



# ***Agenda Report***

## ***Fullerton City Council***

**MEETING DATE:** JUNE 1, 2021

**TO:** CITY COUNCIL / SUCCESSOR AGENCY

**SUBMITTED BY:** STEVE DANLEY, ACTING CITY MANAGER

**PREPARED BY:** ALICE LOYA, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION

**SUBJECT:** HILLCREST PARK KOREAN WAR MEMORIAL AGREEMENT

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### **SUMMARY**

Staff requests approval to enter into an agreement with the Orange County Korean War Memorial Committee (OCKWMC) for development of a Korean War Memorial at Hillcrest Park adjacent to the Duck Pond (near Brea Boulevard and Harbor Boulevard). The memorial will commemorate all United States Service members that died during the war with their names inscribed on the monuments.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Authorize City Manager to execute Hillcrest Park Korean War Memorial Agreement (Attachment 2) for construction and maintenance obligations relating to the Korean War Memorial, in a form approved by the City Attorney.

### **PRIORITY POLICY STATEMENT**

This item matches the following Priority Policy Statements:

- Infrastructure and City Assets.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

No fiscal impact. OCKWMC will pay all costs associated with construction, installation and ongoing maintenance of the Korean War Memorial. The total cost of the war memorial project is estimated at \$1.1 million. OCKWMC has raised nearly all of the funding needed. OCKWMC does not expect the City to provide any funding for the installation nor ongoing maintenance of the memorial.

## BACKGROUND

The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Los Angeles formed an Orange County Korean War Committee to honor those Americans who sacrificed their lives during the Korean War by constructing a memorial in Fullerton. The City of Fullerton and OCKWMC entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in March of 2014 to “facilitate mutually beneficial efforts to promote a historic remembrance.” The City and OCKWMC considered several locations throughout the city for the memorial, however, these initial efforts tapered off and the OCKWMC subsequently postponed the project.

In 2019, OCKWMC members met with Mayor Fitzgerald to express interest in restarting their efforts and garnered support from City Council members and Fullerton’s local veterans groups.

On November 5, 2019, City Council approved a new MOU directing staff to work with OCKWMC on the war memorial project design. With a full funding commitment from OCKWMC, the City contracted landscape architecture firm Mia Lehrer + Associates to develop a concept plan and engineering drawings for the memorial at Hillcrest Park.

## DISCUSSION

Mia Lehrer + Associates has completed the plans and engineering drawings for the Memorial. The OCKWMC, the Fullerton American Legion and the Emblem Club have approved the plans. City staff anticipates approval of the construction permit in the first week of June. The memorial includes five granite stars on pedestals, flag poles, bench seating and a Korean War educational panel. The stars will have the names of all Americans who sacrificed their lives in the Korean War engraved on the sides. The Committee worked with City staff and the local veterans groups to complete the design.

The City Attorney’s office drafted an agreement for the construction and ongoing maintenance for the memorial with OCKWMC. The agreement gives OCKWMC non-exclusive use of and access to the war memorial area of Hillcrest Park for the construction, maintenance and liability obligations related to the Korean War Memorial in perpetuity. The agreement will not allow OCKWMC to alter or make any changes to the memorial after construction without the City’s permission. OCKWMC may have events and ceremonies with a permit issued by the City. OCKWMC will pay all costs, fees and liabilities associated with the design, construction and maintenance of the Korean War Memorial.

OCKWMC estimates cost for construction at \$1.1 million. OCKWMC has raised approximately \$1 million of the funding needed and continues its fund raising efforts to complete construction and ongoing maintenance. OCKWMC will contract with a project manager to help manage the construction project, including the selection of contractor. The granite stars have been manufactured and the names are being engraved. It is projected that construction will begin in July and end in September 2021. The ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for September 28, 2021.

### Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Korean War Memorial Illustrative and Conceptual Site Plan

Attachment 2 – Korean War Memorial Agreement

Attachment 3 – Korean War Memorial MOU