

MOTION

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PUBLIC WORKS

San Pedro is home to historic landmarks, including municipal buildings that serve critical constituent services. The best example of the durability and versatility of how these sites have evolved throughout history includes San Pedro City Hall— a building that has served as a courtroom, a jail, offices for City departments, the local Council offices and future elected offices, neighborhood council spaces, and the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) South Bureau, and now is home to the famous LAFD Harbor Museum. The Museum includes some remarkable LAFD apparatus, artifacts from the San Pedro area, some of the most famous fires in this part of the City, and much more.

LAFD's South Bureau includes Battalions 6, 13, and 18. Notably serving the San Pedro community, Fire Stations 36, 40, 48, and 101, the community of San Pedro feels a strong presence of LAFD, whether by the historic nature of the memories found at the Museum, or the proud LAFD members that serve the community and are a positive force for public safety.

By way of geography with Fire Station 36 (located at 1005 N. Gaffey Street), Fire Station 48 (located at 1601 S. Grand Avenue), and the Museum (located at 638 S. Beacon Street), there is a natural public safety pull and presence towards downtown San Pedro and its rich history of public safety servants. Sirens Java & Tea, located at Mesa Street and 7th Street, is a point in the center of these public safety landmarks and is named both for the nautical sirens of the sea, honoring the seafaring tradition of San Pedro, but also thought of with LAFD sirens. As a central meeting area, it is an anchoring force to the community.

Los Angeles City Firefighter Benjamin Pinel, a former San Pedro resident, was one of those firefighters who loved his community and loved serving it through his vocation. His sister is an active San Pedro resident and the current owner of Sirens Java & Tea. Benjamin went above and above the call of duty, ultimately perishing in a restaurant fire in 1984. Pinel became a firefighter in March 1983 and served with Engine Company 54. His brothers, Mike, a firefighter, and Mario, a fire inspector, maintain the same dedication to public service and safety for the City. Benjamin, Mike, and Mario are an example of LAFD's presence in the community that never goes away, and grows in memory of the unrelenting work they do every day as first responders.

A dedication to the public servants who promote a full measure of devotion through a physical reminder (sign) at the intersection of Mesa Street and 7th Street would show the community's support for our first responders.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the intersection of Mesa Street and 7th Street be designated as the "First Responders Public Safety Square," and that the Department of Transportation be directed to erect permanent ceremonial sign(s) to this effect at this location.

PRESENTED BY:

TIM McOSKER

Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:

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