benches

Inbox

Wendell Mortimer 5:45 PM (17 minutes ago)

We need to keep the traditional wood benches that make our island unique. Concrete or plastic benches would cheapen the whole look of the island that we treasure so much. Mort & Ceil Mortimer 212 Onyx.

#### SAVE the WOOD BENCHES ON BI

Inbox

Claudia Roxburgh 2:04 PM (58 minutes ago)

to me

Can't believe the bench issue is being discussed again. It was my understanding that the beautiful wooden benches were to be appropriately refinished. Many people who had donated in honor of a loved one, etc. even volunteered to pay for the refurbishing. We do not want ugly, "Industrial-strength" concrete/plastic benches on the Island. They don't fit the historical ambiance of this neighborhood. It never ceases to amaze me how the worst solution to any issue is always the one we have to fight to defeat. What are people thinking? If the City is objecting to the cost of refurbishment (**which as I recall they agreed to)** then why not ask for volunteers to sponsor each bench's maintenance. We have "adopt a pot" why not have "adopt a bench"? I for one would gladly pay for the regular tending of one of the beautiful wood benches. When I think of all the stupid stuff the city funds it is amazing to me that this is an issue at all. But then again, without the BIPA, we'd have palm trees on Marine Avenue. Enough said!

Claudia Roxburgh President

www.roxburgh.com

1024 Bayside Drive #368 Newport Beach, California 92660 Main: 714-556-4365 x2 Cell: 714-272-9210

#### Page 11.

#### Benches are part of history

Inbox



Davies, John

4:31 PM (27 minutes ago)

to me

The benches are part of island history, family names, generations and wood is lovely and part or our quaint island. Please keep them. Concrete and fake wood Is not the same.

Best wishes,

John

John B. Davies CLU, ChFC

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### Wood is Beautiful and Functional

Inbox

## joelmarkss@aol.com

4:38 PM (23 minutes ago)

to me

My wife Ann and I live at 126 Apolena Ave. Balboa Island. Weather permitting almost every afternoon at about 5:00 pm, we love to go to the end our street at South Bay, sit on the beautiful, comfortable wood benches and watch the boats, talk with the walkers and visit with our neighbors. Our Island is a unique place and therefore needs things that maybe a little different and even be more costly to maintain. From time to time we meet friends at South Bay and Topaz where the city has installed a concrete bench. It is not only ugly but VERY HARD! Cannot sit there very long!!!!!! If the city is so short on funds then remove all benches, post signs to sit on the sea wall. If all the benches are removed, then we can use our own chairs. Too bad for visitors - just keep walking. This would be a sad commentary on the City of Newport Beach and really sad and bad for us homeowners. I sincerely hope, and firmly believe that they want to, the City of Newport Beach City Council can find the funds to repair and replace as necessary our beautiful and functional wood benches!

Joel Markss

Keep Our Benches

Inbox

John Vallely

6:06 PM (0 minutes ago)

to me

These wood benches add soul to the island. Concrete or plastic would be a substantial downgrade. Sincerely,
John Vallely

#### No Plastic or Concrete Please

Inbox

Mary Dirk 5:14 PM (54 minutes ago)

to me

Please do not replace the wooden benches with ugly concrete or plastic benches!! Let's maintain the charm and comfort that the wood gives us. No one wants to sit on concrete or plastic. Many people relax on the benches to snack or wait for a table at the restaurants. Let's keep a comfortable and friendly atmosphere on our lovely island.

Mary Dirk Balboa Island

Sent from my iPhone

------

#### Keep the Wood Benches

Inbox

Barbara Nielsen

6:38 PM (2
hours ago)

to me

The wood benches on Balboa Island mean a lot to all of us on Balboa Island and they must be retained and maintained by the City. Court and Charlotte Hawkins sponsored their donor plaque at Collins many years ago. It had great meaning for them and it does now to their extended family. Court passed away last year. When I saw how badly the bench had deteriorated, I arranged to have it refurbished myself. These benches hold great memories and sentiment in their very bones. Please take care of them.

Barbara Nielsen

The Wood Benches Are Unique and Charming

Inbox

Carolyn Clark

6:50 PM (1
hour ago)

to me

Balboa Island is one of the few places in Newport Beach or all of Orange County that continues to maintain its charm and appeal to people of all ages! The benches are as unique as the location and people remark all the time about **how comfortable** they are!

Carolyn Clark
Newport at Your Feet
949-285-7558

#### SAVE the WOOD BENCHES ON BI

Inbox

Erin Walsh 6:44 PM (1 hour ago)

to James, me

The beautifully crafted wooden benches on Balboa Island have a classic esthetic that our community embraces. Since childhood I've loved sitting on our wooden benches for frozen banana treats or to catch an evening sunset with family and friends. These days, my niece, nephews and little cousins are enjoying those same benches! I came across a treasured family photo of the cousins lined up on a bench on Marine Ave. after a fun day at Ruby Beach and a stop for ice cream. It warms my heart to build these new memories. In closing, both quality and craftsmanship are very important to our family and I am strongly opposed to replacing the wooden benches.

Erin Walsh-Moloney Resident & Homeowner Balboa Island, CA

Sent from my iPhone

#### Where's Our New Councilman Blom?

Inbox

#### Al Katz <allankatzshieldshigh@gmail.com>

4:58 PM (6 minutes ago)

to me

To the City of Newport Beach:

My family and I purchased a wood bench several years ago and we never expected the city would be bold enough to remove it. We were told that if we paid for the bench and an additional cost to maintain it, the city would pick up the maintenance after the initial cost was depleted. Where is our Councilman to support the Will of the People? I voted out our last Councilman Jeff Herdman because he did not listen to what the community wanted. I can vote out another one if Councilman Blom does not listen to those who voted him into office.

We need our island maintained and it has not been the attention of the city for some time now. Disappointing.

Allan Katz

#### Page 14.

#### **WOOD BENCHES**

Inbox

Arthur Baker 2:30 PM (49 minutes ago)

to me

Balboa Island to me, has always been a laid-back and beautiful community. By replacing the beautiful wooden benches with either plaster or concrete, in my opinion, will change the entire demeanor look, To something that I don't believe anyone would like. My wife and I have lived here for many many years and would hope that we keep the beautiful laid-back look at that it presents itself.

Arthur Baker 906 S. Bay front Balboa Island, California

## Keep the wood benches!!

Inbox



Joseph Bockrath <joebockrath@gmail.com>

8:59 PM (42 minutes ago)

to me

Natural wood has already been installed and all the CO2 expelled...new benches would kill the world.

Joe Bockrath 949-678-4782

## **Wood Benches**

Inbox



**Dennis Bress** 



8:54 PM (40 minutes ago)

I love the Balboa Island Wood Benches because they are so beautifully matched with the Iconic Landmark Majestic Exculpates trees on Marine Avenue.

## We vote to keep the wood benches

Inbox

#### **Marilyn Anderson**

9:40 PM (5 minutes ago)

to me

The wood benches retain the history and flavor of the island. They add a touch of class. The concrete and plastic would change the whole comfortable and friendly appeal and would also be too contemporary for the ocean/ bayfront ambiance. They would be eyesores, in fact. We strongly vote in favor of keeping the benches.

Marilyn and Fred Anderson 227/231 East Bayfront

## Destroying the island character!!

Inbox



#### Alex Izbicki Real Estate

1:44 PM (8 hours ago)

to me

Who keeps changing everything on the island? I'm fascinated by public sector people who are trying to make themselves "useful" while they're destroying the character of the island!

When will city officials finally understand what the draw to Balboa Island is. It is NOT streamlining the shopping experience for tourist with modern lights and tacky shopping mall pavers, it is NOT allowing new construction to decimate the old original cottages, it IS to maintain the old-world charm of the island. Part of this old-world charm includes keeping things as they were back at the Island's inception (providing their safe.) In this case that **the wood benches on Balboa Island are indeed safe and provide that old world charm which draws tourists.** 

I wish the city of Newport Beach would stop its ongoing assault on what is the largest draw in Newport Beach due to the city's employment redundancy and who insist on finding new ways to make themselves useful. If they want to make themselves useful, they should just back off and stop "micromanaging-destroying" this beautiful place. Maybe find something to do that would really help the island maintain its charm like passing a construction overlay that will protect the dwindling precious cottages that still remain.

Thank you,
Alex Izbicki
301 Onyx Ave. Balboa island
Newport Beach CA 92662

## City committed to maintain the benches

Inbox

Basil Witt

12:23 AM (12
hours ago)

to me

When we sponsored a bench a portion of the cost was for the city commitment to maintain them. Still waiting! Suggest they try shaping up the neglected benches before they consider new.

Basil and Judi Sent from my iPhone

.....

## \*Protect and honor what our community wants\*

Inbox

Peggy Palmer

10:40 PM (13
hours ago)

to me

There are some things that are cherished in life and the love of enjoying a breath of fresh air on a beautiful hand-crafted bench is reminiscent of days long since passed. As long as there is a frozen banana and an ice cream bar, allow some history to left on our beloved island.

City Staff is running rogue.

Pretty, soon these beautiful benches will be replaced with concrete blocks, so the City can simply wash off the feces and urine from the derelicts.

IN MY OPINION, WE NEED TO PROTECT AND HONOR OUR HERITAGE AND NOT SUCCUMB TO THE CONTINUED ROBOTIC AND INFERIOR DECISIONS THAT WAY UPON CITY PENSIONS.

Peggy V. Palmer

#### **Page 17.**

#### No !!! Concrete or Plastic

Inbox

David Misko 1:15 PM (17 minutes ago)

to me

As a frequent visitor to Balboa Island, I go because it is the charm and the unique surroundings that I love. The wood benches are a big part of the ambiance, and this ambiance draws thousands of visitors a year. If I wanted to sit on a concrete or unappealing plastic bench, I would go to Huntington Beach!

Don't change what works.

## Do not replace our benches!

Inbox

#### patograndedos@gmail.com

Frank Lantman 1:59 PM (51 minutes ago)

to me

Why in the world are we even having to debate this issue?

The city just needs to do their job and give the taxpayers what they want. We want to keep our wooden benches! We pay a lot of taxes to this City and appropriate maintenance for the benches is part of that tax burden. Our city can afford to provide this maintenance and not replace these benches with something ugly and a blight to our environment.

Frank

\_\_\_\_\_\_

## My Vote is YES for Wood Benches!

Inbox

#### john.ermatinger1@gmail.com

2:46 PM (17 minutes ago)

to me

It confounds me that the City spends such precious time and resources on this subject, given what they know, is the communities regard for our wood benches. As I understand the last communique, they were able to find a reputable vendor to restore as needed at a reasonable cost. Therefore, I don't understand why the City would look to replace them with concrete or plastic substitutes.

Please take this note as a firm vote to keep the iconic wood benches where they belong...on the island.

My best, John Ermatinger 300 Grand Canal

## Foolish Decisions-Keep the Wood Benches

Inbox

Road 2 Halifax

3:22 PM (9
minutes ago)

to me

We have lived on Balboa island for 18 years and know some of the families and people memorialized on the beautiful wood benches. We're a small island with our own postal zip code and memories of many who have gone before us should NOT be removed. Those benches should remain a part of Balboa Island just as our beautiful Marine Ave trees.

Many who come just on the weekend to walk around our island also have been drawn to the island charm of the trees, benches, homes, people and businesses. If we transform our island into a concrete benches and other things like that; people may well not be drawn to the charm of Balboa Island. The city of Newport Beach can effect negative changes by removing our beautiful changes but the city isn't thinking about the lost sales taxes generated by our island when people no longer to come when our island charm is gone.

The city of Newport Beach has a history of making foolish decisions without the foresight of consequences. In this case it could be insulting to islanders who paid for the memorial benches and enjoy them. When you upset the voters with foolish decisions those voters may turn on the city and vote against other items the city puts forth and seeks voter approval. Loss of potential sales tax revenue could be another.

Surely I can't be the only one who sees this foolishness. Please feel free to take any ideas here that will lead to stopping the removal of our wonderful wood benches that memorialize our residents for future generations.

If benches are removed, I'll be in line to vote against any city proposal to memorialize any city fathers.

Bill Manning

## Balboa Island Wood Benches- Vote Yes to Keep Them!

Inbox

Paul 2:27 PM (7 hours ago)

to me

Thank you so much for your efforts to retain elements of charm that Balboa Island has had over the decades.

When our son died in 2001, my wife and I wanted to find a way to commemorate his personality and character. Many bayfront benches with plaques were already placed and we saw that on our walks around the Island, people we're stopping for a while to enjoy the bay views and the ambiance. We often heard many different languages bring spoken as people from everywhere we're visiting this unique spot in the world.

Brad was well-traveled and "a citizen of the world" so we thought that a bench that welcomed the world's citizens would be an appropriate memorial to him.

We contacted Peggy Mayotte who, at that time, coordinated the purchasing and placement of the benches with the City of Newport Beach. We met with her and told her our Brad's story and of our desire to place a bench in his name. After we paid for our bench, I was told the city would place the bench and provide continuous maintenance. In a few weeks Brad's bench with brass plaque was installed at the south end of Marine Avenue.

We were overjoyed and are still regularly amazed by the variety of visitors who take a moment to rest on Brad's bench. He would have been pleased to see all those citizens sharing a common space.

The wood benches are appropriate to the charm of Balboa Island as they fit the look of this residential paradise. The natural material as well as the "front porch" look of these benches offer the comfortable welcoming feeling that invite people to stop a while.

Most of the benches are in fine repair, but all of them need refinishing. Besides not living up to the agreement we thought we had from the start, the city has saved thousands of dollars by not maintaining the benches for many years now and that has allowed the benches to look derelict and neglected.

I've recently become aware of the City's desire to remove and replace the wood benches with ones that require little or no maintenance. The City has proposed replacements for the benches with ones like others that are installed elsewhere in the city. Those are made of mostly manufactured materials. The hard-edged concrete benches are as inviting as sitting on a cement block.

The proposed replacements have no charm, are uncomfortable and add nothing but a place to sit and a supposed savings to the Budget. I oppose their use especially on the bayfront. They are antithetical to preserving one of the key features that attract people year after year to Balboa Island; the wood benches are a part of its quaint charm.

Balboa Island is unique in the city. No other island has the free access to the bay and the neighborhood that it offers. Visitors don't want to find themselves in a corporate park setting! The cost of refinishing the teak benches every few years is surely offset by the taxes on the tourist dollars that they help to attract.

Sincerely, Paul Evans

## HISTORY OF THE BALBOA ISLAND BENCH INITIATIVE

- 1. Mayor Steve Bromberg History to Dave Webb
- 2. 2009 PB&R Agenda Bench Donations
- 3. Council Packet, Benches July 13, 2004
- 4. City Approved Bench List

----- Original message -----

From: steven bromberg < sbromberg8@sbcglobal.net >

Date: 8/18/20 1:43 PM (GMT-08:00)

To: "Webb, Dave (Public Works)" < DAWebb@newportbeachca.gov>

Cc: walt@howald.us, "O'Neill, William"

<woneill@newportbeachca.gov>, dianebdixon@gmail.com, "Martin, Micah"

<MMartin@newportbeachca.gov>, jherdman1@roadrunner.com, joybrenner@me.com,

"Muldoon, Kevin" < <a href="mailto:kmuldoon@newportbeachca.gov">"Leung, Grace"</a>

<gleung@newportbeachca.gov>
Subject: MARINE AVE. BENCHES

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

#### Hi Dave.

I hope that you have been well during this very crazy time. When we opened up, it felt (and still does) as though I had started a new job.

Dave, I am writing to you about the Marine Ave. Benches. I have one of the benches and I am very concerned regarding information that I recently received and I am asking for you to either validate in whole or in part the accuracy of this information.

For clarification, when I was a member of the Newport Beach City Council, at the request of the BIIA I undertook a project entitled the Marine Avenue Streetscape project. It involved the replacement of the Marine Ave. benches, light standards and trash cans. I presided over numerous community meetings when we brought in samples of benches as well as photos of the light standards and trash cans. The community voted and the result is what currently exists on Marine Ave.

As the council member for the city, I represented the city's interest which also involved our then Public Works and General Services Directors relative to implementation. The agreement was that each person who wished to have a bench, would pay \$1100 to the BIIA. With the agreement of the city, that cost included the first and second maintenance/restoration of the benches that would be undertaken by the city and the city would be responsible for restorations thereafter. There was no written agreement. All worked very well until recently when I had heard the city received a maintenance estimate for \$700,000. You and I both know that number is beyond inflated. It simply is not a real number.

I had also heard that the city decided initially to remove the benches because it no longer was able to restore the benches in house. The obvious question is why would the city enter into an agreement, then intentionally or otherwise remove the mechanism to perform and defeat the interests of those folks who spent the funds for the benches, let alone impact the Marine Ave. beautification by suggesting replacements that are inferior. Apparently, I heard that many folks were upset and the city council has now put it in the hands of PP&R. I suspect that if the city council had received accurate information, this never would have occurred. Why in the world would the city council agree to breach it's own agreement if it had known the true facts. It is a rhetorical question.

I recently inquired as to how a number of the benches have been restored. I was told that this was accomplished at no cost to the city at a reasonable sum and paid for by the those who

donated the benches. I had also heard that Micah Martin was very upset that this occurred and ordered that no other benches be restored. Those restored benches are nothing short of beautiful and enhances Marine Ave.

Dave, this is what I have heard. I would like to know if the City of Newport Beach is contesting my representation of how the benches came into being and what the agreement was. Additionally, I would very much appreciate your simply informing me in plain language as to whether or not the information that "I heard" and "I was told" is accurate and if not, what is accurate. PB&R is incidental to my requests. If this issues, as "I have heard" and "what I was told" are accurate, then I believe that reasonable minds would agree that this entire issue should be re-evaluated at the least with the use of accurate information.

Thank you. Be well. Steve Bromberg

PB&R Commission Agenda Item No. <u>5</u> January 6, 2009

TO:

Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission

FROM:

General Services Director

**SUBJECT:** 

Bench Donation Request- Marine Avenue, Balboa Island

#### Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission accept the bench donation requests for Marine Avenue-Balboa Island.

#### Discussion/Background

City Council Policy B-17 establishes a fair, equitable, and uniform procedure for which gifts may be donated to the City. This policy sets forth specific criteria for donations to assure area compatibility, attractiveness, usefulness, and the capability to be maintained.

Currently, Marine Avenue on Balboa Island (between the bridge and Park Avenue) has thirty-nine (39) benches located on the public sidewalk and maintained by City contract. These benches are Jatoba wood slat with concrete frame (Attachment A shows a picture of an existing Marine Avenue bench). The benches are extremely popular during peak season times, weekends and holidays, and are normally filled to capacity with visitors from the shops and restaurants in the downtown area.

City staff was contacted several months ago by Mr. Bill Stewart, representing the Balboa Island Improvement Association (BIIA), regarding the donation of additional benches along the Marine Avenue corridor. The BIIA feels that additional benches would make this shopping area more pleasurable to Island residents as well as to visitors who support the local businesses. To this end, the BIIA solicited donation requests from business owners and residents for the purchase of the benches.

The Association was successful in obtaining donations for twelve (12) additional benches to be installed on Marine Avenue. Attachment B contains copies of the individual donation applications, as well as a list of the location/address of each new bench. The City's Traffic Engineer, Mr. Anthony Brine, has approved the proposed bench locations as it relates to traffic, pedestrian and clearance issues.

#### **City Council Policy B-17 Compliance**

Attachment C of this report is a copy of City Council Policy B-17. Section 3(b) of the policy states: "Bench donations within a commercial district will require notification of, and an endorsement from, the local business association, if applicable." Staff has obtained letters of support for these additional benches from the Balboa Island Improvement Association (BIIA), the Marine Avenue Businesses Improvement District (BID), and the Balboa Island Business Association (BIBA). These letters of support are included herein as Attachment D.

As the value of each bench is greater than \$1,000.00, each person donating may include a dedicatory plaque to be placed on their respective bench. The submitted plaque verbiage for each donation, which is listed on the individual applications, complies with City Council Policy B-17.

#### **Financial Information**

The cost for each individual bench \$1,156.00 including tax and freight, with an additional \$156 for the cost of the plaque. The City also collects \$1,000.00 per bench for installation and maintenance costs. The Jatoba wood requires annual sanding and staining to preserve the finish.

#### **Notice**

The BIIA, BIBA, Marine Avenue BID, and Mayor Ed Selich have all received a copy of this report and a notice of the Commission meeting.

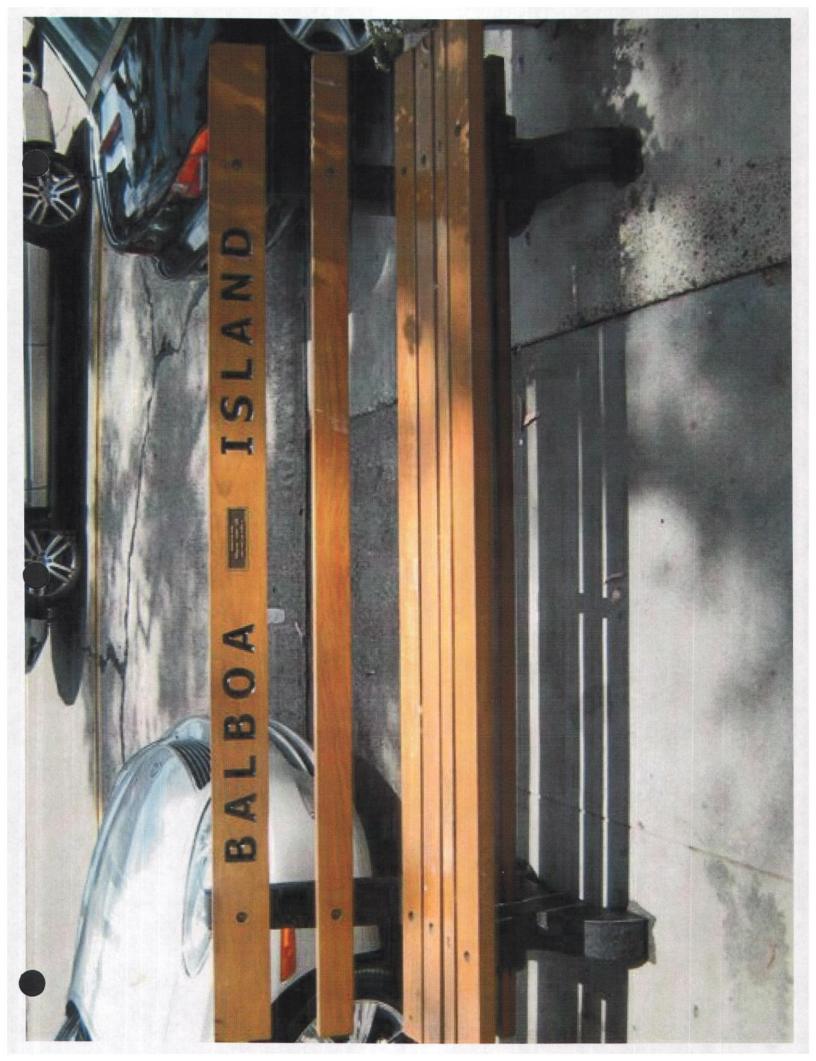
Prepared by:

Mark Harmon, Director

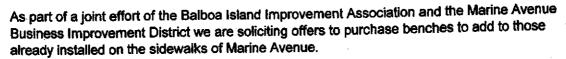
General Services Department

Attachments:

- (A) Photo of an existing Marine Avenue Bench
- (C) Copies of the individual Bench Donation Applications
- (B) Copy of Council Policy B-17
- (D) Letter from the Balboa Island Improvement Association (BIIA)
  Letter from the Marine Avenue Business Improvement District (BID)
  Letter from the Balboa Island Business Association (BIBA)



#### To: Marine Avenue Bench Applicant





You are receiving this Bench Application because you have indicated a interest in purchasing a new bench on Marine Ave. with a bronze plaque similar to those already there.

During this past Summer and on Weekends, it has become obvious that more benches are needed on Marine Ave, especially near the food establishments where people seem to be more careful about spilling their food when siting down than when standing or walking. We hope that these additional benches will help keep our sidewalks cleaner in addition to making Marine Ave. more pleasurable to our Island residents as well as visitors who support our local businesses.

Representatives of the BIIA and the BID have surveyed Marine Ave. and selected 28 places where additional benches might be installed subject to approval by the City Traffic Engineer. and the abutting Merchant. We are <u>not</u> going to install 28 new benches, 10 to 15 should be plenty

Attached is a list of all the addresses on Marine Ave at which a bench might be installed..

Unless you don't have a preference, please select your three favorate spots and enter those addresses in your application below, and we will try to accommodate your wish. Preference will be given, first to the Merchant at that address, if they order a bench, and then to others on a first-come-, first-served basis.

## APPLICATION FOR PURCHASE OF BENCH WITH BRONZE PLAQUE ON CITY PROPERTY

The 1st line of the plaque begins: "IN RECOGNITION OF" or "DONATED BY" or "DONATED FOR" in the template below, scratch out the words you do <u>not</u> want shown on the first line of the plaque. Then, in each space of the two lines under the first line, enter only 24 letters, spaces or punctuation for all the names you want, but only names or initials. Use a pencil to facilitate making changes.

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701 N. Bay Front

Balboa Island CA 92662

Lucy Mendicina, BIIA Beautification Chariman

Questions, or need help with plaque wording? Call Bill Stewart, (949) 673-3588

Mail completed application & check to:

(We will hold your checks until after

City PB&R Commission approval expected in 30 to 60 days)

### To: Marine Avenue Bench Applicant



As part of a joint effort of the Balboa Island Improvement Association and the Marine Avenue Business Improvement District we are soliciting offers to purchase benches to add to those already installed on the sidewalks of Marine Avenue.

2166

You are receiving this Bench Application because you have indicated a interest in purchasing a new bench on Marine Ave. with a bronze plaque similar to those already there.

During this past Summer and on Weekends, it has become obvious that more benches are needed on Marine Ave, especially near the food establishments where people seem to be more careful about spilling their food when siting down than when standing or walking. We hope that these additional benches will help keep our sidewalks cleaner in addition to making Marine Ave, more pleasurable to our Island residents as well as visitors who support our local businesses.

Representatives of the BIIA and the BID have surveyed Marine Ave. and selected 28 places where additional benches might be installed subject to approval by the City Traffic Engineer. and the abutting Merchant. We are <u>not</u> going to install 28 new benches, 10 to 15 should be plenty.

Attached is a list of all the addresses on Marine Ave at which a bench might be installed..

Unless you don't have a preference, please select your three favorate spots and enter those addresses in your application below, and we will try to accommodate your wish. Preference will be given, first to the Merchant at that address, if they order a bench, and then to others on a first-come-, first-served basis.

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Questions, or need help with plaque wording? Call Bill Stewart, (949) 673-3588

#### To: Marine Avenue Bench Applicant



As part of a joint effort of the Balboa Island Improvement Association and the Marine Avenue Business Improvement District we are soliciting offers to purchase benches to add to those aiready installed on the sidewalks of Marine Avenue.

2188

You are receiving this Bench Application because you have indicated a interest in purchasing a new bench on Marine Ave. with a bronze plaque like those already there.

During this past Summer and on Weekends, it has become obvious that more benches are needed on Marine Ava, especially near the food establishments where people seem to be more careful about spilling their food when siting down than when standing or walking. We hope that these additional benches will help keep our sidewalks cleaner in addition to making Marine Ave. more pleasurable to our Island residents and visitors who support our local businesses.

Representatives of the BIIA and the BID have surveyed Marine Ave. and selected 28 places wher they think additional bences might be installed in accordance with City Traffic rules. However, we are <u>not</u> going to install 28 new benches. We think 10 or 12 will be plenty.

Attached is a list of all the addresses on Marine Ave at which a bench might be installed.. Unless you don't have a preference, please select your three favorate spots and enter those addresses in your application below, and we will try to accommodate your wish. Preference will be given, first to the Merchant at that address, if they order a bench, and then to others on a first come-first served basis.

## APPLICATION FOR PURCHASE OF BENCH WITH BRONZE PLAQUE ON CITY PROPERTY

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Mail this completed application with your check to:

Lucy Mendicina, Beautification Chariman 701 N. Bay Front Balboa Island CA 92662

As part of a joint effort of the Balboa Island Improvement Association and the Marine Avenue Business Improvement District we are soliciting offers to purchase benches to add to those already installed on the sidewalks of Marine Avenue.

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City, State, Zip Pasadena CA 91107 2nd 210A 01200011
Telephone Nos. 424-351-9641, 626-429 3rd 308 Marks to
E-mail address: Retters Dearth (in (C. Ret (We prefer e-mail contact)
Your Check No: 5075)12 Date 10708 Tax Deductible Amount: \$2,312.00
Make Check Payable to: City of Newport Beach

(The City will send you a letter supporting your tax deduction)

701 N. Bay Front

Balboa Island CA 92662

Lucy Mendicina, BliA Beautification Chariman

Questions, or need help with plaque wording? Call Bill Stewart, (949) 673-3588

Mail completed application & check to:

(We will hold your checks until after

City PB&R Commission approval

expected in 30 to 60 days)

As part of a joint effort of the Balboa Island Improvement Association and the Marine Avenue Business Improvement District we are soliciting offers to purchase benches to add to those already installed on the sidewalks of Marine Avenue.

You are receiving this Bench Application because you have indicated a interest in purchasing a new bench on Marine Ave, with a bronze plaque similar to those already there.

During this past Summer and on Weekends, it has become obvious that more benches are needed on Marine Ave, especially near the food establishments where people seem to be more careful about spilling their food when siting down than when standing or walking. We hope that these additional banches will help keep our sidewalks cleaner in addition to making Marine Ave. more pleasurable to our Island residents as well as visitors who support our local businesses.

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## <u>APPLICATION FOR PURCHASE OF BENCH WITH BRONZE PLAQUE ON CITY PROPERTY</u>

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Donor's address 201 CORAL AVE. City, State, Zip Telephone Nos. E-mail address: (We prefer e-mail contact) Your Check No: 1996/ Date 09-26-2009 Tax Deductible Amount Make Check Payable to: City of Newport Beach

(The City will send you a letter supporting your tax deduction)

Mail completed application & check to: (We will hold your checks until after

Lucy Mendicina, BIIA Beautification Chariman

701 N. Bay Front

City PB&R Commission approval Baiboa Island CA 92662 expected in 30 to 60 days)

Questions, or need help with plaque wording? Call Bill Stewart, (949) 673-3588

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3/2

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Lucy Mendicina, BliA Beautification Chariman

Questions, or need help with plaque wording? Call Bill Stewart, (949) 673-3588

701 N. Bay Front

Balboa Island CA 92662 949-675-7051

Mail completed application & check to:

(We will hold your checks until after

City PB&R Commission approval

expected in 30 to 60 days)

Bella, CA 9

## To: Marine Avenue Bench Applicant

As part of a joint effort of the Balboa Island Improvement Association and the Marine Avenue Business Improvement District we are soliciting offers to purchase benches to add to those already installed on the sidewalks of Marine Avenue.

You are receiving this Bench Application because you have indicated a interest in purchasing a new bench on Marine Ave. with a bronze plaque similar to those already there.

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Balboa Island CA 92662

949-675-7051

Questions, or need help with plaque wording? Call Bill Stewart, (949) 673-3588

City PB&R Commission approval

expected in 30 to 60 days)

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Donor's name(s) Balbea Faland Terprevenent 1884	Preferred Marine Ave. Addresses from list
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City, State, Zip Balboa Island CK 920	62 2nd
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Questions, or need help with plaque wording? Call Bill Stewart, (949) 673-3588

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701 N. Bay Front

Baiboa Island CA 92662

Questions, or need help with plaque wording? Call Bill Stewart, (949) 673-3588

(We will hold your checks until after

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701 N. Bay Front

Balboa Island CA 92662

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MAXWELL AND PAM PHILLIPS AND AADVARK	2"
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Donor's name(s) MAYWELL & Pam PHILLIPS Preferred Marine Ave Addresses from list	<del>)</del> .
Donor's address 527 PARK AVE. 1st 204 only	
City, State, Zip BALBOA ISVAND CA 92462 2nd	
Telephone Nos. 949 673-724 (Business) 3rd	
E-mail address: mbphil@msn.com (We prefer e-mail contact	-f)
Your Check No: 2/5.3 Date 12 Marco Tax Deductible Amount: \$2,312.00	~9
Make Check Payable to: City of Newport Beach	
(The City will send you a letter supporting your tax deduction)  Mail completed application & check to: (We will hold your checks until after City PB&R Commission approval expected in 30 to 60 days)  (The City will send you a letter supporting your tax deduction)  Lucy Mendicina, BIIA Beautification Chariman  701 N. Bay Front  Balboa island CA 92662  949 675-705	1

Questions, or need help with plaque wording? Call Bill Stewart, (949) 673-3588

Marine Ave. Bench Donors

1	Name and Address Jill Mainard 425 E. Bay Ave. Balboa CA 92261	<u>Donation</u> \$2,312.00	Bench <u>Address</u> 304
2	. Ming and Karen Hsu 50 Linda Isle Newport Beach CA 92660	\$2,312.00	216B
3	. Lucy Mendicina 701 N. Bay Front Balboa Island CA 92662	\$2,312.00	21 <b>8</b> B
4	. Paul Ricatto & Betty Shultz 1125 Pine Bluff Dr. Pasadena CA 91107	\$2,312.00	225
5	. Jim Spracher 201 Coral Ave. Balboa Island CA 92662	\$2,313.00	219A
6.	Bill and Kathy Podley 1701 Orlando Rd. Pasadena CA 91106	\$2,312.00	312
7.	Devon Dougherty 11705 Allen Tustin CA 92782	\$2,312.00	319
8.	Balboa Island Improvement Assn.\$2 P O Box 74 Balboa Island CA 92662	2,312.00	307A
9.	Jason Moore P O Box 1169 Corona del Mar CA 92625	\$2,312.00	308
10.	Jason Moore P O Box 1169 Corona del Mar CA 92625	\$2,312.00	309
11.	Olive Oil & Beyond 210 Marine Ave. Balboa Island CA 92662	\$2,312.00	210A
12.	Maxwell & Pam Phillips 527 Park Ave. Balboa Island CA 92662	\$2,312.00	204
13.	Balboa Island Business Association P O Box 74 Balboa Island CA 92662	\$2,312.00	320C

No. by City of N.B.	Plaque Inscription	Marine Ave. Location Address
1	DONATED FOR	304
	LARRY AND PEGGY STOUSE	
	JILL - JACK - JAY	
2	DONATED BY	216B
	MING AND KAREN HSU	
3	DONATED BY LUCY MENDICINA	218
	MIKE LAUREN MORGAN ADAMS	
	DRAKE & TINA MENDICINA	
4	DONATED BY	225
	FAMILY & FRIENDS OF	
	PAUL A. RICATTO "PAPA"	
5	DONATED BY	219A
	WINNIE SPRACHER	
	AND THE SPRACHER FAMILY	
. 6	DONATED FOR	312
	"BALBOA BILL" PODLEY	
7	IN RECOGNITION OF	319
	VIOLA DOUGHERTY	
8	IN RECOGNITION OF	307A
	JOAN MARIE COOPER	
	"JOANIE"	
9	DONATED BY	308
	JASON MOORE	
10	IN RECOGNITION OF	309
	JACK & LILLIAN FABREGAS	
11	IN RECOGNITION OF	210A
	OLIVE OIL & BEYOND	
12	DONATED BY	204
	MAXWELL AND PAM PHILLIPS	
	AND AARDVARK	:
13	DONATED FOR	320C
	"PICANTE" MARTIN DIAZ PUENTE	
	(This bench previously approved by PB&R)	

## PARKS, FACILITIES, AND RECREATION PROGRAM DONATIONS

#### **PURPOSE**

The City Council recognizes the need to promote community involvement and active participation in quality of life components throughout the community, and the need to establish a fair, equitable, and uniform procedure for which gifts may be donated to the City. This policy establishes criteria for donations to assure area compatibility, attractiveness, usefulness, and the capability to be maintained. Each donation considered for inclusion in the City park public improvement and street system will be subject to established limitations and guidelines for the particular area.

#### **POLICY**

## A. Acceptance of donations of cash or tangible items

- Based on the value of the donation, appropriate City staff will review the acceptability of any donation and determine if the benefits to be derived warrant acceptance of the donation.
- 2. Criteria for evaluation includes consideration of any immediate or initial expenditure required in order to accept the donation, the potential and extent of the City's obligation to maintain the donation, and the community benefit to be derived from the donation.

## B. <u>Types of Donations</u>

Donations may be received in the form of cash, real, or personal property. Restricted donations are those donations that the donor specifies for a particular City location or purpose. Unrestricted donations are those donations that are given to the City for unspecified use.

## 1. Cash Gifts

a. Donation of cash or items valued at below \$10,000 may be accepted by the City Manager. However, any donation considered a park facility improvement that would result in an installation of a permanent fixture in the parks must be in compliance with section B-4 of this policy, Park and Street Improvement Donations.

- b. Donations of \$10,000 and above may be accepted by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission.
- c. Gifts of funds may be designated for restricted or unrestricted use.
- d. Gifts of funds accepted by the City imply no other obligation besides using donated funds for the specified purpose.

## 2. <u>Trees</u>

Tree donations add beauty to City parks and facilities. Trees may be donated and installed at parks and parkway locations recommended by the General Services Director and approved by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission. The minimum size of tree donations must be 24" boxed containers unless waived by the Commission.

a. Tree donations are limited to specific species and limitations identified in the City Donation Catalog.

#### 3. Benches

Bench donations may be donated and installed in different areas of placement including parks, streets, along the beachfront, within villages, commercial districts, neighborhoods, on a specific island, etc. The Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission, with the assistance of General Services staff, shall designate the type, style, design, and placement of City-owned benches on City property.

- An inventory of designated benches and available bench locations will be maintained in the City Donation Catalog.
- Donation requests must be submitted to the General Services
   Department and meet the following requirements:
  - Bench donations along a city street, beachfront or other public right of way will require the approval of the General Services Director.

- ii. Bench donations within a commercial district will require notification of, and an endorsement from, the local business association, if applicable.
- iii. Bench donations for parks and facilities within a residential community will require notification of residents and an established homeowners association or common interest development, when applicable, within 300 feet of placement.

## 4. Park, Public Improvement, and Street Amenities

Other amenities such as drinking fountains, tables, and other equipment that will improve public places in parks, in and/or around public buildings, streets, walkways, and trails may be donated to the City.

- a. Other amenities that may be donated will be identified in the City Donation Catalog.
- b. Donation of public amenities valued at below \$10,000 may be accepted by the City Manager.
- c. Donation of public amenities valued \$10,000 and above may be accepted or declined by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission.
- d. Donations to be installed on public sidewalks shall meet the criteria described in Policy L-15 Encroachments on Public Sidewalks and approved by the Public Works Director and General Services Director.

## C. Naming Rights

Donors may receive naming rights on capital improvement projects for which any donation matches or exceeds 75% of the total budgeted cost for the area benefiting from the donation. All such donations will be submitted to the City Council for acceptance of the donation and the name to be applied to the project in keeping with City Council Policy B-9 — Naming of City Parks & Facilities.

## D. Sponsorships

Special Events are recognized as fundraising activities. Where donations or sponsorship of a special event will require some form of recognition, and, in order to provide recreational opportunities, corporate or organizational sponsors may be recognized by use of logos and name on event banners and signage. Signs and literature at all such special events would be at the discretion of the appropriate Department Director. The size, scale and location of corporate logos and names should not dominate the event facilities or area. Corporate logos and/or names should not be displayed in a manner that would, in any way, suggest the endorsement of the Department or the City. All signs must comply with the City's existing sign code and Council Policies B-3 and B-8.

## E. Right to Decline

The City of Newport Beach reserves the right to decline any donation if, upon review, acceptance of the donation is determined to be not in the best interest of the City.

## F. Special Privileges

Making a donation or co-sponsoring a special event does not entitle a sponsor/donor to any special privileges other than those stated in this policy such as recognition, plaques or displays at events, unless otherwise agreed upon and approved by the Department Director or the City Council when appropriate.

## G. Gift Donation Catalog

The Recreation & Senior Services Director and General Services Director shall review and present to the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission periodically the City Donation Catalog containing ideas for public donations.

## H. Acknowledgements

- Letter of acceptance of donation will be sent to donor.
- In some cases, recognition of donations may be given at Commission or Council Meetings.
- 3. Plaques are reserved for donations meeting the following criteria:

- a. Donors providing donations valued at \$1,000 to less than \$3,999 may elect to provide a dedicatory plaque not exceeding 2" x 6" with a name designated by the donor preceded by one of the following: "Donated by", "Donated for", or "In recognition of".
- b. Donors providing donations valued at \$4,000 or greater may elect to provide a dedicatory plaque not exceeding 5"x7" with name, date and dedication wording not exceeding 25 words. Plaque content must be approved by the Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission.
- c. Donors providing donations valued at least \$1,000 that recognize individuals or organizations that have provided distinguished long term and/or significant service to the City may include a dedicatory plaque not exceeding 5"x7" with name, date and dedication wording not exceeding 25 words. Individuals can include City employees with 25 or more years of distinguished service, as determined by the PB&R Commission.
- d. Plaques are at the expense of the donor, the City will assume ownership and maintenance of the donated item and plaque however, the City does not assume replacement costs due to vandalism or theft. Plaques will remain on a donated item during its useful life. The City reserves the right to remove and/or relocate the donated item.
- e. Plaque information will be entered on the Gift Donation Catalog application form and ordered by the City.

Adopted - May 9, 2006

Formerly G-5



#### BALBOA ISLAND IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

December 17, 2008

Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission City of Newport Beach

Members of the Commission:

The Balboa Island Improvement Association (BIIA) has been working in conjunction with the Marine Avenue Business Improvement District (BID), the City's Traffic Engineer and Administrative Services to provide donations of up to 15 additional benches on Marine Avenue. For the BIIA, this activity has been supervised by our Beautification Chair, Lucy Mendicina, and our Treasurer Bill Stewart who serves as the Bench Chairman on Lucy's committee.

As of this writing, 13 donor applications have been submitted to Mark Harmon of Administrative Services, and Bill Stewart is holding 13 checks in the amount of \$2,312 each, including the application and check for "Picante" Martin's bench which your Committee previously approved.

Upon your approval of the additional 12 bench donations, Bill will deliver the checks to Mark Harmon, unless otherwise instructed.

The BIIA respectfully requests that your committee approve the donation of all twelve additional benches at the locations shown on the applications and the accompanying map of Marine Avenue

Sincerely yours,

Lucy Mendicina, Beautification Chair

Ellis Morcos, President

## **MARINE AVENUE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

P O Box 2295 Newport Beach CA 92657-2295 (949) 675-2337

December 23, 2008

Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission City of Newport Beach

Members of the Commission:

On December 18, 2008. at its meeting of the Board of Directors of the Marine Avenue Business Improvement District (BID), the Board voted unanimously to approve the placement of the benches on Marine Avenue as recommended by Bill Stewart." Bill is the Treasurer and member of the Beautification Committee of the Balboa Island Improvement Association (BIIA), and has acted as coordinator of the Marine Avenue Bench Project.

At the start of the Project, the Board of the BID voted to limit the total number of new benches to 15, not including the previously approved bench for "Picante" Martin, with the requirement that the adjacent shop owner must approve that location and be offered the opportunity to purchase that bench. Two merchants have accepted that offer, J. P Maxwell, and Olive Oil & Beyond.

A map of Marine Avenue, bearing my signature and others, shows 14 approved locations of which twelve additional benches have been sold by the BIIA.

We hope that your committee is able to approve those bench donations for the benefit of our Island, its residents and visitors.

Sincerely yours.

MARINE AVENUE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

3y: \_\_\_*//*/

Shelli Drewry, President

## BALBOA ISLAND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

P O Box 74 Balboa Island CA 92662-0074 (949) 562-8799

December 22, 2008

Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission City of Newport Beach

Members of the Commission:

We of the original Business Association of Balboa Island thank you for approving our bench donation in recognition of our business associate "Picante" Martine Diaz Puente who passed away last Valentines day. We are hoping that his bench may be installed this Valentines day, but realize that it must be ordered along with at least 9 other benches to obtain it at the price of \$2,312. We have submitted to Bill Stewart, Treasurer of the Balboa Island Improvement Association, our check in the amount to \$2,312 payable to the City of Newport Beach as payment for that bench, which moneys were contributed by Martin's fellow business associates. We understand that Mr. Stewart will forward our check to the City along with the checks for the additional benches if approved by your committee.

We understand that at least twelve additional benches have been requested for Marine Avenue by the BIIA and the Marine Ave. BID subject to your Committee's approval of those donations. We respectfully request that you approve those bench donations to afford to our residents and visitors to our Island additional places to sit and rest and to enjoy the treats offered by our merchants.

Sincerely yours.

BALBOA ISLAND BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Bv:

Audrey Saxon/Treasurer

## William S. Stewart

121 Agate Ave.
Balboa Island, CA 92662-1001
(949) 673-3588
Fax 723-1542
bill-stewart@usa.net

December 16, 2008

Mark Harmon General Services Dept. City of Newport Beach

Subject: 14 Marine Ave. bench donations

Dear Mark,

Attached are copies of 13 checks in the amount of \$2,312.00 each with 14 applications from the donors of 13 new benches for Marine Ave, Balboa Island. Also included is a page showing the data for each plaque and the desired location of each bench, and a map of the 200 and 300 blocks of Marine Ave. showing 15 bench locations, including Martin's, as approved by Tony Brine.

Included as item 13 is the check and donor application for Martin's bench. You have said you have the plaque for that bench donation which was approved by the PB&R Commission on 8/5/08.

As of this writing, there are only two unassigned, City Engineer approved, bench locations, and they are at 306 Marine in front of the Aegir Realty, and 323 in front of Fresh Produce. We request that you clear those two locations with the merchants in case we need them as an alternates if one or two of the other locations are not approved by the merchants.

At your suggestion, I shall hold the donor's original checks until you ask tor them after the donations have been approved.

Sincerely.

Bill Stewart.

Bench Chairman, Beautification Committee Balboa Island Improvement Association

Cc: Lucy Mendicina Sheri Drewry

## 14 DONOR APPLICATIONS FOR MARINE AVE. BENCHES

(The 14<sup>th</sup> application is from the Balboa Island Business Association for "Picante" Martin's bench previously approved by the PB&R Commission)

# CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No. 9 July 13, 2004 ì

TO:

HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM:

Public Works Department, Planning, and General Services Departments

Michael J. Sinacori, P.E., 949-644-3311 msinacori@city.newport-beach.ca.us

and George A. Berger, AICP, 949-644-3207

gaberger@city.newport-beach.ca.us

SUBJECT:

MARINE AVENUE STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS -

PRE-PURCHASE OF STREET LIGHT POLES AND FIXTURES.

BENCHES AND LITTER RECEPTACLES

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1. Determine that the project is exempt from environmental review pursuant to Section 15302 of the California Environmental Quality Act Implementing Guidelines.
- 2. Authorize staff to proceed with the Marine Avenue Street Light Pole and Fixture Replacement Order for total not-to-exceed price of \$34,154.
- 3. Authorize staff to proceed with the Marine Avenue Bench and Litter Receptacle order with D.M. Braun & Company for a not-to-exceed price of \$74,688.

#### DISCUSSION:

The Council approved the Marine Avenue Streetscape Improvement Project in the Fiscal Year 04/05 CIP for a total budget of \$191,000.00. The project includes the replacement of the existing benches, trash receptacles and street lights along with new tree well treatment. The project schedule calls for the award of the streetlight replacement portion of the project in August, with construction in September/October on a time frame for completion in advance of the fall holiday season. In addition, the installation of the street furniture (benches and litter receptacles) is planned in the same time frame.

To meet the planned construction schedule, it is required to pre-purchase the street light poles and fixtures which have an eight to twelve-week delivery timeframe. The new poles are planned to be custom black concrete with anti-graffiti coating that has a gloss finish. The replacement pole recommended is a single globe style street light, but with the same texture and color as the double arm street lights recently placed on the

Marine Avenue Bridge during a separate beautification project. The required Ameron poles are supplied by Pacific Lighting Sales in Lake Forest.

In addition to the street light poles, staff is also recommending the purchase of custom benches and trash receptacles. With the assistance of the General Services Department, five different street furniture companies have given quotes for the replacement of 38 benches and 25 litter receptacles. The benches and litter receptacles meet the specifications approved by the community in public outreach efforts. The benches are to be jatoba wood mounted on black concrete bases similar to the existing concrete bench bases on Marine Avenue. The litter receptacles are metal framed with jatoba wood to match the benches. A prototype bench was placed on Marine Avenue last month and the general response has been very positive. The D.M. Braun & Company, of Brea, will manufacture and deliver the benches and litter receptacles for a total not-to-exceed price of \$74,688. The General Services Department will be on-site to supervise the placement of the street furniture and will apply the required epoxy to secure the benches to the sidewalk.

#### Funding Availability:

The total cost of the street light pole and fixture order is \$34,154 and the cost for the purchase of the benches and litter receptacles from D.M. Braun is \$74,688. Funds for this project are available in the following account:

Account Description

Marine Avenue Streetscape Improvements

Account Number 7014-C5100717

<u>Amount</u> \$108,842

#### Environmental Review:

The project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15302 of the CEQA Implementing Guidelines. This exemption covers the maintenance and alteration of existing public facilities with negligible expansion of the facilities in areas that are not environmentally sensitive.

Submitted by:

Stepken G. Badum Public Works Director

Prepared by:

Michael J. Sinacori, P.E. Principal Civil Engineer

David E. Niederhaus General Services Director

George/A. Berger, AICP Community(&)Economic

Development Program Manager



## Municipal Operations Department

PB&R Commission Agenda Item No. 5 November 1, 2011

TO:

Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission

FROM:

Mark Harmon, Director of Municipal Operations

SUBJECT:

Bench Donation Process

#### Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Parks, Beaches and Recreation (PB&R) Commission receive and file this report and provide staff with direction regarding the Official Bench List.

#### Discussion

City Council Policy B-17 establishes criteria for parks equipment, facilities, and recreation program donations within the City. The following process is followed when the Operations Department receives an inquiry regarding a donation to the City:

- Once an inquiry is received regarding the donation of a bench, staff will mail a copy of the B-17 policy, the Gifts for Tomorrow Donation Catalog, and the Donation Site Availability List to the potential donor.
- The donor may then send the department an Order Request Form specifying the donation and location.
- Staff will prepare a report for PB&R Commission for approval.

At the August 2, 2011, PB&R Commission Meeting, staff was asked to provide information regarding the style (make/model) of benches that are selected and the cost of each type or bench. In researching this issue, staff located the attached November 16, 2004 agenda report which refers to a PB&R appointed Bench Committee that was established in May 1996. This Committee, with input from the Arts Commission, apparently coordinated the selection of the attached Official Bench List which was later adopted by the PB&R Commission. This Official Bench List with cost, park locations, and photos, is attached for review. Staff uses this list today when selecting the specific style for the various parks and other locations. By using this Official List, we maintain uniformity of hardscape within our parks and streets.

If the Commission wishes to delete certain styles, add additional bench styles if available, or make any other changes to the List, staff would recommend the appointment of a Bench Committee to work with staff on these changes.

Attachment:

- (A) Copy of November 16, 2004, PB&R Commission Agenda Report
- (B) Copy of Official Bench List w/ attachments



PB&R Commission Agenda Item No. November 16, 2004

TO:

Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission

FROM:

General Services Director

SUBJECT: Official Parks Bench List

#### Recommendation

None, informational report only.

#### Background

In May 1996, City staff developed a list of various styles of park benches for review by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission.

After reviewing the list, the Commission appointed a Bench Committee who later met and coordinated the selection of the attached Official Bench List after conferring with the Arts Commission.

#### Discussion

Since the adoption of the attached Official Bench List by the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission, a number of other bench styles have been used in various City business districts after lengthy selection processes. Staff has attached photos of the new bench styles used at the Balboa Village, Corona del Mar, and Balboa Island business areas. Also attached are photos of Teak benches used on the bayfronts of Little Balboa and Balboa Island.

Staff is prepared to address further details regarding park benches.

Very respectfully,

#### David E. Niederhaus

- Attachments: (A) Official Park Bench List with photos
  - (B) Photos of Corona del Mar Benches
  - (C) Photos of Balboa Village Benches
  - (D) Photos of Marine Avenue Benches
  - (E) Little Balboa and Balboa Island Benches



# General Services Department

## OFFICIAL BENCH LIST

## Bench Sub-Committee recommendation

The following list of park benches have been designated as the Official Bench List for the City of Newport Beach. All area designations would thus be made from this list.

HISTORIES HE	MANDEAGUER OR	TEOMATICO SE E
Standard Park Bench	Robbins Precast	\$583.00
Wabash #SG306D	Wabash	\$662.00
Santa Monica Model	Quick Crete	\$860.00
Victoria (Backless)	Quick Crete	\$1,085.00
Huntington Beach	Quick Crete	\$1,169.00
D.M. Braun	Robbins Precast	\$1,192.00
Victoria (Back)	Quick Crete	\$1,398.00
Flex Series	Quick Crete	\$1,496.00
Columbia Cascade	Timberform Craftsmen	\$1,600.00
Medway	British American	\$2,050.00
Reading #376.270	The Reading Series	\$2,518.35
Scarborough (model SC3005-BS-72)	Landscape Forms, Inc.	\$2,713.84

All bench design costs include a \$400.00 charge for labor and installation

Benches may require an additional \$1,250.00 for a concrete slab

Please note the cost for the plaque is a separate fee

# BENCH STYLES AND LOCATIONS OF AVAILABILITY

## Standard Park Bench



- Bayside Park
- Bayview Park
- Buffalo Hills Park
- **Eastbluff Park**
- Galaxy View Park
- •Grant Howald Park
- Las Arenas Park
- Mariners Park

- Rhine Wharf Park
- San Joaquin Hills Park
- Veterans Memorial Park
- West Newport Park
- Westcliff Park
- Spyglass Hill Park
- Irvine Terrace

## Santa Monica Model

- ■38th Street Park
- Westcliff Park
- West Newport Park
- San Miguel Park
- San Joaquin Hills Park
- Peninsula Park
- Oasis Passive Park
- Newport Shores Park
- Mariners Park

- Las Arenas Park
- •Harbor View Nature Park
- •Grant Howald Park
- **Eastbluff Park**
- Corona Del Mar State
   Beach Park
- Cliff Drive Park
- Channel Place Park
- Castaways Park
- Bonita Creek Park



## BENCH STYLES AND LOCATIONS

Subject to Availability



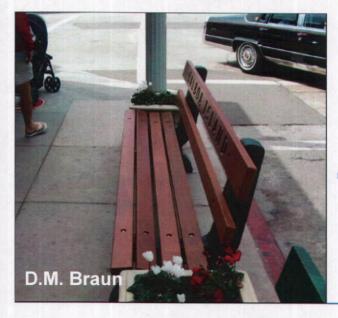
Oceanfront Boardwalk



Bonita Canyon Sports Park



- Buffalo Hills Park
- Corona Del Mar Bluffs (Ocean Blvd)
- Oceanfront Boardwalk



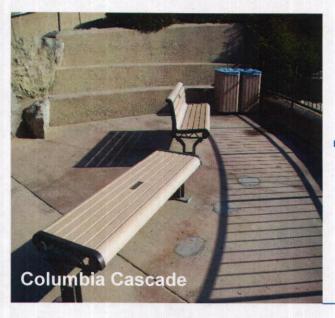
■ Balboa Island (Marine Avenue)



• City Hall



■ Balboa Village



Corona Del Mar (Inspiration Point)



- Little Balboa
- Balboa Island/Bayfronts



Back Bay View Park



Corona Del Mar (Pacific Coast Hwy)

## **CITY CORRESPONDENCE AND MEDIA**

- 1. Balboa Island Budget used for Bayside Drive Benches/Trash Cans
- 2. Article, Jan 29, 2020 "Costly wooden benches are on their way out
- 3. Stu News, "Should Balboa Island benches be put in the wood pile?"

**From:** Salazar, John **To:** Delgado, Joe

Cc: Hahn, Ron; Arciniega, Patrick; Auger, Michael; Berger, Allen; Tona, Conrad

Subject: FW: Bayside Drive Benches and Trash cans

Date: Thursday, January 02, 2020 8:10:51 AM

Attachments: Belson Bench 12.18.19.pdf

Slotted Can 12.18.19.pdf

Joe can you please work with Kurt and get a PO going? Order the "IPE" color

Thank you, John

From: Arciniega, Patrick < PArciniega@newportbeachca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2019 1:36 PM

**To:** Martin, Micah < MMartin@newportbeachca.gov>; Salazar, John

<JSalazar@newportbeachca.gov>

Subject: Bayside Drive Benches and Trash cans

I've confirmed with Dave Webb that he likes the attached benches/cans. He wants us to proceed with the installation of the new benches and trash cans.

Let's get new amenities ordered to replace the various color/sized trash cans (8) on Bayside Drive and the bus benches (2) at Bayside Drive and Harbor Island Drive.

He said to use the **Balboa Island** Enhancement account:

01201928-980000

Let me know if you need any more information or want to walk the site to look at the current locations.

Thank you,

Patrick Arciniega, P.E. Senior Civil Engineer

**City of Newport Beach** 

100 Civic Center Drive | Newport Beach | CA | 92660

# Balboa Island's costly wooden benches are on their way out

#### BY HILLARY DAVISSTAFF WRITER

JAN. 29, 2020 6:25 PM PT

The Newport Beach City Council balked Tuesday night at spending close to \$700,000, or even \$148,000, to refurbish the teak and jatoba benches and related trash can covers around Balboa Island, preferring instead to phase out the stately but expensive street furniture in favor of fixtures made of faux wood.

As the owner of a wooden boat, Mayor Pro Tem Brad Avery said he knows what it takes to maintain teak. He said the city should move toward attractive wood alternatives.

"We just have to move to benches that don't need to be refinished," he said. "I would not spend another nickel on refinishing anything."

The council was set to consider a \$692,000 contract proposal to refresh and repair each of the island's 109 benches and 26 coordinating trash can covers up to twice a year for two years.

City staff said it wanted to accept the bid, requiring the city to set aside the \$692,000, but only spend a fraction of it, dropping the scope to a single refurbishment of each bench and considering a new long-term plan. That cost would come to about \$148,000, without replacement of the embedded bronze dedication plaques.

The council instead chose to reject the contract entirely and phase out the wooden fixtures.

The city maintains the sidewalk benches on Marine Avenue and elsewhere around the island. The benches — about half made of teak and the other half of jatoba, also known as Brazilian cherry — were donated over the past 24 years and need to be

refinished at least once a year "to meet community requests and expectations," according to a city staff report. Contractors do that work but haven't fully refurbished the benches and trash cans in two years.



Teak benches face the bay at a Balboa Island street end. (Courtesy of city of Newport Beach)



A jatoba, or Brazilian cherry, bench on Balboa Island's Marine Avenue. (Courtesy of city of Newport Beach)

Deputy Director of Public Works Micah Martin said neighbors suggested something with more flair when a donor sought to place concrete benches around the island in the mid-1990s.

"After seeing the bench, the island raised some concerns," he told the council. "The BIIA [Balboa Island Improvement Assn.] got involved and proposed putting teakwood benches on the island because they're much more aesthetically pleasing, had a nautical theme to them and it's more of what they wanted to see."

The BIIA helped with their maintenance. In 2006, the city took over maintenance of all donated fixtures.

At that time, when the city had an in-house wood shop and full-time staff carpenters, each bench cost about \$400 a year to refinish. The city outsourced woodworking a few years later, and market forces have increased once-yearly refurbishment costs to \$960

for a jatoba bench and \$1,150 for a teak bench. Staff says the sun, rain and salty marine air have weathered the items much quicker than the BIAA anticipated. The benches also are susceptible to damage from vehicles and vandals.

The council voted 6-0 to have staff craft a less-expensive replacement plan, vetted by the public and the city Parks, Beaches & Recreation Commission. Councilman Jeff Herdman recused himself because he owns property in the area.

"They're beautiful," Councilman Kevin Muldoon said of the real wood benches, "and if we had our own woodworking team, it'd make sense. But this is not sustainable on a contract basis."

Councilwoman Diane Dixon said she's sensitive to Balboa Island's affinity for the benches — the only park, sidewalk and beach benches in the city not made of concrete or a hardy composite material. But cost is a factor. "It's going to be \$1 million in a couple of years and we're going to wish we dealt with this earlier," she said.

Sidewalk benches from the city's usual catalog cost \$2,800 to \$2,900 new, comparable to the \$2,400 for a replacement jatoba bench or \$3,150 for one of teak. They do not, however, require regular maintenance, and the faux-wood model lasts about 10 years, Martin said.

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## **Guest Column** Jodi P. Bole, Founder **Balboa Island Preservation Association**

### Should Balboa Island benches be put in the wood pile?

In our fast-paced and ever-changing lives, and a world that appears to be in constant turmoil, traditions are more important than ever before. We intentionally continue traditions because they provide a sense of belonging and meaning to our lives. In this way, tradition grounds us.

The charming and iconic wood benches on Balboa Island have been a tradition to residents and tourists for decades. They have been used in numerous professional photos to promote tourism in Newport Beach. For years, locals and tourists alike have enjoyed sitting on the comfortable, all-natural wood benches. Almost every Council member has been seen visiting with constituents while sitting on our Balboa Island benches. Even former Mayor Will O'Neill and Councilman Noah Blom have acknowledged the importance of these special benches with several photos taken on Balboa Island benches during various campaigns. Our existing benches have also been memorialized by a bronzed statue of an older couple sitting on a Balboa Island wood bench on the South Bay front. This iconic display suggests that life is fleeting and precious; and we should honor what is important to us.

Now it appears that our wood benches may be at risk of being replaced with plastic or concrete benches. This Tuesday (tonight), the City of Newport Beach Public Works will be presenting to the Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission on several alternatives for replacement of the benches on the Balboa Island boardwalk. Unfortunately, our cherished cherry wood benches will not be on their official list as an option for replacement.

Since 2019, the Balboa Island Preservation Association (BIPA), a local volunteer group of Balboa Island residents and property owners, has spent hundreds of hours researching, documenting and providing community outreach regarding the iconic wood benches. What we learned is that the benches were originally purchased by donors, not the City, which included additional money for initial maintenance. In return for the donors' investment, the City would provide follow-up maintenance for the benches. It was Mayor Steve Bromberg, a Balboa Island resident, who initially brought this initiative to the City Council, and the Council voted to adopt the agreement. Unfortunately, the benches have not been properly maintained and many are now in disrepair.

BIPA has learned that some of the benches on the island are made from cherry wood and others are teak wood. We also discovered that concrete is problematic in coastal areas due to the salt in the air. It essentially crumbles over time and the rebar inside the concrete rusts, causing further cracking and crumbling and the plastic "polywood" warps and cracks in the heat. BIPA documented numerous plastic and concrete benches throughout Newport Beach that are cracked, warped and broken. In contrast, the cherry wood benches, which can last over 20 years and are 400 percent denser than teak, are in excellent condition and only need refinishing to prolong their lifespan.

Our research also concluded that if the teak benches were changed out for cherry wood at the end of their life cycle, the city and taxpayers would save a significant amount of money by only refinishing the benches every other year, for less than what it would take to replace the wood benches with concrete or plastic benches. BIPA was also able to find two qualified small business contractors to refinish the benches at a cost significantly less than a bid that the City received by a construction company last year, which was significantly higher than what the scope of work warranted.

In May 2020, BIPA received a poll that 90.4 percent of residents on Balboa Island favor keeping the wood benches over any "approved" bench the city would present. The Balboa Island community hopes that when the Commission hears the options from both Public Works and the community, who overwhelmingly wish to keep the wood benches, they will keep in mind the benches are a very special and important element on Balboa Island. They are part of a rich legacy for the donors, whose names are displayed on the benches. And our iconic wood benches offer familiarity to tourists and give our residents a sense of belonging. We should all work together to develop a plan to keep them, versus tossing them in the wood pile. The City should honor its agreement with the Balboa Island donors and residents. It can and should be done!

The Balboa Island Preservation Association is a community-led organization working to achieve its preservation mission for the enjoyment and benefit of Balboa Island residents, merchants, visitors and for future generations.

## **STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL - RAMCO**

January 28, 2020 Agenda Item No. 18

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** David A. Webb, Public Works Director - 949-644-3311,

dawebb@newportbeachca.gov

PREPARED BY: Kyle Brodowski, Equipment Maintenance Superintendent,

kbrodowski@newportbeachca.gov

**PHONE:** 949-718-3464

TITLE: Approval and Award of On-Call Maintenance and Repair Services

Agreement with RAMCO General Engineering Contractors for Balboa Island Wooden Bench Maintenance & Refurbishment

Services

## **ABSTRACT**:

The City currently utilizes contractors for the maintenance and repair of the existing 109 wood benches, as well as 26 wood framed trash cans on Balboa Island. All of these wood benches, (56 Teak wood benches and 53 Jatoba wood benches) were donated to the City over the past 24 years. In order to meet community requests and expectations, the benches need to be refinished at minimum once per year.

Staff has now received formal bids to perform ongoing maintenance and refurbishment of the wood benches and trash cans on Balboa Island and requests City Council's approval to award a two-year, maintenance and repair contract to RAMCO General Engineering Contractors. Given the high cost to maintain these wood benches and trash cans, staff also seeks direction on the long-term maintenance level and refurbishment plan for these items.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

- a) Determine this action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines because this action will not result in a physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly;
- b) Approve a two year on-call maintenance and repair services agreement with Emilio Ramirez dba RAMCO General Engineering Contractors for a not-to-exceed contract amount of \$691,720.00, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the agreement; and
- c) In order to fund the first year of this contract, approve Budget Amendment No. 20-029 transferring appropriations of \$88,400.00 from the Balboa Island Enhancements Project in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget account 01201928-980000 and appropriating \$213,460.00 in increased expenditures from the General Fund unappropriated fund balance to the Public Works account 0109041-851016; and

d) Provide direction on whether the level of maintenance for the existing wood street furniture should be continued and budgeted for in FY 2020-21 and future years or if an alternative course is desired.

## **FUNDING REQUIREMENTS:**

In order to award this contract and fund the first year of refurbishments, staff proposes to use \$44,000 currently budgeted within the FY 2019-20 Public Works Department, Facility Maintenance, Building Maintenance and Repair account (0109041-851016) for bench repairs and refurbishments, as well as a one-time transfer of the remaining \$88,400 available within the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget (account 01201928-980000 Balboa Island Enhancements). In addition to these funds, it will be necessary to appropriate an additional \$213,460 from the General Fund to cover the funding shortfall.

In order to sustain this increased cost to provide maintenance and refurbishment service on the wood benches and trash cans on Balboa Island into year two of this contract, the FY 2020-21 Public Works maintenance and operation budget will need up to an additional \$301,860 of General Fund appropriations.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The City initially installed concrete benches on Balboa Island due to their longevity and low maintenance costs. At the November 7, 1995 Parks, Beaches, and Recreation Commission (PB&R) meeting (Attachment C), the City received a request to donate a concrete bench by the Ibbotson family on Balboa Island. However, the Balboa Island Improvement Association (BIIA) requested a more appealing, nautical aesthetic type of bench and advocated for Teak benches instead of concrete benches be placed on the island. While the Commissioners and the City expressed concerns of high maintenance costs, the BIIA stated (as noted in the meeting minutes) the solid teak benches should last 75 – 100 years and spoke to the durability, cost and maintenance benefits of teak.

At the PB&R meeting on January 2, 1996 (Attachment C), the City and Commissioners again expressed concerns on maintenance costs. The PB&R Commission approved the Teak benches on the condition the BIIA would obtain donations for the Teak benches and assume all costs for the maintenance of the benches.

Due to the exposure to salt air, sun, and rain, the benches weathered much quicker than anticipated and have required considerably more maintenance than originally expected. Residents and community members often contact the City to have the benches refinished multiple times per year. Additionally, the benches are more susceptible to vehicular damage, splintering, and vandalism.

In 2004, Council approved the Marine Avenue Streetscape Improvement Project, which replaced 38 Teak wood benches, with Jatoba wood benches and 25 Jatoba trash cans. Five years later, in 2009 all the benches on Marine Avenue were replaced with Jatoba wood. To date there are 109 donated wood benches on Balboa Island, consisting of 53 Jatoba wood benches and 26 Jatoba wood framed trash cans on Marine Avenue and 56 Teak wood benches throughout the island.

On May 9, 2006, Council updated the City's donation policy, B-17. This update clarified the maintenance of future donated items would become the City's responsibility. At that time, the City had a fully functional wood shop with full-time carpenters on staff. The Department Director at that time had requested City staff to take on the maintenance of the benches on Balboa Island. City staff repaired, sanded, cleaned and refinished the benches on an annual basis, and sometimes sooner if requested. At the time, the estimated costs to refinish a bench using City staff was just over \$400 per bench. Since then, the City has seen a notable increase in service requests from residents to refinish the benches on a more frequent basis.

At Council's direction in 2012, the City revised how some services were provided and reduced its in-house workforce and contracted out for various programs and services. The Carpenter and Wood Shop function of Facilities Maintenance was one of the services eliminated and moved to private contract. In recent years, we have experienced an increase in contracting rates to provide various municipal services including construction trades such as Carpentry and Refinishing. Furthermore, with current competitive bidding requirements, prevailing wage, and insurance and bonding requirements, staff has seen an increase in costs, as well as limited bid responses in some circumstances.

Under prior policy direction, in addition to the estimated cost of the bench, the City also collected a fee of \$1,000 to cover maintenance costs, which was to cover the anticipated maintenance need for the useful life of the bench. Since the City took on the annual refurbishment of these wood benches on the island (initially with City staff and later with contractors), refurbishment and repair costs have grown well above the original \$1,000 per bench for the life of the bench.

After extensive review and discussion, the PB&R provided recommended changes to Council Policy B-17 – "Parks, Facilities, and Recreation Program Donations" to the City Council, which included changing which type of benches may be donated. Four sustainable bench options were recommended, with wood benches no longer being one of the options. City Council approved these recommended changes to Council Policy B-17 at their September 10, 2019 City Council meeting. These changes, however, only applied to new bench donations going forward and did not review or address the high cost of maintaining the current 109 Jatoba and Teak benches and 26 Jatoba trash cans already in existence on Balboa Island.

In an effort to maintain the expected level of service for the wood benches and trash cans on Balboa Island, staff advertised and requested formal bids for this service. After two unsuccessful bidding advertisements, on September 26, 2019, the City received one proposal from Emilio Ramirez dba RAMCO General Engineering Contractors ("RAMCO"):

	BIDDER	TOTAL BID AMOUNT
1	Emilio Ramirez DBA RAMCO General Engineering Contractors	\$691,720.00

RAMCO possesses both an "A" and "B" Contractor's License, as required by the project specifications. Staff performed a review of references provided for RAMCO on currently awarded contracts that contain similar scopes of services for other municipalities; additionally, RAMCO has also performed recent facility maintenance work throughout the City, including refurbishment of these benches and trash cans, and staff is satisfied with their performance.

The bid item for each basic wood bench refurbishment included removing the bench, refurbishing (dis-assembly striping, sanding, re-varnishing, plaque removal/polish, reassembly), and re-installation. The total bid cost above provides for up to two refurbishments per bench per year; however, staff intends to refurbish each bench once per year, with additional refurbishments only as necessary. Depending on the condition of each bench, refurbishment could also include repairs such as replacing wood slats or other broken item, some milling work, or plaque replacement. This work would be completed at an added cost and the project bid also includes an allowance for a certain amount of said repair work. It should also be noted that even though we need to award a contract for the total amount of the requested bid of \$691,720, staff will only expend the amount needed to match the directed service level (e.g. one annual refurbishment for each bench).

Based on the bid proposal received from RAMCO, staff estimates the base cost to refurbish each existing wooden bench and trash can once a year for another 10 years would be approximately:

Item	Annual Refinishing Cost	Number of Items	Total Annual Cost	Total 10 Year Cost
Teak Bench Jatoba Bench Jatoba Trash Can	\$1,150 \$960 \$750 \$125	56 53 26 109	\$64,400 \$50,880 \$19,500 \$13,625	\$644,000 \$508,800 \$195,000 \$136,250
Plaque Polishing  Total			\$148,405	\$1,484,050

As shown in the above table, the costs to maintain and refinish these wood benches and trash cans on the island far exceeds the original maintenance fee of \$1,000 that was collected for each of the items at the time of donation.

Given that a full refurbishment has not been done in the last two years, the high frequency of citizen requests for additional refinishing, and that some level of maintenance is expected based on past practices and payment of a maintenance fee at the time of donation, staff recommends the City Council award a contract to RAMCO General Engineering Contractors to perform one complete repair and refinish effort on all the existing wood benches and trash cans on Balboa Island. Further, given these high costs to maintain said wood benches and trash cans, staff seeks City Council direction if this level of maintenance should be continued and budgeted for, or if an alternative course should be taken.

One last note that should be mentioned as part of staff's recommendation above is that to the best of staff knowledge and records, all originally donated wood benches are still in place and have been repaired/replaced when broken or damaged rather than removed, thus extending their use well beyond their intended, original useful life.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:**

Staff recommends the City Council find this action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

## **NOTICING:**

The agenda item has been noticed according to the Brown Act (72 hours in advance of the meeting at which the City Council considers the item).

## **ATTACHMENTS**:

Attachment A – Maintenance & Repair Services Agreement with RAMCO

Attachment B – Budget Amendment

Attachment C – Meeting minutes of Parks, Beaches and Recreation Commission,
November 7, 1995 and January 2, 1996 and Staff Report without
Attachments

## **CONTRACTOR BIDS**

- 1. New Bench Procurement BIDS DM Braum, Laguna Hills
- 2. Bench Restoration BIDS

DM Braum, Laguna Hills Coast Restoration Services, Newport Beach Furniture Fixxers, Anaheim RAMCO, Los Angeles (Separate Attachment)

### **DM Braun & Company**

23011 Alcalde Drive. Suite G. Laguna Hills,, CA 92653 US 714-674-0855 tom@dmbraunco.com www.dmbraunco.com



## **Estimate**

ADDRESS
CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

SHIP TO NEWPORT BEACH, CA. 92662 ESTIMATE # 1481

DATE 01/22/2021

EXPIRATION DATE 06/30/2021

**50% DEPOSIT DUE** 

50%

JOB NAME
BALBOA BENCHES

DATE	ACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION		QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
	Custom Bench	WOOD: JATOB/ CHERRY) LEGS: PRECAS FINISH: MATCH	T CONCRETE LEGS	1	1,500.00	1,500.00T
All sales are s	subject to our terms of sale. By acc	centing this estimate you	SUBTOTAL			1 500 00

All sales are subject to our terms of sale. By accepting this estimate you are agreeing to our terms of sale. If you do not have a copy of our terms of sale, please ask.

When an estimate becomes an order it is non-refundable once our production process starts. Customers who cancel orders are responsible for all costs incurred, including engineering time and a 20% cancellation fee.

 SUBTOTAL
 1,500.00

 TAX
 116.25

 TOTAL
 \$1,616.25

Accepted By Accepted Date

## Balboa Island Marine Ave Bench Proposal

Inbox

## **Dustin Hall <coastrestorationservices@yahoo.com>**

to me

### Option 1

Benches will be removed and a loaner set installed during restoration process(5 days). We will complete 7-8 benches a week to finish entire bench project within a 2 month period. A professional clean and recoat of stain would be applied to build material throughout a 2 year period. Price per bench for this option would be **\$400 per bench.** 

## Option 2

Benches would be removed without replacement bench and returned back within 5 business days. Benches would get cleaned and refreshed(stained) at 6mo. The cost for this option would be \$275 per bench.

I have refinished the Balboa Island Benches for a total of 12 years. I started them back in the early 2000's when I had worked for a company called Teak Restoration and then I started my own company Coast Restoration Services where I serviced the City of Newport Beach for over 8 years. My company has been involved in many exclusive projects including Montage Laguna Beach, Balboa Bay Club, Peninsula Point Assos, Sea Crest Developers, etc!

I have the knowledge and expertise to take on this project and manage it effectively. I would encourage using loaner sets(benches) during project to eliminate safety concerns with missing benches.

Trash cans that have Jatoba slats would cost \$195 per unit and can be refinished in place to avoid removal of wood.

If you should have any questions, or concerns please give me a call and we can discuss. Thank you

Dustin Hall Coast Restoration Services

Sent from my iPhone

### **Dustin Hall**

## **Coast Restoration Services**

## coastrestorationservices@yahoo.com

## Completed Projects:

## Balboa Island- City of Newport Beach

- Refinished and maintained Balboa Island Teak and Jatoba benches and wood slatted trash
  cans.
- Serviced the City of Newport for over 10 years.

## Balboa Bay Club- Newport Beach

· Restored all furniture in their restaurant and lounge.

## Montage Residences in Laguna Beach

Managed all Montage residences that had teak outdoor furniture.

## Seacrest Developers Inc

• Responsible for all wood refinishing and maintenance for their clients

## Rooftop Lounge in Laguna Beach

• Restored all outdoor furniture on rooftop deck. Included 290 pieces of furniture.

## La Casa Del Camino Hotel in Laguna Beach

• Refinished exterior doors and windows at hotel

## Peninsula Point HOA

• Refinished all outdoor furniture at the park on Balboa Peninsula

### Private Residences-

 Servicing over 150 homes with outdoor hardwood furniture, decks, docks, and garage doors. Furniture Fixxers & Colagrossi Cabinets

3911 E LA PALMA AVE ANAHEIM, CA 92807 (714) 632-3499 furniturefixxers@gmail.com http://www.furniturefixxers.com

## **Estimate**

ADDRESS

Jody

City of Newport

**ESTIMATE #** 1265 **DATE** 05/26/2021

ACTIVITY	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
Park benches quote)			
park bench slats, 8ft each and 7 per bench. Total 56 linear ft and finish all 4 sides.	İ.		
Services performed, remove all slats and refinish them to match original color with stain finish and penetrated oil topcoat for durability.			
Clean plaques on wood backs, rope off area with cones and caution tape and leave existing concrete supports in place.			
Contract is for 5 benches at a time with a total of 53 benches.			
Services Labor for removal and install of slats including all work explained per bench, materials included in quote.	53	445.00	23,585.00
TC	DTAL	\$2	3,585.00

Accepted By Accepted Date

## **RAMCO BID**

Attached separately as received through public records request

## **BIPA ANALYSIS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### Product Details and Maintenance

- 1. Concrete
- 2. Plastic (Polywood)
- 3. Jatoba (Brazilian Cherry)
- 4. Maintenance Issues- Plastic Benches

## Bench Restoration & Procurement Cost Analysis Summary

Exhibit A – Bench Restoration Cost Analysis

Exhibit B – Bench Procurement Cost Analysis

## Proposed Community Plan for Balboa Island Benches

- 1. Plan Summary
- 2. Bench Standards
- 3. Procurement
- 4. Restoration
- 5. Short and Long-Term Maintenance
- 6. Program Management
- 7. Community Support

# PRODUCT DETAILS AND MAINTENANCE

## **Issues With Concrete**

Costly	\$2,800 - \$3,000 each	
Limited Lifespan	10 Years	Examples
Not Sustainable	Concrete is not reusable	
Cracks	Concrete furniture is not made from paving grade concrete and easily cracks	
Erodes	Concrete does not do well in coastal areas. The salt in the air rust the rebar from the inside out causing the concrete to break around the rebar	
Stains	Concrete easily stains from food, grease and dirt. It cannot be removed.	
Breaks	Concrete furniture is susceptible to breaking	
Graffiti	Concrete is the perrr-fect canvas for graffiti	

## **Issues With Plastic**

Costly	\$2,800 - \$3,000 each	
Limited Lifespan	10 Years	Evernal es
Biodegradable	Plastic is NOT biodegradable and often ends up in the landfill or worse.	Examples
Warps	Polywood (Plastic furniture) is not maintenance free and can warp over time	
Breaks	The sun and salt air make plastic brittle.	
Stains	A 3 year old Polywood chair left outside and uncovered.  Polywood absorbs airplane fuel, a greasy substance that lodges within the compound of plastic. It cannot be bleached or removed.	
Fades	Plastic fades, but unlike wood, plastic cannot be refinished.	
Graffiti	Difficult to remove graffiti on plastic as it absorbs the paint	STR-RP-LESTY

## Virtues of Jatoba Wood-Brazilian Cherry

Costs	\$1,500 Contract Pricing from BIPA							
Lifespan	Rated by the US Forest Products Lab for 25 years	Examples						
Low Maintenance	20-25 Years (maintained every two years)							
Sustainable	Jatoba comes from sustainable wood groves and is primary used for ship building, furniture, cabinets, flooring and untreated railroad ties in other parts of the world.							
Long-Lasting	Jatoba is 400% harder than teak wood. Jatoba is naturally resistant to termites and rot, and tolerates mildew better than teak wood unless very expensive "premium" grade teak is purchased (made out of Heartwood the center of the tree).	Painted teak bench with termite damage						
Stain Resistant	Jatoba is stain resistant due to its density and naturally darker color. If stained, they can be easily sanded out unlike plastic or concrete.	Jatoba Teak						
Unforgiving	Wood finishes will fade over time, but Jatoba can be restored to look like new every few years and lasts twice as long as other products	BALBOALISLAND						
History	Since the 1950's, the wood benches on Balboa Island have been a tradition to both residents and visitors on both Marine Ave and the Bayfront	DRIES S						

## **Faux Wood is Not Maintenance Free**

Location	Maintenance Issue	
Bench # 1 Edgewater & Medina Ave	Cracked plastic seat which could be a safety issue	
Bench #2 Irvine Terrace Park	Polywood bench with corroding metal supports	
Bench #3 East Bluff Park	Plastic is easier to graffiti on than finished wood and is not easily removed by sanding	Magasa
Bench #4 Edgewater & Medina Ave	Plastic benches warping	

## Faux Wood is Not Maintenance Free Page 2.

Location	Maintenance Issue	
Bench #5 East Bluff Park	Plastic bench seats warping	
Bench # 6 East Bluff Park	Dents in plastic can't be sanded out like wood	
Bench #7 Irvine Terrace Park	Finish coming off on Polywood metal frame	
Bench #8 Bayside Drive	Lightweight plastic benches are easily moved Also a hazard for tipping over	

## **Bench Restoration & Procurement Cost Analysis Summary**

The Balboa Island bench cost analysis and historical data has identified the following funding opportunity that we believe warrants the purchase of Jatoba benches to replace the teak benches on the Balboa Island boardwalk and the restoration of the 109 Jatoba wood benches every other year.

The following are highlights of the enclosed cost analysis and potential funding:

Per the <u>City of Newport Beach, City Council Staff Report, January 28, 2020</u> – Agenda Item No. 18 "The Approval and Award of On-Call Maintenance and Repair Services Agreement with RAMCO General Engineering Contractors..."

- Monies from the Balboa Island Enhancements Project (account 01201928980000) in the amount of \$88,400.00 (which has been funding other projects in Newport Beach besides Balboa Island) can be allocated to support Balboa Island enhancement projects such as the procurement and restoration of Balboa Island benches. (Pg. 1 item C).
- Monies that were budgeted each year in the amount of \$44,000 for Balboa Island Bench Repairs and Refurbishments (account 0109041-851016) should have been allocated to support the restoration of Balboa Island benches over the last five years. This money, in the amount of \$220,000 over 5 years has not been used for the refurbishment of Balboa Island benches as initially committed by the city (either from grants to organizations or direct procurement). This money should have been applied to maintain the wood benches to extend their useful life (Pg. 2 Funding Requirements).

#### Restoration

BIPA's cost analysis uses the current contractor cost of \$445.00 per bench, which includes painting the concrete legs for each bench (requested by Public Works). We believe the leg painting will not need to be done again for many years. The additional \$45.00 per bench, when not needed to paint the legs, could be used as future contingency funds (e.g., ordering of new bolts/screws and additional man-hours).

BIPA's project plan significantly reduces the overall bench restoration cost, as proposed by Public Works to City Council on January 28,2020. In addition, BIPA's plan provides important community involvement and saves the City of Newport Beach and taxpayers \$940,125.00 over a ten-year period (**Exhibit A**). The plan, as enclosed, does not even take into consideration the <u>additional cost savings</u> of any supplemental restoration funding provided by donors or supporters before the two-year maintenance obligation. In addition, providing the restoration contract through an organization such as BIPA will ensure future cost savings in the same way as the recent Marine Ave sidewalk power-washing decision, which is now being funded through a grant to the Balboa Island Merchants Association.

#### **Procurement**

BIPA's plan reduces the cost of bench procurement from the city proposed \$2,800-\$2,900 per bench, as presented to City Council on January 28, 2020, saving the City of Newport Beach and taxpayers more than \$300,000 dollars over a twenty-year period (Exhibit B). Per the presentation to Council, the wood benches were placed on Balboa Island more than 24 years ago. Although the benches are still usable today, the teak benches are very close to the end of their useful life, which we believe was accelerated by the lack of maintenance over the past 5 years.

We believe that the proof is in the pudding. The numbers show that the wood benches are more economical and sustainable over time. The following cost analysis is based on a conservative estimate of a 20-year lifespan for Jatoba wood benches and the procurement of Jatoba benches to replace the teak wood benches.

## **Exhibit A**

## **Bench Restoration Cost Analysis**

					Ye		Year 2				
City Council Staff Report Jan. 28th, 2020 *RAMCO Bid/Proposal	l 1 Time Costl		Number	1 Time		Total 2 Time Cost		Total 3 Time Cost		Total 4 Time Cost	
Teak Bench	\$	1,150	56	\$	64,400	\$	128,800	\$	193,200	\$	257,600
Jatoba Bench	\$	960	53	\$	50,880	\$	101,760	\$	152,640	\$	203,520
Jatoba Trash Can	\$	750	26	\$	19,500	\$	39,000	\$	58,500	\$	78,000
Plaque Polishing	\$	125	109	\$	13,625	\$	27,250	\$	40,875	\$	54,500
Total					148,405	\$	296,810	\$	445,215	\$	593,620

\*Note: The bid from RAMCO General Engineering Contractors was quoted by City Staff as "not to exceed" \$691,720 for performing the refinishing 2x per year for a total of 2 years. However, City Staff presented the individual Refinishing costs above in the same presentation. So, since we have never been able to see the full, unredacted bid from RAMCO it's not clear what is causing the descripancy between the Total bid of \$691,720 and Total above of \$593,620 based on the individual item costs which were presented in the meeting with City Council.

					Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 10		
City Council Staff Report Jan. 28th, 2020 *Staff Recommendation	1 Ti	toration me Cost er Item	Number	1 Time		Total 2 Time Cost		1 Time 2 Time 3 Time 4 Time		2 Time 3 Time		Total 4 Time Cost		Total 10 Time Cost	
Teak Bench	\$	1,150	56	\$	64,400	\$	128,800	\$	193,200	\$	257,600	\$	644,000		
Jatoba Bench	\$	960	53	\$	50,880	\$	101,760	\$	152,640	\$	203,520	\$	508,800		
Jatoba Trash Can	\$	750	26	\$	19,500	\$	39,000	\$	58,500	\$	78,000	\$	195,000		
Plaque Polishing	\$	125	109	\$	13,625	\$	27,250	\$	40,875	\$	54,500	\$	136,250		
Total					148.405	Ś	296.810	Ś	445.215	Ś	593.620	Ś	1.484.050		

\*Note: City Staff recommended to City Council that they only do the refinshing once per year, versus twice per year as

the contract for the originally proposed total amount of the requested \$691,720 but that staff would only expend the amount needed to match the directed service level (e.g. one annual refurbishment for each item).					
Equal Comparison					

			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 10
City Council Staff Report	Restoration	Number	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total
Jan. 28th, 2020	1 Time Cost	of	1 Time	2 Time	3 Time	4 Time	10 Time
(Jotoba Benches Only)	per Bench	Benches	Cost	Cost	Cost	Cost	Cost
Jatoba Bench	\$ 960.00	109	\$ 104,640	\$ 209,280	\$ 313,920	\$ 418,560	\$ 1,046,400
Plaque Polishing	\$ 125.00	109	\$ 13,625	\$ 27,250	\$ 40,875	\$ 54,500	\$ 136,250

Total	\$ 118,265	\$ 236,530	\$ 354,795	\$ 473,060	\$ 1,182,650

			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 10
BIPA Proposal	Restoration	Number	No	Total	No	Total	Total
(Jotoba Benches Only)	1 Time Cost	of	Cost	1 Time	Additional	2 Time	5 Time
	per Bench	Benches	Cost	Cost	Cost	Cost	Cost
Jatoba Bench	\$ 445.00	109	\$0	\$ 48,505	\$48,505	\$ 97,010	\$ 242,525
Plaque Polishing Included	\$0	109	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total			\$0	\$ 48,505	\$48,505	\$ 97,010	\$ 242,525

BIPA Plan Savings
BIPA Proposal Difference
Percentage of City Bid

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 10		
\$ (118,265)	\$ (188,025)	\$ (306,290)	\$ (376,050)	\$ (940,125)		
0%	20.5%	13.7%	20.5%	20.5%		

The BIPA Plan will provide services for about 1/5<sup>th</sup> the cost of the City Staff proposal, saving more than \$900,000 in restoration costs over a ten year period.

## **Exhibit B**

## **Bench Procurement Cost Analysis**

				A	Initial cquisition	,	Year 10	Year 20
City Staff Recommendation	Acquisition Cost per Bench	Number of Benches	Projected Lifespan (Years)		Total 1 Time Cost		Total 2 Time Cost	Total 3 Time Cost
Plastic or Concrete Bench	\$ 2,800	56	10	\$	156,800	\$	313,600	\$ 470,400

					Intial quisition	Year 10	Year 20
BIPA Recommendation	Acquisition Cost per Bench	Number of Benches	Projected Lifespan (Years)	1	Total Time Cost	No Additioonal Cost	Total 2 Time Cost
Jatoba Bench	\$ 1,500	56	20	\$	84,000	\$84,000	\$ 168,000

BIPA Plan Savings							
BIPA Proposal Difference							
Percentage of City Bid							

	Intial Acquisition		Year 10	Year 20			
	\$	(72,800)	\$ (229,600)	\$	(302,400)		
Ī	54%		27%	36%			

The BIPA Plan long-term will purchase benches for **less than half** of the City Staff proposal, **saving over \$300,000** in acquisition costs over a 20 year period.

## PROPOSED COMMUNITY PLAN

### **Plan Summary**

The community recommendation for the Balboa Island benches, as defined below, considers the costs to the City of Newport Beach, product sustainability, community commitment and the desires of the residents on Balboa Island. This plan reduces the cost and maintenance effort that would typically be provided by city staff, while ensuring the donor investment is honored. Also, recommended is program management during the restoration to address quality control, receive community input and a point of contact to the City of Newport Beach. The Balboa Island community supports retaining the wood benches which are considered an important part in the history and character of the island.

#### **Bench Standards**

- Benches should be consistent in look and style.
- Benches should be in good condition and safe.
- Due to their cost and durability, BIPA recommends that all benches on Balboa Island be Jatoba (Brazilian Cherry), with "Balboa Island" inscribed on the top slat of the bench.
- Donor plaques will be removed from any teak benches that are deemed to be at their "end of useful life" and replaced on new Jatoba benches.

#### **Bench Procurement**

- The community must receive the best pricing available.
- To ensure special contract pricing, consistency, and product quality, the Jatoba benches will be procured through Tom Giacinto, President of DM Braun, a locally owned, small business manufacturer located in Laguna Hills, California.
- The City of Newport Beach has currently purchased 5 new Jatoba benches from DM Braun to use during the phased bench restoration on Marine Ave.
- Jatoba benches procured in 2021/2022, and refinished very two years, are not anticipated to be replaced until year 2041-2046 (20-25 years).

#### Restoration

The cost of the restoration of wood benches on Marine Ave and the Balboa Island boardwalk can be provided by a grant program and managed by an island organization such as BIPA.

- Restoration shall be provided by highly qualified, small business contractors that have experience restoring benches of the Jatoba species. Through BIPA, there are currently three qualified contractors that can provide restoration at \$400.00 per bench:
  - 1. DM Braun, Laguna Hills, CA
  - 2. Furniture Fixxers, Anaheim, CA
  - 3. Coast Restoration Services, Newport Beach, CA
- Contractors shall carry the appropriate professional liability insurance to cover at minimum three times the annual contract value of the restoration project.

#### **Proposed Community Plan** (Continued Pg. 2)

#### Short and Long-term Maintenance (Jatoba Wood)

- Restoration of the Jatoba wood benches will be conducted every other year from the first month/year of purchase. (Every 2 years)
- The City of Newport Beach will provide a community grant to restore the benches and an organization such as BIPA can provide the Program Management; similar to current Balboa Island maintenance projects that are being funded by grants.

#### **Program Management**

Provide Program Management for the restoration of the Balboa Island benches on Marine Ave and the Bayfront. This effort will be on-going and will include:

- Update and maintain the list of bench donors and associated contact information.
- Photo document and catalog all benches and their locations.
- Provide community outreach and ensure community feedback to the city, providing the city a one point of contact for the benches on Balboa Island.
- Interface with donors and supporters to encourage realistic expectations and address any concerns.
- Provide an annual financial report and restoration worksheet to our District 6 Councilman, Noah Blom and to the City Manager, Grace Leung by December 31 of each year.
- The financial report will include both grant and community funds, which benches the funds were applied to and the date of restoration.

### **Community Support**

- Should they desire, donors and or supporters will have the ability to provide funding for additional bench restoration that would occur in-between the two-year restoration obligation.
- Any community funding received will be utilized for bench restoration only.
- All restoration efforts will go through the Program Manager to ensure adherence to the standards referenced in this plan.

# If Wood Benches Are Good Enough for <u>City Hall</u> They're Good Enough for the Taxpayers!!







