



## REPORT TO COUNCIL City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2604  
www. CityofSacramento.org

STAFF REPORT  
August 28, 2007

Honorable Mayor and  
Members of the City Council

**Title:** California Indian Heritage Center (CIHC) Project (KD61)

**Location/Council District:** Northgate Area of American River Parkway/Council District  
1

**Recommendation:** Adopt a **Resolution:** 1) revising the scope of the CIHC (KD61) project to support costs associated with an alternative land acquisition for a future CIHC interpretive area north of the American River between Discovery Park and Boy Scout Camp Pollock in the American River Parkway; 2) reducing the project (KD61) budget from \$6.3 million to \$0.3 million; 3) directing staff to develop a City-County Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) formalizing a partnership in the aforementioned land acquisition, including identification of funding for the purchase of land to add property to the American River Parkway; and 4) directing staff to return to City Council for a CRCIP reprogramming workshop.

**Contact:** J.P. Tindell, Park Planning & Development Manager, 808-1955

**Presenters:** Cassandra Jennings, Assistant City Manager; J.P. Tindell, Park Planning & Development Manager

**Department:** Parks and Recreation

**Division:** Park Planning & Development Services

**Organization No:** 4727

**Description/Analysis:**

**Issue:** The City has formally supported the location of the CIHC in Sacramento since spring 2004, and allocated \$6.3M of CRCIP funds intended to be used for land acquisition on the south side of the American River, in the Richards Boulevard Redevelopment Area (Resolution 2006-366). In May 2007, the State CIHC Task Force decided it no longer had interest in pursuing acquisitions on the south side of the American River in Sacramento, for which the City's funds were primarily intended to be used. Therefore, the City's role in and scope of this project has been significantly modified. A summary of the project description is included as Attachment 1 (page 5). The decision to acquire any specific parcel or parcels of property for the CIHC project is not before the City Council at this time.

**Policy Considerations:** This project is consistent with the City Council adopted Strategic Focus Area for 2007 to "provide and protect open space for its environmental, safety, agricultural and recreational values." It will also contribute significantly to tourism and economic development. CRCIP funds are to provide for a major investment in quality of life issues in the community; the open space land acquired for the CIHC would benefit the City and the region.

**Committee/Commission Actions:** The State CIHC Task Force is an appointed advisory group for the project which meets regularly. The State's project staff plans to provide informational presentations on the project throughout the course of planning and implementation phases to groups such as the City's Parks and Recreation Commission, Planning Commission, Neighborhood Leadership Groups (Downtown NAG), River District Board, County Board of Supervisors, County Recreation and Parks Commission, and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) Board.

**Environmental Considerations:** The Environmental Services Manager has determined that the appropriation of funds to be used for the tasks necessary prior to potential property acquisition (such as appraisals) is not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The appropriate CEQA evaluation will occur prior to any potential land acquisition for the CIHC, with the City as Lead Agency. Once appropriate analysis has been completed on the proposed project, applicable environmental evaluation will be brought before Council for approval at a later date.

**Rationale for Recommendation:** In late May 2007, a series of formal actions by the State CIHC Task Force (Attachment 2, page 6) concluded with consideration of use of properties in Sacramento in the American River Parkway only as the preferred location for the outdoor interpretive elements (nature experience) of the CIHC. Though the State will be proceeding with West Sacramento as their preferred site for the majority of the CIHC's facilities, it has been requested by the State CIHC Task Force that the City continue evaluating potential land acquisition on the north side of the American River between Boy Scout Camp Pollock and Discovery Park because of the State's continued

interest in use of property in the Northgate Area of the American River Parkway (Attachment 3, page 8).

The geographic zone of interest in the City of Sacramento recommended by the State CIHC Task Force was revised in May 2007 to include only land in the American River Parkway between Discovery Park and Hwy. 160. The Center's main facilities will be built on the Sacramento River in West Sacramento, across from Discovery Park, serving as its "front door." In the Parkway, the CIHC will be unique in its integration of both outdoor and indoor facilities into the natural setting. There is also interest on the part of the State for consideration of bridge connections both across the Sacramento and American Rivers. Facilities in the Parkway must comply with the adopted American River Parkway Plan.

It has been a shared goal of the State, City and County for at least two decades to acquire additional land for the American River Parkway. These agencies adopted the 1985 American River Parkway Plan which includes an implementation measure to "pursue land acquisition of privately owned lands within the Parkway." It is proposed that funding for the potential land acquisition be funded through sources other than CRCIP funds as listed in the Financial Considerations. A timeline for acquisition is included in Attachment 3, page 9.

**Financial Considerations:** A total of \$6.3 million of CRCIP funds was allocated by the City for the project in support of property acquisitions in the Richards Boulevard Area. Funding for administrative, legal and other costs associated with land acquisition were included in this allocation. To date, those expenditures total approximately \$157,000 and cover administrative and other costs associated with the pursuit of land acquisition in the Richards Boulevard area (including CEQA review, project management staff time, and property reservation compensation).

Staff estimates that a total of \$300,000 of CRCIP funding will be necessary to include both expenditures to date and a City contribution to securing land for the CIHC facilities proposed in the American River Parkway in Sacramento. Additional funding would be required to actually purchase the aforementioned section of the American River Parkway land from one or a combination of the following sources:

1. Loan from the State Water Resources Control Board. Staff will return to Council for approval of the terms of this loan.
2. Fees paid to the County for mitigation allowed in the American River Parkway.
3. Fees from Regional Transit as required mitigation anticipated for the eventual crossing of the Parkway by the Downtown-Natomas-Airport light rail transit line.
4. State grants that may come from the City and/or County and be associated with various aspects of implementation of this project (e.g. Proposition 84, available in 2009).

**Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):** No goods or services are being purchased as a result of this report.

Respectfully Submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES L. COMBS  
Director, Parks and Recreation

Recommendation Approved:

  
for RAY KERRIDGE  
City Manager

**Table of Contents:**

Report	pg. 1
<b>Attachments:</b>	
1 Background Information	pg. 5
2 Key Milestones/Local Actions	pg. 6
3 CIHC Location Map	pg. 8
4 Schedule for Next Steps: Acquisitions	pg. 9
5 Resolution	pg. 10

**Attachment 1****Background Information**

The purpose of the California Indian Heritage Center (CIHC) is to honor the diversity and history of California Native Indian people by preserving cultural and tribal traditions, nurturing contemporary expression, and facilitating research and education for California, the nation, and the world. The Center will also house the state's extensive collection of Native Indian cultural objects.

The CIHC will fill a long-standing need in the state, serving the needs and enriching the lives of both Native and non-Native citizens. It will replace the current State Indian Museum in Sacramento with a center where people can come together, celebrate and preserve the Native Indians' past, and promote the continuation of its traditions. It will also be a place where California students, teachers, and families can learn about the history and heritage of California's indigenous people and contemporary Indian life. It will be a destination for tourists from around the world to learn about Native American culture in California.

Preliminary concepts for the facility include formal exhibit galleries for historic and contemporary exhibitions, a theater, outdoor village reconstructions, native plant gardens, and ceremonial areas. The total size of modern buildings is estimated to range up to 125,000 square feet. In addition to gallery and programming spaces, one or more structures will contain curation facilities, a research center, meeting rooms, office and support areas, a shop, and possibly facilities for food service. The grounds will include areas for special events and traditional gatherings. Construction may take place in phases, but the vision for the completed center is for it to serve as the hub of cultural activities throughout the state to attract visitors by networking existing and emerging local, State, and tribal museums through electronic media, training programs, and shared exhibitions.

The geographic zone of interest in the City of Sacramento recommended by the CIHC Task Force was revised in May 2007 to include only land in the American River Parkway between Discovery Park and Hwy. 160. The Center's main facilities will be built on the Sacramento River in West Sacramento, across from Discovery Park, serving as its "front door." In the Parkway, the CIHC will be unique in its integration of both outdoor and indoor facilities into the natural setting. There is also interest on the part of the State for consideration of bridge connections both across the Sacramento and American Rivers. Facilities in the Parkway must comply with the adopted American River Parkway Plan.

Staff requests City Council direction to continue the CEQA compliance process for the project elements located in the City of Sacramento. Final project details will be subject to conditions and project modifications derived from the environmental review process, and all necessary property acquisitions by the City will not occur unless and until the CEQA review is certified, unless an acquisition is exempted.

**Attachment 2**

**Key Milestones/Local Actions**

March 23, 2004: City Council adopted Resolution 2004-198 supporting the location of the new California Indian Cultural Center and Museum within the City of Sacramento at a possible site on the Lower American River between Cal Expo and confluence with the Sacramento River.

July 21, 2005: City Council adopted Resolution 2005-047 directing City evaluation of riverfront parcels located within the Richards Boulevard area in support of the proposed CIHC and allocating funds in support of property acquisitions.

December 12, 2005: Regional Transit Board approved inclusion of both Options D and E (2 sites on 12<sup>th</sup> St. between Sproule and Richards Boulevard, less than ½ mile from the River) as proposed locations for the Dos Rios Light Rail Station (goal of the CIHC is a location as close to the River as possible).

March 7, 2006: City Council adopted Resolution 2006-183 accepting the Gateway District Streetscape Master Plan for improvements to existing street amenities including curb, gutter, sidewalks, lighting and landscaping in the area bounded by North 12<sup>th</sup> St., North 16<sup>th</sup> St. and the Union Pacific/Amtrak Railroad lines south of A Street.

April 18, 2006: City Council approved addition of \$6.3M in Community Reinvestment Capital Improvement Program (CRCIP) as a contribution to land acquisition.

May 18, 2006: Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) Board adopted Resolution 06-053 supporting the establishment of the CIHC within the Richards Blvd. Redevelopment Area and the Lower Reach of the American River Parkway.

May 23, 2006: County of Sacramento Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution 2006-0640 supporting the establishment of the CIHC within the Richards Boulevard Redevelopment Area and the Lower Reach of the American River Parkway where facilities and programming can be accommodated in a naturalistic setting consistent with the American River Parkway Plan.

May 25, 2006: State CIHC Task Force reconfirmed commitment to split site in Sacramento along American River.

June 2006: Capitol Station District announced new name as River District; new "Vision for the Future" identified a Top Priority Action to "Plan and develop the California Indian Heritage Center" to meet their goal for "Enhanced Community Facilities and Amenities."

Summer 2006: County completed draft of American River Parkway Plan Update with Update Citizen Advisory Committee (UCAC), providing policy and guidelines for interpretive facilities and services in the Parkway which would allow for these in association with a facility such as the CIHC.

February 23, 2007: City staff traveled to CIHC Task Force meeting in Southern California to respond to concerns raised about feasibility of property assembly and acquisition on south side of American River in Richards Blvd. Area. Task Force subsequently voted to conclude property acquisition negotiations in this area.

May 23, 2007: CIHC Task Force voted to proceed with West Sacramento as preferred site for majority of Center's facilities. Also indicated continued interest in use of property in Northgate Area of American River Parkway.

NOTE: THIS DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY COMMITMENT BY THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO, THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO, SAFCA OR CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS. USE OF ANY OF THE LANDS WITHIN THE ZONE OF INTEREST FOR THE CIHC IS DEPENDENT UPON FUTURE ACQUISITIONS AND AGREEMENTS AND IS SUBJECT TO CITY AND COUNTY PLANNING REGULATIONS, THE AMERICAN RIVER PARKWAY PLAN AND THE PARKWAY MANAGEMENT ENTITY.



**ARPP GENERAL HABITAT AREAS**

- GRASSLAND & SAVANA & COTTONWOOD HABITAT
- RIVERINE, RIPARIAN & RIPARIAN FOREST HABITAT
- EXISTING "RELIC" FORESTS & FUTURE OAK WOODLANDS
- DIMINISHED HABITAT AREAS WITH IDENTIFIED CONSTRAINTS ON RESTORATION

**BOUNDARIES, ACCESS & TRAILS**

- PED/BIKE OVERCROSSING (& EMERGENCY VEHICLES)
- TRAILS (OTHER WALKWAYS, MAINTENANCE ROADS NOT SHOWN)
- VEHICULAR ACCESS POINTS

**FACILITIES**

- INTERPRETIVE STRUCTURE (IC)
- PARKING (P)
- OVERFLOW PARKING EVENT CAMPING (OP)
- RESTROOMS (WC)

PROPOSED CALIFORNIA INDIAN HERITAGE CENTER - GENERAL AREA CONCEPT PLAN  
AUGUST 7, 2007

**Attachment 4**

Schedule for Next Steps: Acquisition Process  
Target Dates

City-County MOU developed and approved	Fall 2007
Complete Environmental Review	Spring 2008
Pursue acquisitions	Starting September 2007
Complete acquisitions	Fall 2008

Notes:

- 1) Land Use Changes in Richards Blvd. Area complementary to the CIHC: Will be pursued further in collaboration with area property owners, implementing the River District "Vision for the Future."
- 2) Periodic status reports on this project will be provided by staff to City Council.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2007-**

Adopted by the Sacramento City Council

**August 28, 2007**

**APPROVING THE CALIFORNIA INDIAN HERITAGE CENTER (CIHC)  
PROJECT (KD61)**

**BACKGROUND**

- A. On March 23, 2004, City Council adopted Resolution 2004-198 supporting the location of the new California Indian Cultural Center and Museum within the City of Sacramento at a possible site on the Lower American River between Cal Expo and confluence with the Sacramento River.
- B. On April 18, 2006, City Council approved addition of \$6,300,000 in Community Reinvestment Capital Improvement Program (CRCIP) as the City's contribution toward land acquisition.
- C. On February 23, 2007, City staff traveled to the CIHC Task Force meeting in Southern California to respond to concerns raised about feasibility of property assembly and acquisition on the south side of the American River in the Richards Boulevard Area. The CIHC Task Force subsequently voted to conclude property acquisition negotiations in this area.
- D. On May 23, 2007, the CIHC Task Force voted to proceed with West Sacramento as the preferred site for the majority of the Center's facilities. The task force also indicated continued interest in use of property in the Northgate Area of the American River Parkway.

**BASED ON THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE BACKGROUND, THE CITY COUNCIL  
RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

- Section 1. The scope of the CIHC (KD61) project is revised to support costs associated with an alternative land acquisition for a future CIHC interpretive area north of the American River between Discovery Park and Boy Scout Camp Pollock in the American River Parkway.
- Section 2. The CIHC project (KD61) budget is reduced from \$6.3 million to \$0.3 million.
- Section 3. Staff is directed to develop a City-County Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) formalizing a partnership in the aforementioned land acquisition, including identification of funding for the purchase of land to add property to the American River Parkway.

Section 4. Staff is directed to return to City Council for a CRCIP reprogramming workshop.