



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

John Wicker, Director

Norma E. Garcia, Chief Deputy Director

October 1, 2019

Mr. Andrew Salas, Chairman
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation
P.O. Box 393
Covina, CA 91723

Dear Mr. Salas:

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT FOR VARIOUS PARK
IMPROVEMENTS AT STEPHEN SORENSEN PARK IN THE
COMMUNITY OF LAKE LOS ANGELES**

The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has initiated environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for Various Park Improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park located at 16801 E. Avenue P, Lake Los Angeles, CA 93591. DPR proposes to develop new park amenities at Stephen Sorensen Park (Park), including a skate park of approximately 25,000 square feet in size (depending on design), gazebo/stage structure measuring 2,500 square feet, a fitness zone with shade structure measuring 1,600 square feet, a shade structure for existing playground measuring 1,800 square feet, and associated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements mainly within the developed portions of the park. A project location map and a site plan are enclosed for your information.

In accordance with Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52) and Section 21080.3.1(d) of the California Public Resources Code (PRC), we are responding to your request to be notified of projects in our jurisdiction that will be reviewed under CEQA. Your name was provided to us as the point of contact for your tribe. We are hereby notifying you of an opportunity to consult with us regarding the potential for this project to impact Tribal Cultural Resources, as defined in Section 21074 of the PRC. The purposes of tribal consultation under AB 52 are to determine, as part of the CEQA review process, whether or not Tribal Cultural Resources are present within the project area, and if so, whether or not those resources will be significantly impacted by the project. If Tribal Cultural Resources may be significantly impacted, then consultation will also help to determine the most appropriate way to avoid or mitigate those impacts.

In accordance with Section 21080.3.1(d) of the PRC, you have 30 days from receipt of this letter to either request or decline consultation in writing for this project. Please send your written response before October 31, 2019 to Ansley Davies, Associate Curator at

Mr. Andrew Salas
October 1, 2019
Page 2

(626) 588-5328 or by email to adavies@parks.lacounty.gov. If we do not receive a response within 30 days, we will proceed. Thank you and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



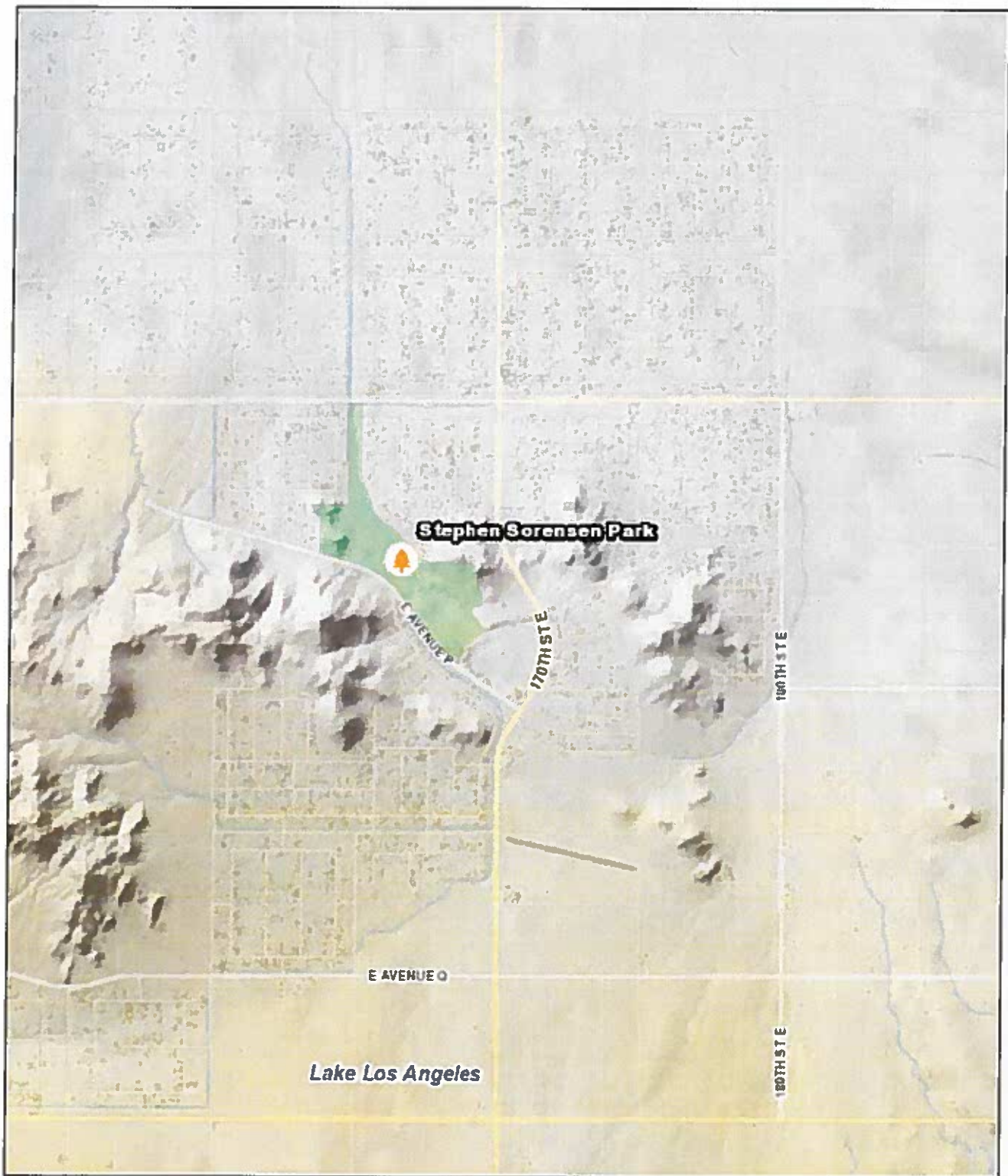
Alina Bokde
Deputy Director
Planning and Development Agency

AB:JIC:nr

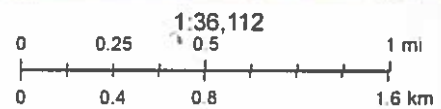
Enclosures

c: Parks and Recreation (J. Gargan, C. Kano, M. Glassock, C. Lau, L. Barocas,
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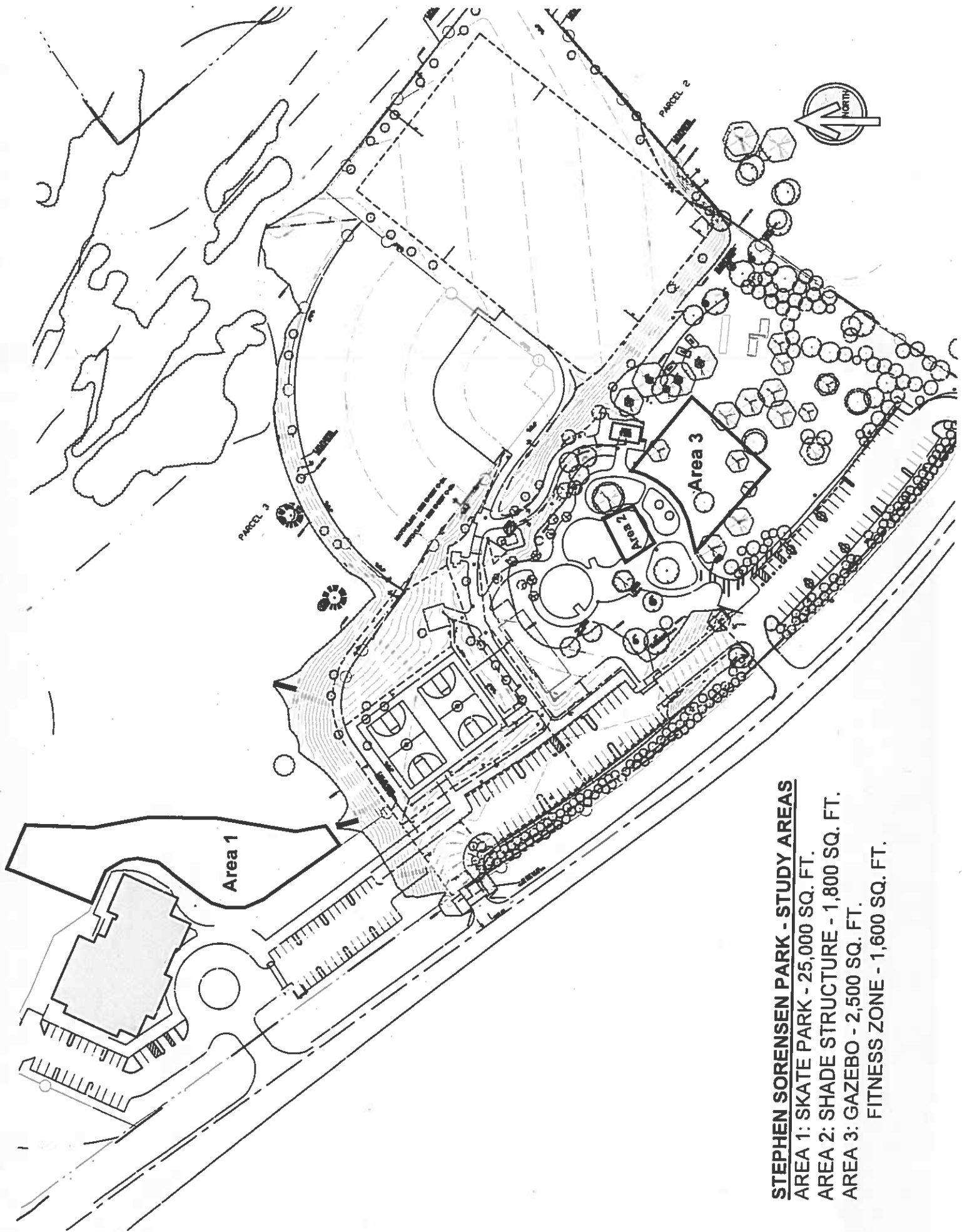
Various Park Improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park



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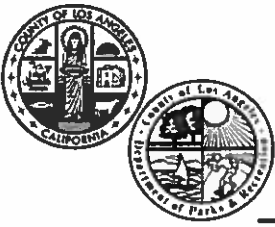
STEPHEN SORENSEN PARK - STUDY AREAS

AREA 1: SKATE PARK - 25,000 SQ. FT.

AREA 2: SHADE STRUCTURE - 1,800 SQ. FT.

AREA 3: GAZEBO - 2,500 SQ. FT.

FITNESS ZONE - 1,600 SQ. FT.



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John Wicker, Director

Norma E. Garcia, Chief Deputy Director

October 1, 2019

Ms. Lee Clauss
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA 92346

Dear Ms. Clauss:

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT FOR VARIOUS PARK
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COMMUNITY OF LAKE LOS ANGELES**

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Ms. Lee Clauss
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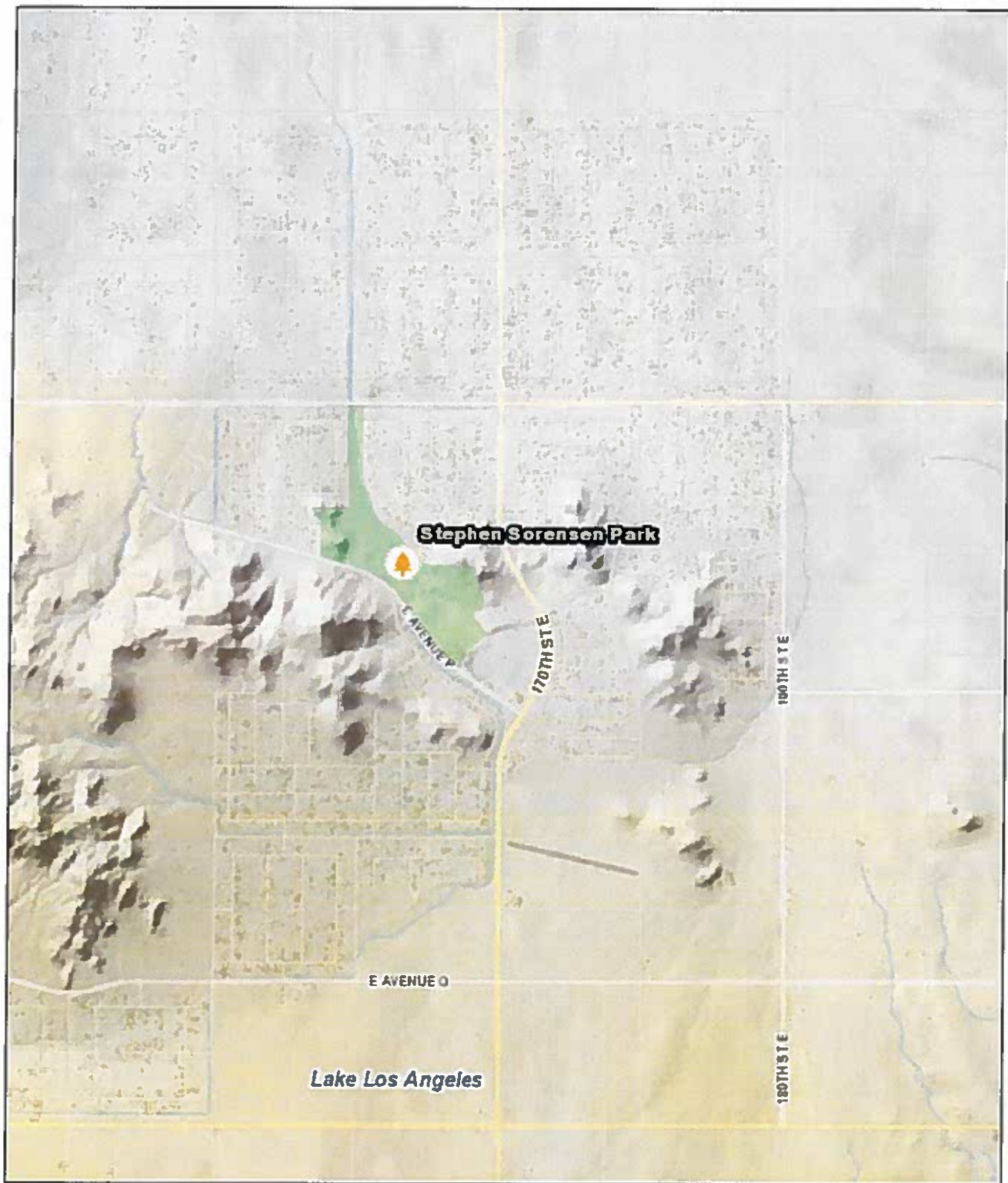
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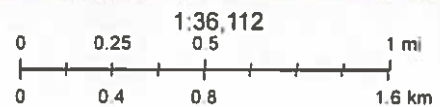
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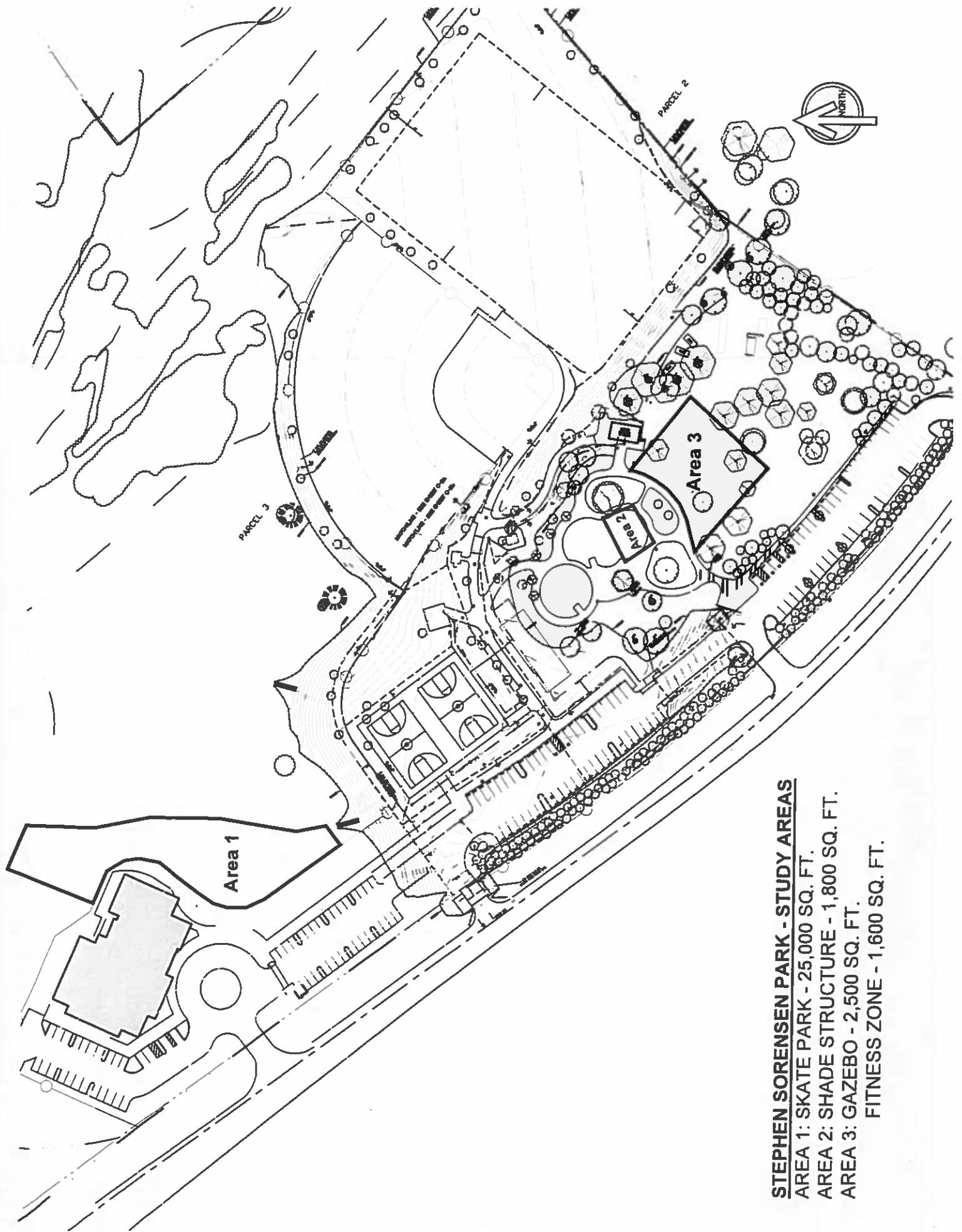
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October 1, 2019

Mr. Jairo Avila
Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer
Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
1019 Second Street
San Fernando CA, 91340

Dear Mr. Avila:

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT FOR VARIOUS PARK
IMPROVEMENTS AT STEPHEN SORENSEN PARK IN THE
COMMUNITY OF LAKE LOS ANGELES**

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Mr. Jairo Avila
October 1, 2019
Page 2

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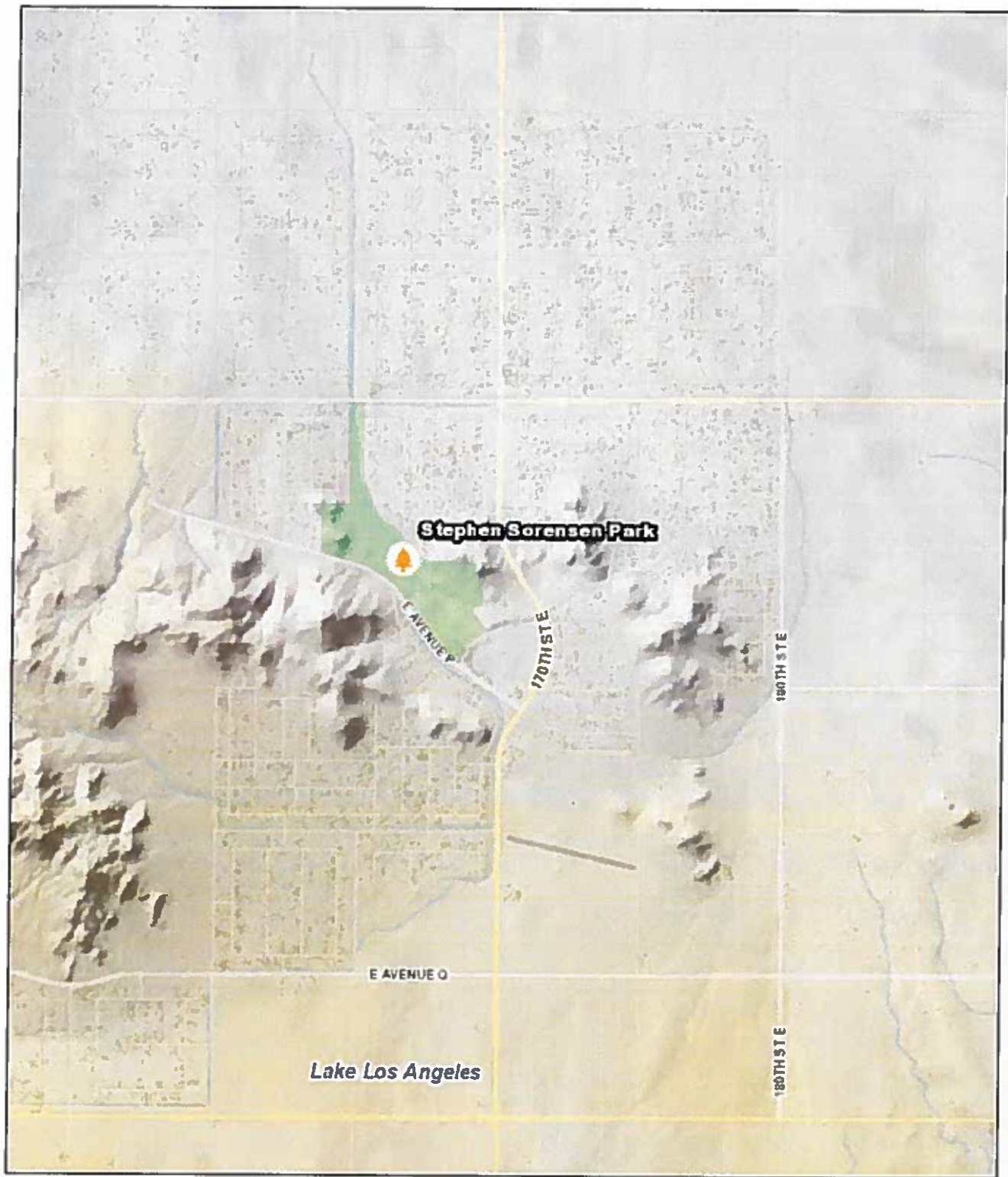
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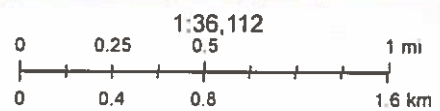
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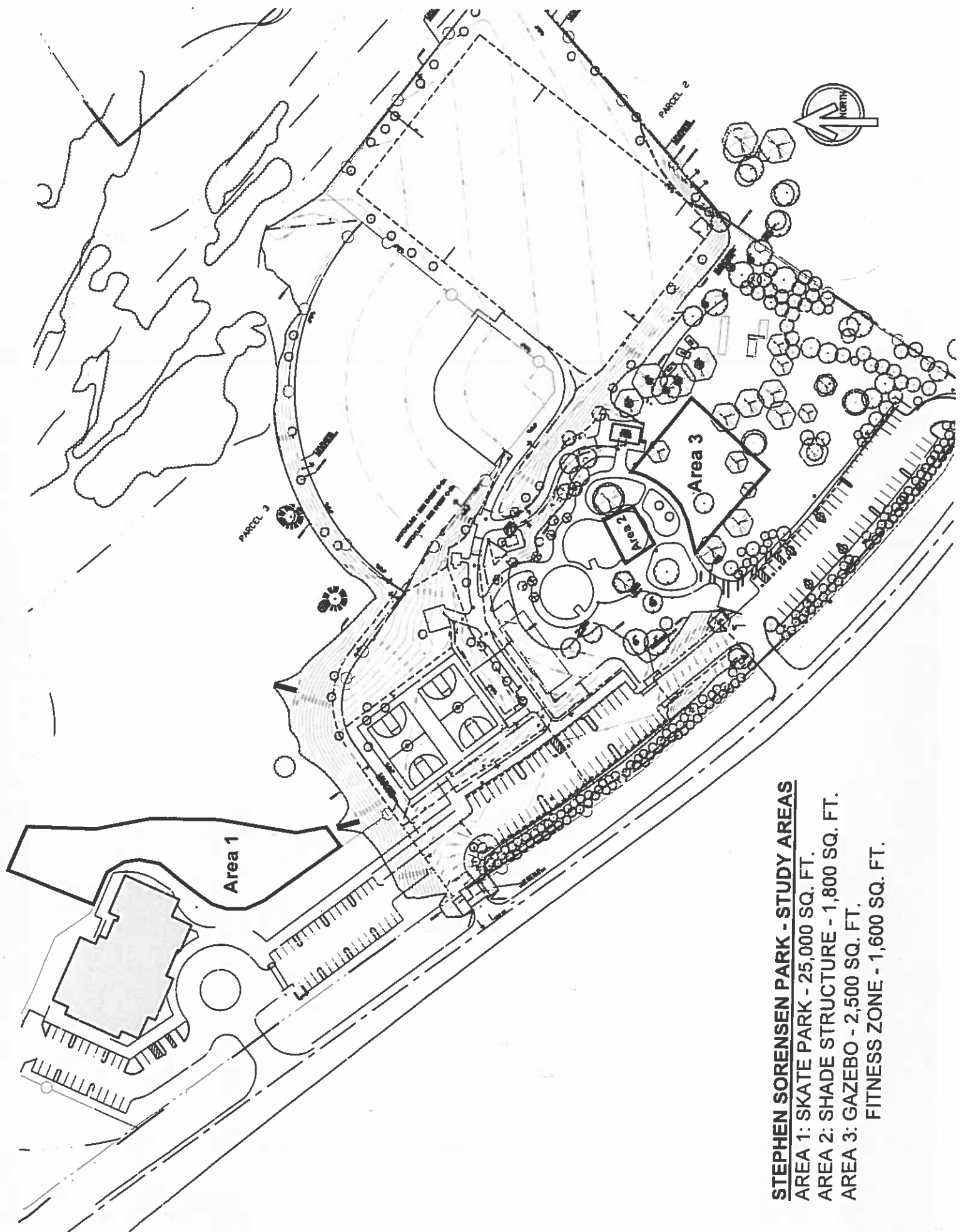
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October 1, 2019

Mr. Octavio Escobedo
Tejon Indian Tribe
1761 Hasti Acres Drive, Suite 108
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Dear Mr. Escobedo:

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT FOR VARIOUS PARK
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COMMUNITY OF LAKE LOS ANGELES**

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Mr. Octavio Escobedo
October 1, 2019
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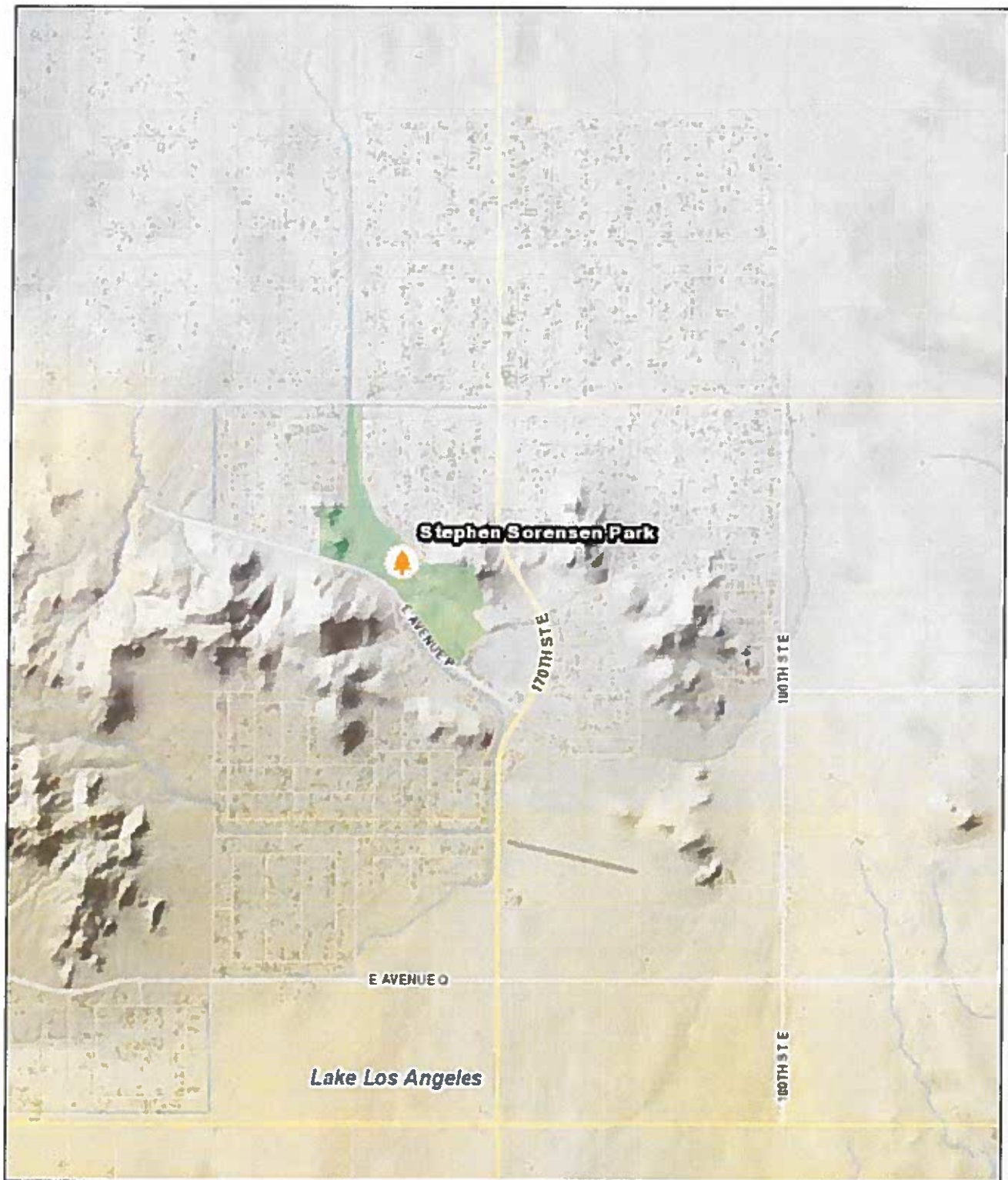
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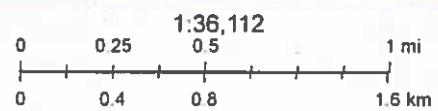
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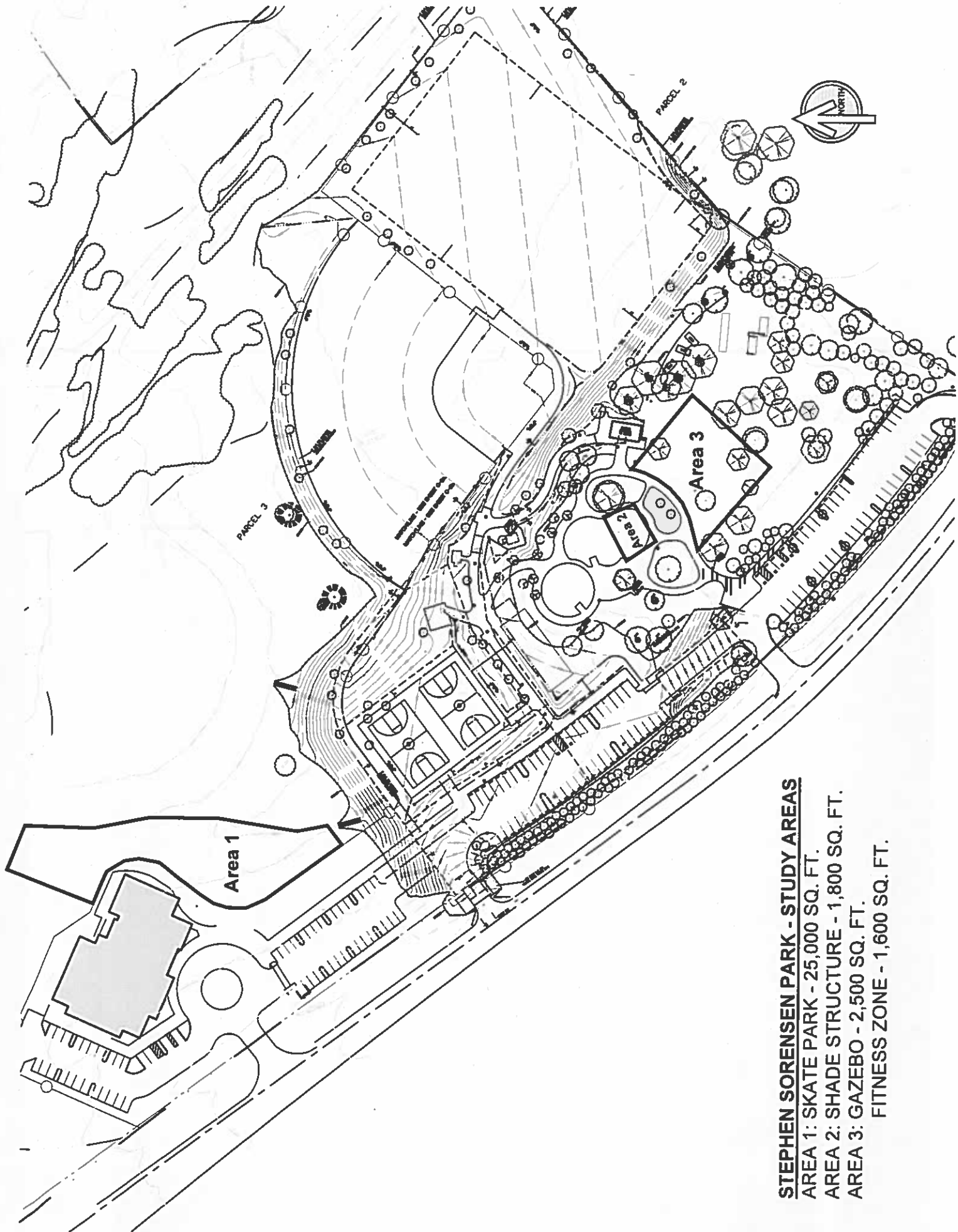
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October 1, 2019

Mr. Anthony Morales, Chief
San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
P.O. Box 693
San Gabriel, CA 91778

Dear Mr. Morales:

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT FOR VARIOUS PARK
IMPROVEMENTS AT STEPHEN SORENSEN PARK IN THE
COMMUNITY OF LAKE LOS ANGELES**

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Mr. Anthony Morales
October 1, 2019
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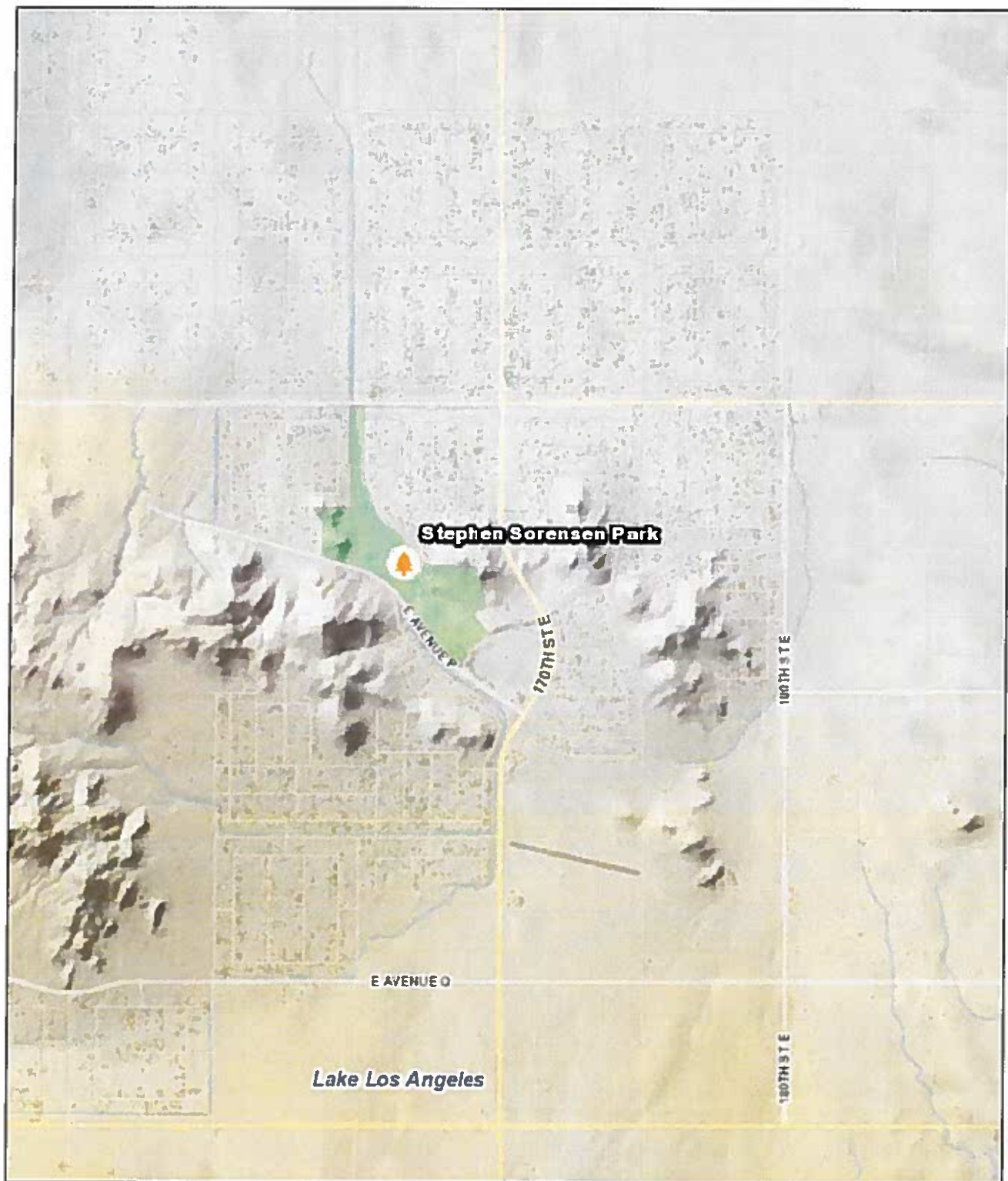
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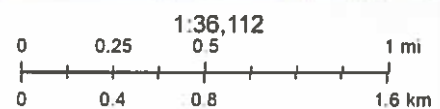
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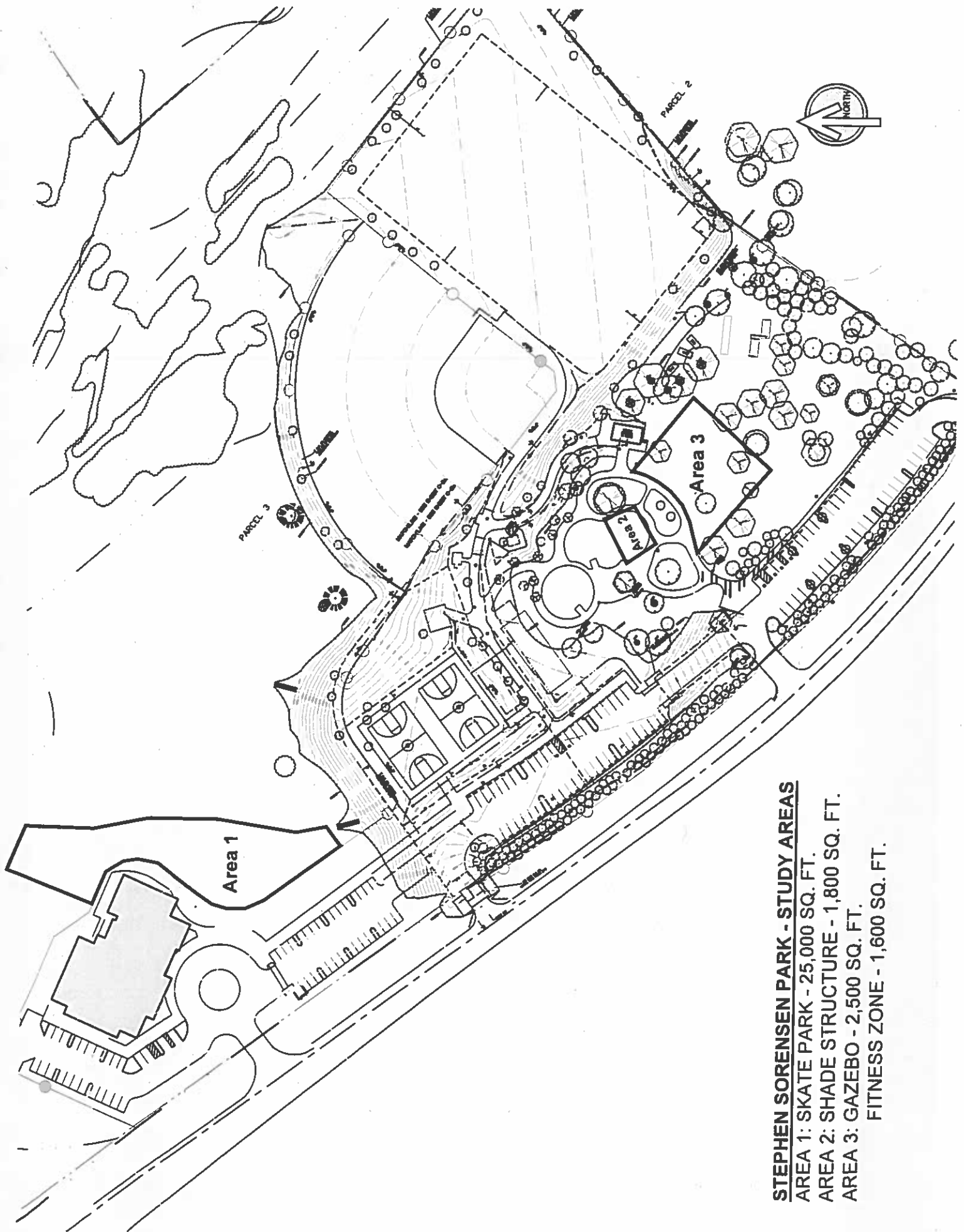
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FITNESS ZONE - 1,600 SQ. FT.

From: [Ansley Davies](#)
To: [Jairo Avila](#)
Cc: [Dore Burry](#); [Jui Ing Chien](#)
Subject: RE: Continued Consultation Under AB 52 for the Various Park Improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park, Lake Los Angeles
Date: Thursday, November 12, 2020 12:16:17 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

Hi Jairo,

Thank you for your comments for the Mitigation Measures (MM) for the proposed projects at Stephen Sorensen Park.

We will review your requests and get back to you. Please be advised that we are still waiting for comments to come in from SMBMI, so it would be best if we heard from them too before changes to the MM are finalized.

Sincerely,

Ansley Davies, Associate Curator

Planning and Development Agency
County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation
1000 S. Fremont Avenue, Unit #40
Alhambra, California 91803
(626) 588-5328
adavies@parks.lacounty.gov
parks.lacounty.gov
[60 Second Park Histories](#)
[Cultural Resources Map](#)
[Historic Photo Archive](#)
trails.lacounty.gov

Office hours are 7-5:30 M-Th. **This office is closed on Friday.**

From: Jairo Avila <jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us>
Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 10:19 AM
To: Ansley Davies <ADavies@parks.lacounty.gov>
Subject: Re: Continued Consultation Under AB 52 for the Various Park Improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park, Lake Los Angeles

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hello Ansley,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the MM language for this Project. As I pass this document along for internal review, I would like to clarify 1) if tribal monitoring will be conducted by one of the tribes in consultation (FTBMI, SMBMI), and can MM TCR-2 be updated to reflect this? 2) if each tribe will be allowed to provide a monitor if requested? 3) if having a monitor from each tribe during groundwork is not possible, can a system to alternate

monitoring be implemented? I also want to know if the SMBMI has reviewed and approved these measures? Have any additional measures been requested since the release of this document? I look forward to your response and will follow up within the coming days.

Thank you,

Jairo F. Avila, M.A., RPA.

Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Officer

Cultural Resources Management Division

Tribal Historic and Cultural Preservation Department

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians

1019 Second Street, Suite 1

San Fernando, California 91340

Office: (818) 837-0794

Website: <http://www.tataviam-nsn.us>

From: Jui Ing Chien <jchien@parks.lacounty.gov>

Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2020 7:22 AM

To: Jairo Avila <jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us>

Cc: Clement Lau <clau@parks.lacounty.gov>; Ansley Davies <ADavies@parks.lacounty.gov>

Subject: Fw: Continued Consultation Under AB 52 for the Various Park Improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park, Lake Los Angeles

[CAUTION] EXTERNAL Email. Exercise caution.

Mr. Avila,

The attached letter and map were sent to you via email last week on October 28 for the review of the proposed mitigation measures for cultural and tribal cultural resources at Stephen Sorensen Park. Can you please acknowledge the receipt of the email?

Thank you,

Jui Ing



Jui Ing Chien *Park Planner*

County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation

1000 S. Fremont Ave, Unit #40, Building A-9 West, 3rd Floor, Alhambra, CA 91803

Tel: (626) 588-5317 | jchien@parks.lacounty.gov | Please note that our office is closed on Fridays

From: Jui Ing Chien

Sent: Wednesday, October 28, 2020 10:12 AM

To: jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us <jairo.avila@tataviam-nsn.us>

Cc: Ansley Davies; Sean Woods; Jonathan Gargan; Joyce Gibson <jgibson@parks.lacounty.gov>;

Chester Kano; Mark Glassock; Clement Lau; Lee Barocas; Dore Burry

Subject: Continued Consultation Under AB 52 for the Various Park Improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park, Lake Los Angeles

Mr. Avila,

Thank you for your continued consultation on the Various Park Improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park proposed by County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). This is to notify you of DPR's intent to release an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for public review and seek tribal input on the proposed mitigation measures for cultural/tribal cultural resources. Should you have any comments, you may submit them to our Associate Curator, Ansley Davies by email at adavies@parks.lacounty.gov by **November 30, 2020**. Thank you for your participation in our planning process.

Jui Ing



Jui Ing Chien *Park Planner*

County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation

1000 S. Fremont Ave, Unit #40, Building A-9 West, 3rd Floor, Alhambra, CA 91803

Tel: (626) 588-5317 | jchien@parks.lacounty.gov | *Please note that our office is closed on Fridays*

Jui Ing Chien

From: Ryan Nordness <Ryan.Nordness@sanmanuel-nsn.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 23, 2020 9:46 AM
To: Jui Ing Chien; Clement Lau; Ansley Davies
Cc: Jessica Mauck; Alexandra McCleary
Subject: RE: Continued Consultation Under AB 52 for the Various Park Improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park, Lake Los Angeles

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: External Email. Proceed Responsibly.

Hello Jui Ing Chen,

Thank you for once again reaching out to the SMBMI regarding the Stephen Sorenson park improvement project, the documentation for which was received by the Cultural Resources Department on October 28, 2020, pursuant to CEQA (as amended, 2015) and CA PRC 21080.3.1. As you are aware, the project area in question is within the Serrano village of Tameobit (Lovejoy Springs, CA-LAN-192), and SMBMI has many concerns about improvements to the park, as its presence in this space has continued to have a deleterious effect on the village. As such, SMBMI appreciates the opportunity to continue consultation with your Agency so that we can collectively work together to address those concerns.

Upon reviewing this notice, previous correspondence, and meeting notes regarding this project, as well as the concerns/requests previously expressed by SMBMI, there is still the matter of several questions asked on October 9th, 2019. SMBMI requests updates on these matters:

1. Details regarding the exact footprint of the proposed disturbance, to include depth (the provided site plan simply shows the layout of the improvements).
2. Details regarding the previously disturbed soils within the project footprint, as noted within the project notice, to include depth.
3. Details regarding the County's plan of action to both proactively identify and avoid human remains that may be present within the project footprint (i.e. subsurface testing in the areas of proposed disturbance and re-designing the project to avoid positive discoveries)

The above information will need to be provided, and the efforts in item number 3 planned and executed (in consultation with Tribes), prior to the adoption of mitigation. Not only is CA-LAN-192 a significant archaeological site, but it is also a highly sensitive Tribal Cultural Resource (TCR), and executing thorough identification efforts to solidify our understanding of the site so that we can discuss avoidance is crucial. Further, I want to note that, during the site visit in December 2019, the affiliated Tribes strongly expressed concerns with moving forward on this particular project prior to the finalization of the MOA, as we still do not have a solution to the inevitable issue of the park improvements displacing additional ancestors. While I am aware that a draft MOA is in progress, and while SMBMI appreciates the County's efforts thus far in creating that document, this document does need to be finalized and signed prior to discussing mitigation for this project.

Please note that I will be your main CEQA point of contact on behalf of SMBMI moving forward, so please do send the above-requested information my way upon availability. Additionally, please do let me know if you would like to set up a virtual meeting to discuss this communication, and the CRM Dept. at SMBMI will send along some dates/times of availability.

Once again, thank you for reaching out to the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians.

Respectfully,
Ryan Nordness

Ryan Nordness

CULTURAL RESOURCE ANALYST

O: (909) 864-8933 x50-2022

Internal: 50-2022

M: 909-838-4053

26569 Community Center Dr Highland CA 92346

SAN MANUEL
BAND OF  MISSION INDIANS

THIS MESSAGE IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this electronic transmission in error, please delete it from your system without copying it and notify the sender by reply e-mail so that the email address record can be corrected. Thank You



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
"Parks Make Life Better!"

Norma E. García-González, Director

Alina Bokde, Chief Deputy Director

December 17, 2020

Mr. Jairo Avila
Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
1019 Second Street, Suite 1
San Fernando, CA 91340

Dear Mr. Avila:

**CONTINUED CONSULTATION UNDER ASSEMBLY BILL 52 FOR THE
VARIOUS PARK IMPROVEMENTS AT STEPHEN SORENSEN PARK
LAKE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

This letter is in response to your e-mail dated November 5, 2020 regarding the various proposed park improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park (Park) and the mitigation measures proposed for inclusion in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the project. Please find below the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)'s responses to your questions:

Tribal Monitoring

Tribes can trade off days monitoring groundwork. This can be addressed in detail in the sub-contract for the Native American monitor. None of the project elements are likely large enough to require two or more tribal monitors at one time. If warranted by the amount of work occurring at a given time, more than one monitor can be on-site. This may possibly occur with the construction of the skate park.

Tribal Cultural Resources (TCR) Mitigation Measures

TCR Mitigation measures will be updated to reflect the following request: add the names of the two tribes that will be conducting tribal monitoring for the project: Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians (FTBMI) and San Manuel Band of Mission Indians (SMBMI).

SMBMI Response

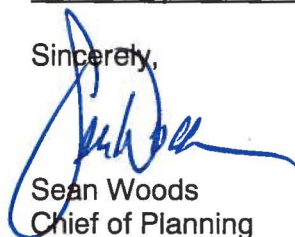
The SMBMI e-mailed DPR on November 23, 2020 and requested certain information on the project and the status of the reburial agreements. As requested during the December 4, 2019 on-site meeting with FTBMI and SMBMI representatives, DPR is moving forward with a parallel reinternment agreement. On September 15, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors delegated authority to DPR's Director to enter into reburial agreements to identify safe sites to rebury repatriated and excavated ancestral remains. DPR and the tribes are currently negotiating and finalizing a joint reburial agreement. In the meantime, we welcome any additional comments

Mr. Jairo Avila
December 17, 2020
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or questions that SMBMI may have regarding the potential impacts of the various proposed park improvements to Tribal Cultural Resources and the proposed mitigation measures.

DPR is anticipating release of the IS/MND for public review and comment in January 2021. Thank you for your continued consultation with DPR and participation in this planning process. Should you have any questions, please contact our Associate Curator, Ansley Davies by email at adavies@parks.lacounty.gov.

Sincerely,



Sean Woods
Chief of Planning

SW:JIC:CL:ev

Enclosure

c: Parks and Recreation (J. Gargan, C. Kano, J. Gibson, M. Glassock, C. Lau, J. Chien,
L. Barocas, A. Davies, D. Burry)



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

"Parks Make Life Better!"

Norma E. García-González, Director

Alina Bokde, Chief Deputy Director

December 17, 2020

Mr. Ryan Nordness
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
26569 Community Center Drive
Highland, CA 92346

Dear Mr. Nordness:

**CONTINUED CONSULTATION UNDER ASSEMBLY BILL 52 FOR THE
VARIOUS PARK IMPROVEMENTS AT STEPHEN SORENSEN PARK
LAKE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

This letter is in response to your e-mail dated November 23, 2020 regarding the various proposed park improvements at Stephen Sorensen Park (Park) and the mitigation measures proposed for inclusion in the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the project. Please find below the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)'s responses:

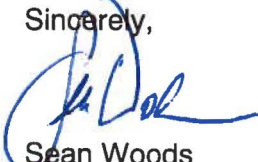
- 1) **Details regarding the exact footprint of the proposed disturbance, to include depth (the provided site plan simply shows the layout of the improvements).** Initial sites for development of the various proposed park improvements, which include a skate park, a shade structure for existing playground, a gazebo, a concrete slab with fitness zone and shade structure, have been identified on the site plan. However, as design and engineering of each improvement has yet to occur, the exact footprint of the proposed disturbance is unavailable at this time.
- 2) **Details regarding the previously disturbed soils within the project footprint, as noted within the project notice, to include depth.** The surface sediments in the Park area are highly disturbed and the exact depth of disturbance, which occurred prior to DPR's land tenure, has not been documented. Based on a review of previous studies, the majority of CA-LAN-192 has been subject to previous disturbance, with the intact midden deposits protected under the fill cap that underlies the developed portion of the park as well as the intact midden deposits under the parking lot by the gymnasium (with no soil cap). Because CA-LAN-192 is a tribal and historical resource, as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and the project area contains visible surface-level portions of the site, proposed construction would result in an impact to a historical resource. The impact would be brought to a less than significant level with the implementation of the proposed mitigation measures for cultural and tribal cultural resources.

- 3) **Details regarding the County's plan of action to both proactively identify and avoid human remains that may be present within the project footprint (i.e. subsurface testing in the areas of proposed disturbance and re-designing the project to avoid positive discoveries)** As described in the proposed Cultural and Tribal Cultural Resources mitigation measures, a registered professional archaeologist and a tribal representative shall monitor all ground-disturbing activities within undisturbed sediments, defined as all sediments that do not consist of imported fill. If human remains, or remains that are potentially human, are identified during construction, the project archaeologist shall ensure reasonable protection measures are taken to protect the discovery from disturbance. The project archaeologist shall notify the Los Angeles County Coroner (per Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code), DPR, SMBMI, and FTBMI of any discovery. The provisions of Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.98 of the California Public Resources Code, and AB 2641 will be implemented. Work cannot resume within the no-work radius until DPR, through consultation as appropriate, determines that the treatment measures have been completed to their satisfaction.

As requested during the December 4, 2019 on-site meeting with FTBMI and SMBMI representatives, DPR is moving forward with a parallel reinternment agreement. On September 15, 2020, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors delegated authority to the Department's Director to enter into reburial agreements to find safe sites to rebury repatriated and excavated ancestral remains. DPR and the tribes are currently negotiating and finalizing a joint reburial agreement. In the meantime, we welcome any additional comments or questions that SMBMI may have regarding the potential impacts of the various proposed park improvements to Tribal Cultural Resources and the proposed mitigation measures.

DPR is anticipating release of the IS/MND for public review and comment in January 2021. Thank you for your continued consultation with DPR and participation in this planning process. Should you have any questions, please contact our Associate Curator, Ansley Davies, by email at adavies@parks.lacounty.gov.

Sincerely,



Sean Woods
Chief of Planning

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Enclosure

c: Parks and Recreation (J. Gargan, C. Kano, J. Gibson, M. Glassock, C. Lau, J. Chien, L. Barocas, A. Davies, D. Burry)