



Project Progress Report December 2007

Introduction

The *California Indian Heritage Center Project Progress Report* has been developed to provide regular updates and information regarding the CIHC project. Some catching up is needed for all that has happened this year. The most significant accomplishment is that we are about a month away from completing a Conveyance Agreement with the City of West Sacramento for transfer of the California Indian Heritage Center's (CIHC) 43-acre preferred site to the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for control by the CIHC. The Task Force will review the agreement and it will go to the City of West Sacramento City Council for concurrence in February 2008. Once that is done, we will be embarking on the General Plan/Environmental Impact Report (GP/EIR) process that must be done before construction can begin. More information on this is below.

The *CIHC Progress Reports* will be a long needed way of keeping everyone informed about project developments. The CIHC Newsletter, the first of which was distributed in October, will also continue quarterly. It will provide more in depth information on particular project aspects. Meanwhile, the *Project Progress Reports* will provide a more timely way to keep the CIHC Task Force, the California Indian community, and other stakeholders apprised of project activities. It will be sent to those on the CIHC mailing list via email when possible and mailed to those on the list who have no email addresses. It will be posted on the CIHC website www.CIHC.parks.ca.gov. If you know of any group or individual that would like to receive these reports, please contact:

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If you have any questions or would like to discuss the project, please let me know.

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Project Progress Report December 2007

Summary of 2007 Task Force Actions

The Task Force Votes to Discontinue Negotiation with the City and County of Sacramento on the Richards Boulevard Site for the California Indian Heritage Center

In the February 26, 2007, the Task Force met at Viejas Reservation in San Diego County to discuss continuing and unresolved issues regarding the acquisition of the land at Richards Boulevard along the American River. After much deliberation, the Task Force voted to conclude negotiations with the City of Sacramento. The Task Force had to resolve land issues since the site was first selected as the CIHC preferred site in 2003. The Task Force did express its continuing interest in the Northgate site for future interpretive programming, limited interpretive facilities, and overnight activities. The Task Force also voted to reopen the site selection process, including any other viable sites that the City of Sacramento might be able to offer.

Selection of a New Preferred Site for the California Indian Heritage Center

On May 23, 2007, the Task Force met in Sacramento to review three alternate sites in the Sacramento area and selected a new preferred site. Before making its decision, the Task Force conducted site visits and reviewed new information presented about the Folsom Lake State Recreation Area, the original backup site. They then toured a site proposed jointly by the City of Sacramento and the State of California at the California Exposition and State Fair grounds, and finally a 43-acre site offered by the City of West Sacramento. After due consideration, the Task Force selected the 43-acre East Riverfront site offered by the City of West Sacramento as the new preferred site for the CIHC. The site sits along the Sacramento River, opposite the confluence of the American and Sacramento Rivers.

Further Discussion Regarding the West Sacramento Site

On August 30, 2007 the Task Force meeting was sponsored by the Rumsey Band of Wintun Indians. The meeting was held in the Rumsey Band's tribal hall. At this meeting, the Task Force discussed the constraints and opportunities of the West Sacramento site. The Task Force wanted to ensure that there were no obstacles to construction of the CHIC at the site, in terms of impacts to protected plants, wildlife, and cultural resources. Presentations were made by the City of West Sacramento, State Parks environmental staff and CIHC consultant EDAW. The EDAW segment included a presentation by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants. Of special concern was the issue of the site's positioning along the river and flood plain issues. It was determined that before the CIHC is constructed, levee repairs will be completed. Any facilities constructed will be raised to a height above the 200 year flood level. Additionally,



Project Progress Report December 2007

during high water, flood protection is managed through the opening of the Sacramento Weir, redirecting the river flows in reverse as the excess water is pulled into the Yolo Bypass. DPR Resources staff indicated that environmental impacts to protected plants and wildlife could and would need to be mitigated according to state and federal guidelines.

Completion of the Interpretive Planning and Programming Project Phase

At the October 16, 2007 meeting held in Sacramento, the Task Force unanimously voted to accept the interpretive planning document called the *California Indian Heritage Center: The Developing Vision Interim Planning and Programming Report*, prepared by Ralph Appelbaum Associates Incorporated. Acceptance of this report documented and concluded the CIHC interpretive and programming phase and the CIHC Indian advisory group's participation in that important grass roots level work, which lays the foundation for development of future work. The report is an important first step in CIHC development and will be an important tool in communicating what the CIHC is intended to be to the Indian community, and to our future stakeholders and donors. The document should be published and distributed in early January 2008. Copies will be distributed to the Advisors in gratitude for their kind services and generous donation of their time.

Business Plan

The RFP (Request for Proposals) for the Comprehensive Business Plan went out to bid in November. The successful contractor should be selected in mid-January 2008 and will be responsible for developing strategies for fundraising and marketing, as well as governance and staffing plans. If you are interested the viewing the contract, the link for the RFP can be located on the CIHC website www.CIHC.parks.ca.gov.

Site and Facility Master Plan

The Master Planning element will describe site constraints and opportunities, infrastructure, circulation, and the relationship between CIHC facilities and the site in all respects. It will define the architectural blocks and describe the materials that are envisioned to be used in design development. It will define the project at full build out and will target an achievable first phase development along with projected phased development costs. This is the last portion of EDAW's contract and is to be completed by March 2008. The work will provide the basis for the General Plan/Environmental Impact Report.



**Project Progress Report
December 2007**

**Land Conveyance and General Plan / Environmental Impact Report
(GP/EIR)**

Members of the CIHC project team met with City of West Sacramento staff on November 21st to discuss the particulars of a land conveyance agreement. The agreement will convey the property to DPR for its planning and development process. Final title of the property will be conveyed to DPR and the CIHC upon the completion of specific performance measures specified in the agreement to be accomplished by the City of West Sacramento and by State Parks. These measures are currently being negotiated, but may include such things as completion of the GP/EIR, completion of architectural design and working drawings for phased development, and securing funding for the completion of the project's first phase. The agreement should be ready for presentation to and concurrence by the City of West Sacramento City Council in February 2008. The agreement will then be prepared for action and approval by the State Public Works Board (PWB), scheduled for the April 11, 2008 meeting.

The GP/EIR process will be initiated in February through a Request for Qualifications for a contractor to complete the GP/EIR. Rob Wood will coordinate the GP/EIR phase. The preliminary schedule for the GP/EIR appears below.

A core group of Indian advisors has volunteered to advise DPR throughout the Master Planning and GP/EIR process. These individuals were members of the original Advisory Groups to develop the Interpretive Plan. They are: Alexandra Harris, Cristina Gonzalez-Moreno, Frank La Pena, Sherrie Smith-Ferri, Adriane Tafoya, and Cliff Trafzer. The Task Force will be represented by Bill Mungary.

An orientation and kick-off with the Core Advisors was held on December 11th in Sacramento with DPR project staff and EDAW, the CIHC Master Planning consultant. A series of stakeholder meetings were held the evening of December 11th and December 12th to discuss the project and get initial views on the project from City of West Sacramento government stakeholders, community groups and other constituents. The meetings were coordinated by EDAW.

Preliminary GP/EIR Schedule

<u>Scope of Work</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
Prepare New Project Agreement	October 2007
PPPC (DPR Parks Planning & Programming Committee) Approval of Project Agreement	November 2007
Public Meeting (Planning Update) California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping Meeting	May 2008
Preparation of Alternatives	June 2008



Project Progress Report December 2007

<u>Scope of Work</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
Complete Resource Inventories	September 2008
Public meeting/planning workshop #2 (Present & discuss Alternatives)	June 2008
Public Meeting #3 (Present Preferred Alternatives)	January 2009
Produce Administrative Draft General Plan Document(s)	February 2009
District, Team, DPR review of Admin. Draft General Plan/EIR	February 2009
PPPC review and comment on Draft GP/EIR	February 2009
Local Agency review and comment (if necessary)	February 2009
Preparation of Preferred Alternatives (includes PPPC review & comment)	October 2009
Make plan revisions & finalize Preliminary GP/Draft EIR	March 2009
Public Review of Preliminary GP/Draft EIR(s) CEQA (Prepare Final EIR with Response to Comments)	March-April 2009
Prepare Staff Report for Director's Briefing	August 2009
Parks and Recreation Commission Hearing	December 2009
Print & distribute Final General Plan(s) & EIR	January 2010

Staffing

Ileana Maestas was hired as the new State Indian Museum/CIHC Museum Curator I. Her start date was July 1, 2007. Her office is at the State Indian Museum. She will be the onsite supervisor at the Indian Museum and will oversee collections issues for both Indian Museum and the CIHC. Before coming on as Curator, Ileana worked for DPR part-time providing support and coordination for Brian Bibby's inventory project (see "**Tribal Treasures**" for more on this).

Yanicut Franco (Tachi Yokuts) was hired part-time to work at the State Indian Museum. She is a student at California State University, Sacramento. Yanicut is working at the Indian Museum front counter and is also helping Ileana on curatorial issues. Her father, Lalo Franco, has long been involved with cultural resource and NAGPRA issues for Santa Rosa Rancheria in Lemoore.

Lucia Callias (Konkow, Round Valley Reservation) has begun as an intern working with Ileana. She is a student at The Met, a charter school in Sacramento.

Sarah Fonseca, is now full-time as a Guide I, Historical Monuments. Sarah has worked on the project since the summer of 2006. She started as a student intern, while she was working on her Bachelors of Science degree in Recreation Administration at California State University, Sacramento. As a Guide I, Sarah will be working on tour programming for the CIHC, which will include programs for visits to the CIHC site once the land is conveyed by the City of West Sacramento.



Project Progress Report December 2007

The State Indian Museum has also hired an additional Guide I, Historical Monuments. Connie McGough has worked at the Museum for a number of years as a Park Aide and a Guide Trainee. She starts her new position January 2nd. She will be providing operational support for interpretive and tour programs at the Indian Museum, and will act as volunteer and educational outreach coordinator.

California Indian Community Outreach

The project has had the opportunity to be presented at events such as the 40th Annual California Indian Day celebration at the State Capitol, and the California Indian Conference at UC Davis. Julie Holder (Kumeyaay) has been identifying venues and participating in events in Southern California, increasing the project's visibility there. She and CIHC Curator Ileana Maestas have been giving tours of the West Sacramento storage facility, where the CIHC tribal treasures are being cared for. They will continue to conduct tours of the facility, and gathering information that the community and families wish to share. Once the land is conveyed, outreach meetings at selected spots throughout the state are envisioned.

Tribal Treasures

The inventory of the tribal treasures housed in West Sacramento has been completed under contract with Brian Bibby. 3,162 baskets having California Indian cultural affiliation have been identified. For approximately 1900 baskets, Mr. Bibby was able to identify weaving technology, materials, culture, date, and donor information. Ralph Shanks, Ivan Jackson (Modoc), Margaret Matthewson, Sherrie Smith-Ferrie (Pomo), Susan Billie (Pomo), Catherine Fowler, and Justin Farmer (Iipay) all contributed to this project. Their comments, expertise and recommendations were recorded in the Parks electronic inventory database.

Brian Bibby's contract was funded by a State Parks Stewardship grant. In October Paulette Hennum, Rob Wood and Ileana Maestas were informed that there was more funding available to continue previously funded projects. Ileana, in collaboration with the contracting office, applied for funding to continue Brian's work. The funds were approved in November. This second phase of the California Indian Basketry Project will focus on more research into the weavers themselves, complete photographic work for the database, ensure all baskets have their weaving technology and materials recorded, collaborate with more weavers and consultants, and continue collection conservation.

Governance

Incorporation documents were filed with the Office of the Secretary of State in September. This is the first step in forming the non-profit for the CIHC. The next step is



Project Progress Report December 2007

the completion of the bylaws and the 501 (c) 3 filing for the state and federal government. Task Force member Bill Mungary will be taking the lead for the Task Force in helping to develop the bylaws.

State Indian Museum Operations

Office Remodel

The office remodel is now complete except for telephone lines, which will be completed in December. Rob Wood has moved into his office and can be reached by email or phone (see above). The rest of the remodeling: break-room/library, entry/sales area and enhancements to current gallery/meeting room space will be complete in January 2008.

Native Plant Garden and Remodeling the Fenced-in Area

A garden cleanup day was held October 6th, to remove weeds and generally cleanup the Native Plant Garden around the Museum and pond. It is hoped to be a regular event at the Museum. This was a first step in working with the local Indian community to identify appropriate existing plans and those that should be added to the garden. Randy Yonemura (Miwok), Ileana Maestas, Indian Museum Volunteer Mary Krucik, and Rob Wood participated. In consultation with local Native Americans, a next step will be enhancements to the Native Garden and the fenced area behind the Museum. The fence itself is slated to be fixed in December. Plans include the removal of the unsafe and dilapidated sweat house. Also under discussion is the replacement of the replica roundhouse (which will have to be removed because of its deteriorated condition) with a covered fire circle that can be used year-around for programs and meetings.