

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS

June 25, 2024

AND LINDSEY P. HORVATH

Preserving Military History: Bob Hope Patriotic Hall National Register of Historic Places and County Landmark Nominations

This year marks the 98th year of when the County-owned Bob Hope Patriotic Hall (Hall), located at 1816 South Figueroa Street in the City of Los Angeles, was first constructed to provide social and medical services to veterans. Additionally, it serves as a tangible and visual memorial to war veterans, a World War II military meeting space, veteran housing, and offices for the American Legion. A year after the Hall’s doors opened to veterans, in 1926, a Los Angeles Times article described the 10-story building as “the most expensive and elaborate veteran memorial erected by any county in the United States.”

On January 15, 1976, the Hall was listed as a California Point of Historical Interest; and on September 15, 1982, the Hall was determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and was listed in the California Register of Historical Resources for serving as a war memorial and as an excellent example of Italian

MOTION

SOLIS _____

MITCHELL _____

HAHN _____

BARGER _____

HORVATH _____

Renaissance Revival architecture. Allied Architects' design and restoration of the building have also been recognized and honored by the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Los Angeles Conservancy.

Given its historical significance and importance to Los Angeles County's military veterans, it is important to preserve the Hall for future veterans living in Los Angeles County (County), and as a memorial for County veterans who died serving our country. Nominating the Hall for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and the County Register will further bring recognition and honor to this historic and majestic structure and will make permanent the sacrifice of the veterans who died and a tailored and unique meeting space for veterans to fellowship. Nominating the Hall as a County Landmark is the first step toward preserving the building in perpetuity. The nominations demonstrate the County's commitment to preserving important historic resources associated with military veterans who have valiantly served our country.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct the Director of the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs to nominate Bob Hope Patriotic Hall, located at 1816 S. Figueroa St., in the City of Los Angeles, for listing on the National Register of Historic Places; and
2. Adopt a resolution nominating Bob Hope Patriotic Hall as a Los Angeles County Historic Landmark, effective October 1, 2024, to allow for the use of information from the National Register of Historic Places designation process to inform the County landmarking process.

#

HLS:el/gdm/ach

RESOLUTION
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BOB HOPE PATRIOTIC HALL LANDMARK NOMINATION
PROJECT NO. PRJ2024-001033-(1)
CASE NO. RPPL2024001530

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors (hereinafter, the "Board") of the County of Los Angeles (hereinafter, the "County") conducted a duly noticed public meeting to consider the nomination of a County-owned property, known as Bob Hope Patriotic Hall ("BHPH"), located at 1816 South Figueroa Street, in the City of Los Angeles, a County landmark ("landmark"), pursuant to Chapter 22.124 of the Los Angeles County Code ("County Code") on June 25, 2024;

WHEREAS, the Board duly considered all facts and records presented on the nomination, including all public comment and testimony; and

WHEREAS, the Board makes the following findings on the nomination:

1. The County-owned 0.53-acre subject property, located at 1816 South Figueroa Street, in the City of Los Angeles and in the First Supervisorial District, is developed with a west-facing, 10-story, 85,000 square foot building.
2. The boundaries of the proposed landmark follow the boundaries of Assessor Parcel Number 5126-009-900.
3. BHPH was constructed in 1926 to provide social and medical services to veterans. Additionally, it serves as a memorial to war veterans, a World War II military meeting space, and offices for the American Legion. A 1926 Los Angeles Times article indicates the building at the time was "the most expensive and elaborate veteran memorial erected by any county in the United States."
4. On January 15, 1976, the property was listed as a California Point of Historical Interest at the request of the County for being the focal point for County veteran activities for 50 years.
5. Federally-sponsored programs and projects are reviewed, pursuant to Sections 106 and 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act ("NHPA"). Section 106 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to consider the effects of proposed federal undertakings on historic properties. NHPA's implementing regulations found in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 800 require federal agencies and their designees, permittees, licensees, or grantees to initiate consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer as part of the Section 106 review process.
6. Properties listed or determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places are automatically listed on California Register of Historical Resources.
7. Pursuant to County Code Section 22.124.070.A, BHPH is eligible to be designated as a landmark because it meets the following designation criteria:
 - a. It is 50 years of age or older. The building is 98 years of age.

- b. It is listed or has been formally determined eligible by the United States National Park Service for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places, or is listed, or has been formally determined eligible by the State Historical Resources Commission for listing, on the California Register of Historical Resources. In 1982, in response to a Section 106 review that the Federal Highway Administration ("FHA") conducted for an I-110 Freeway improvement project, the FHA requested that the Keeper of the Register ("Keeper") evaluate the subject property for eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. On September 15, 1982, the Keeper determined that BHPH was eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and, as a result, the property was listed in the California Register of Historical Resources for serving as a war memorial and as a resource for veterans, and as an excellent example of Italian Renaissance Revival architecture.

- 8. Pursuant to County Code Section 22,124.070, important interior public spaces of BHPH, such as the lobby and auditorium, may be included in the landmark designation.

- 9. Pursuant to County Code Section 22.124.080, the Board may, by resolution, nominate a landmark. Such resolution shall be in writing and include findings of fact in support of the nomination, including reasons why the landmark is eligible for and deserving of designation under the criteria set forth in Section 22.124.070 (Criteria for Designation of Landmarks and Historic Districts). The nomination shall be effective on October 1, 2024, and the decision of the Board is final.




EDWARD YEN
 Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board of
 Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles

By: 
 Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAWYN HARRISON
 County Counsel

By:  for
 Thomas R. Parker
 Senior Deputy County Counsel