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D. C. COLLIER, DIRECTOR GENERAL.



DIVISION OF WORKS
FRANK P. ALLEN, JR.
DIRECTOR OF WORKS

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, August 26, 1911.

OLMSTED BROTHERS
RECEIVED

Mr. J. C. Olmsted, SEP 1 9 14 AM -11
% Olmsted Brothers, ACK'D _____ BY _____
Brookline, Mass. ANS'D *ok* BY *J.C.D.*
READ BY *J.C.D.*

Danson
Ans - as to reply

Dear Sir,-

I beg to report in regard to the meeting of the Park Board yesterday as follows: Messrs. Wangenheim and Belcher members of the Park Board present at the meeting.

Mr. Allen presented plan #54, being grading plan for west drive, which I prepared under his direction for him. His estimate on this was about \$19,000.00, not including planting. Profile also presented. I have sent blueprints of all this data to the office, under date of August 19th. After full discussion of this work it was turned down by the Park Board on account of its being too expensive and on account of its requiring cutting of trees where the entrances ^{ere} ~~was~~ changed and especially between Nutmeg and Quince. I then presented to the Park Board your plan #1012 for the revision of west drive from Date St. to Nutmeg St. This was accepted by the Park Board. Mr. Allen roughly estimated

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\$9000.00 to give a good surface, such as that on the middle drive of the Park from the Country Club running south 3327'. You will remember that this is the portion of the middle drive north of the oiled part, which ^{later} is now in such humps. This road is to be 32' as you specify, with walks as shown on your plan. The Park Board authorized Mr. Allen to go right ahead with it without waiting for plan of the whole drive.

As I have now sent you the rest of the information for the west side of the Park I hope you can send me plan for all of the west drive, as that would be the best way for me to get your ideas, although I think from Nutmeg St. on it will be simply what you have already shown from Juniper St. to Nutmeg; that is putting the new road on the west side of the old one and the walk where the east side of the old road was.

The Park Board instructed me to prepare planting plan for the improvement of this drive; also to improve the planting all along the west side of the Park from Juniper to Upas, particularly to get away from the spotted effect of planting as it now exists; also they are very anxious to have a lawn of two to three acres, to be kept up in the very finest condition. I looked the ground over carefully and the best place for such a lawn is from Juniper St. running north a couple of blocks. There are trees here that would give a little shade around the edges of the lawn and one or two groups of Eucalyptus in the lawn itself. I have secured from my friend, Mr. Cox, who is now the landscape engineer for the Los Angeles parks, plan of a scheme they are using on

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their finest type of lawn, which cuts down the sprinkling expense after the first expense of laying the pipes. I will send you print of this. At Maple St. there is such a heavy planting of peppers at either side of the entrance and then of Eucalyptus east of these and north that it would be impossible to have a lawn here. The ground also is not nearly as level as on the area from Juniper to Laurel. The Park Board wish me to present this planting plan with estimate at their meeting next Friday. I have been studying shrubs and trees that are most suitable to this country in connection with Riverside planting, so that I shall be able to use a great many of the good things that the nurserymen in this locality are now carrying. If possible I shall take a trip to Santa Barbara to see stock there and get good prices.

In accordance with your suggestion in a recent letter I proposed to the Park Board that they schedule the work to be done by their appropriation of \$100,000.00. I handed them a schedule, taken very largely from your letter to Mr. Wengenheim under date of August 15th. I enclose herewith copy of this schedule. For improving the surface of middle drive I had no figure. It cost the Park Board to improve the 3327' from the Country Club south \$2,700.00; it would therefore probably cost a little more to continue this improvement down to the 12th. St. entrance, as this measures 5400'. The estimate for planting 20 acres to palms in Cabrillo Canyon seems very high. Mr. Allen

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made this estimate with me and I figured the palms at the regular trade price, which made the 3900 palms cost \$8,077.00. The other figures were Mr. Allen's on the cost of work and I cannot at this time send statement of these. Mr. Allen's estimate came to \$18,000.00 to do this work: this was allowing twenty cords of manure to the acre, but using ^{this} manure as a thick mulch around each palm. I considered this estimate altogether too high and so showed it as \$15,000.00 in the schedule which I handed the Park Board. For lawns on the west side I allowed between \$500 and \$600 for putting in the water pipe system: it would probably be more nearly \$600. I should like to know what we figure in the east on the cost of making a lawn per acre; also how much seed we usually recommend. I notice Dreer recommends five bushels. ^{350⁰⁰} This seems to me rather heavy, but may give the best results because it will crowd out all the weeds at the very beginning.

The cut in \$11,000.00 on account of the west drive will bring this estimate down to the \$100,000.00. I roughly allowed \$4,000.00 for planting along the west side. The Park Board would not agree to the idea of laying out all their work at this time. They prefer to do one piece of work at a time and continue in this manner until their money is used up. I notice an inclination on Mr. Wangenheim's part to avoid spending their \$100,000.00 the first year. I judge this to be due either to a lack of cash on hand or to a desire to spread the work out over a longer period of time.

In regard to the Palm Canyon, the Park Board will not as yet agree to planting it. They will agree, however, to pay

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for all the stock which was bought for this purpose and Mr. Wangenheim directed me to submit to him a statement of just what was paid for these palms and all the cost of digging, hauling and subsequent care.

Very truly yours,

Harold Hill Benson