

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

“Ginger Rogers” Beach Pride Month Lifeguard Tower 17 and 18 Painting and Interpretive Signage Installation

"Ginger Rogers" Beach is a historically LGBTQ+ friendly section of Will Rogers State Park, located informally between Lifeguard Towers 17 and 18. For decades, "Ginger Rogers" has been a refuge and safe haven for members of the LGBTQ+ community, often fleeing the oppression and discrimination found outside of this small sandy sanctuary. Beginning in the 1940s, young gay men began flocking to this part of Will Rogers State Park, and it soon became known as "Ginger Rogers" in a nod to the glamorous silver screen actress. Rogers was known for her campy performances and diva persona - so much so that drag queens began emulating her in the 1930 and 1940s.

Throughout the years, "Ginger Rogers" became a destination for political activism, from signature gathering in opposition to McCarthyism and the Vietnam War to fundraisers for AIDS victims. Over the years, "Ginger Rogers" has evolved to become a place of culture, politics, and celebration, and for too long, "Ginger Rogers" Beach has lived in the shadows, without having its full story and name known by Los Angeles outside of the LGBTQ+ community.

To celebrate the LGBTQ+ community and Pride Month, the Third District and the ONE Archives Foundation will host a Pride Celebration on June 17th at 10:00 am, celebrating this historic beach community and honoring its advocates and leaders by painting the Lifeguard

MOTION

SOLIS _____

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Towers 17 and 18 with the colors of the Progress Pride Flag. The “Ginger Rogers” Beach Lifeguard Tower painting and interpretive signage will be a welcome celebration of the LGBTQ+ community during a time of heightened attacks and rolling back of rights throughout the country.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

1. Direct Los Angeles County Beaches and Harbors to work with the Los Angeles County Fire Department-Lifeguard Division and the Third District Office to coordinate with a contracted painter and muralist to permanently repaint Lifeguard Towers 17 and 18 in the colors of the Progress Pride flag, with funding from the Third District's discretionary funds;
2. Direct the Los Angeles County Fire Department Foundation to work with the Los Angeles County Fire Department-Lifeguard Division, ONE Archives Foundation, and the Third District, to fabricate and install two permanent interpretive signs onto Lifeguard Towers 17 and 18. Also, seek grant opportunities to fund the cost of fabrication and installation. Any shortfall will be funded from the Third District's discretionary funds;
3. Direct the Department of Beaches and Harbors waive all fees associated with any required County permits;
4. Direct the Department of Beaches and Harbors to waive the parking fee for approximately 100 participants at Will Rogers Beach parking lots on June 17, 2023 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, in the amount of \$1,500, excluding the cost of liability

insurance, to celebrate the unveiling of the Lifeguard Towers and interpretive signage.