



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
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**Correspondence Received**

Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
7.		<b>Favor</b>	Mary Beth Solorzano	
			Rocio Chua	
			Shannon Okahara	
		<b>Oppose</b>	Ben c Wilson	My mother when I was child was on the board for the house and park it was always a special place for her, and myself as a kid being able to play and explore freely. The house represents history something that is to easily forgotten in southern california. the sacrifice of yet another historic place yet alone green space would only rob future generations of freedom to play and explore.
			Christi K Haydon	
			Craig Baker	The historic site requires skilled staff, specialized resources, conservation, restoration, climate control, and curation, all of which are ably provided by the professional staff and facilities of the Natural History Museum. Santa Clarita cannot offer the same level of care.
			Ebony Clark	
			John Bertram	
			Marjorie Carter	I oppose the transfer of the William S Hart Park to the city of Santa Clarita. I have enjoyed the park with my grandson, friends, and relatives over the years and toured the home of William S Hart. His will should stand and not be broken. The care and management of the park and home under Los Angeles County and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles has been exemplary. Horseshoe Ranch in Newhall, personal possessions and a trust account "for the benefit of the American public of every race and creed," should continue to be maintained and administered as a free public park by the County of Los Angeles. His Spanish Colonial Revival ranch home La Loma de los Vientos, operating as a house museum, should continue to be managed by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles.
			<b>Item Total</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>9</b>		

While any given property can be considered 'local' in relation to adjacent and nearby properties, I ask you to consider the William S. Hart Museum, located within the William S. Hart Park, in the city of Santa Clarita not be considered 'local' for qualification under Government Code section 25550.5 and therefore not liable, or at least not wise, to be transferred from Los Angeles County to the city of Santa Clarita.

William S. Hart was a silent movie star of the same magnitude of Douglas Fairbanks, Charlie Chaplin and Rudolf Valentino, just to pick some names, but any names would do. As such, his films were released internationally and Hart's recognition was worldwide. His contribution as a writer, director and star to the history of western film has been recognized by film scholars for many decades. Film scholars have gone as far as to classify Hart's work as a sub-genre.

Because of Hart's place in film history, the objects from his films in the museum collection are also international in scope. One recent example of this continuing international interest in the films of William S. Hart was the silent film festival held in Pordenone, Italy in 2019. This annual festival, established as the leading international event dedicated to the preservation, diffusion, and study of the first thirty years of cinema, featured the films of William S. Hart as part of their 2019 program. Because *Le Giornate del Cinema Muto* in Italy wanted to screen several Hart films, the Library of Congress, recognizing their international value, restored them. Neither the screenings nor the restoration can be considered a local matter.

In addition to the memorabilia from Hart's film career in the museum, is his personal art collection featuring many paintings by his personal friend Charles M. Russell. Also in 2019, the Charles Russell Museum in Great Falls, Montana organized an exhibit of artwork that was originally displayed at the 1919 Calgary Stampede. The Russell Museum borrowed one of the paintings on display in the Hart Museum to complete their exhibit underscoring the international nature of the art collection in the Hart Museum.

The history of motion pictures represented by the Hart collection is not a local history. Not only is it a regional history but in the case of California, a vital state history and I believe too important and too limiting to be considered 'local'. The home of William S. Hart is the only home of a motion picture personality of any era that is open to the public. Not only has the home never been altered, but all the furnishings belonged to Hart when he lived there, making the site unique to the history of motion pictures. The art collection within the Hart Museum too, is of national, if not international interest, and much too important to be designated as 'local' so to be transferred to a city government.

I ask that you consider not only the geographical setting of the museum but the world-wide impact of William S. Hart, in part demonstrated by the physical museum artifacts in determining if the museum meets the requirements of being 'local in character'. I believe the Hart Museum is international in character.

July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Dear County Supervisors,

I beg of you to respect and protect the final wish of William S. Hart, clearly stated in his 1946 will, that his 254-acre Horseshoe Ranch in Newhall, personal possessions, and a trust account be maintained and administered as a free public park by the County of Los Angeles.

As elected officials, you are honored with the sacred responsibility of protecting resources held in the public trust. There should be no other choice today than to respect the spirit and intent of William S. Hart's generous gift, and to not break his will.

William S. Hart Park must remain with the citizens, where it belongs!

Thank you for considering my heartfelt plea.

Sincerely,  
Christi K. Haydon, Woodland Hills, CA  
Devoted Fan of William S. Hart Park