Council Meeting of
May 22, 2007

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the Council City
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the City Council:

SUBJECT: City Manager – Review and give direction regarding the proposed entry sign for the median on Zamperini Way and appropriate additional funding.

Expenditure: $3,700.00

RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager recommends that City Council review and give direction regarding the entry sign proposed by the Torrance Airport Association for the median on Zamperini Way. If Council approves the current design, the City Manager recommends that the City Council approve an additional appropriation of $3,700.00.

Funding

If the proposed sign is approved, funding of $3,700 is available from the Airport Enterprise Fund.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

On December 12, 2006, the City Council approved the landscape design for the median on Zamperini Way. At this meeting there was discussion regarding the proposed entry sign at the intersection of Zamperini Way and Pacific Coast Highway. The conversation centered on an appropriate type and location of an entry sign for Zamperini Field. After some discussion, Council approved the landscape portion of the project and asked that further consideration be given to the entry sign.

The Torrance Airport Association has developed a proposed entry sign (see Attachment C). The proposed sign is a concrete block wall with tan/beige decorative stone and cap. The dimension of the sign is 12'-0" in length by 1'-6" wide and 4'-0" high. The proposed location of the entry sign is 20 feet behind the nose of the median at Pacific Coast Highway. The proposed copy reads "Zamperini Field" (12" Times Roman) and would face in the south direction. The estimated cost for the sign is $5,700.

In the development of the original project budget, $2,000 was estimated for the entry sign. Should Council vote to approve the proposed sign the requested appropriation will cover the cost estimated to construct the sign.

If Your Honorable Body elects not to select the proposed sign, staff would seek approval to secure the services of a firm to assist with the design of an entry sign for Zamperini Field. If this is the direction Council decides, then staff would return with a proposal and expenditure for a consultant at a later date.

Respectfully submitted,

LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

By _____
Brian K. Sunshine
Assistant to the City Manager

CONCUR:

_____
LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments:

A. Excerpts of minutes from December 12, 2006
B. Council Item of December 12, 2006
C. Torrance Airport Association - Proposed Entry Sign *(Limited Distribution)*

Attachment A

EXCERPT OF MINUTES	4 Minutes Approved

December 12, 2006

MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance City Council convened in an adjourned regular session at 6:03 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2006 in the City Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Councilmembers Brewer, Drevno, McIntyre, Nowatka, Sutherland, Witkowsky, and Mayor Scotto.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Jackson, Assistant City Attorney Fellows, City Clerk Herbers, and other staff representatives.

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12E. FUNDING/DESIGN FOR MEDIAN LANDSCAPING ON ZAMPERINI WAY

Recommendation

The **City Manager** recommends that City Council:

1) Approve the proposed landscape design for the median on Zamperini Way;
2) Appropriate $5,000 from the City Council set aside fund (remaining balance of travel expenses) and $1,276 from the Airport Enterprise Fund to assist in the construction of the median landscaping project on Zamperini Way; and
3) Approve in kind costs for labor and materials in an amount of $4,500.

Referring to a rendering of the project, Assistant to the City Manager Sunshine briefly reviewed plans to landscape the median on Zamperini Way and to install a sign identifying the entrance to Zamperini Field -Torrance Airport. He noted that the Torrance Airport Association has raised $14,690 for the project and the balance would be funded with the $5,000 donated by Councilmember Nowatka and Mayor Scotto from their travel expense accounts and $1,276 from the Airport Enterprise Fund.

Mayor Scotto, echoed by Councilmember Nowatka, stated that he envisioned a more elaborate sign for the entrance to the airport.

Nancy Clinton, chair of the project for Torrance Airport Association, reported that she had obtained quotes for a more elaborate sign but was advised that the City wanted to maintain the same look as other "Torrance" signs.

Charles Deemer, Torrance, voiced objections to landscaped medians due to the cost of installing and maintaining them.

John King, Torrance, urged approval of the project, suggesting that it can be enhanced in the future in funding becomes available.

Don Ferrara, Rancho Palos Verdes, called for a more imaginative design for the sign and suggested the possibility of utilizing a wing from a vintage aircraft as a backdrop.

A brief discussion ensued, and it was the consensus of the Council to go forward with the landscaping and to direct staff to explore alternative designs for the sign.

MOTION: Councilmember Nowatka moved to approve and appropriate funding for the landscaped median on Zamperini Way and to direct staff to explore alternative designs for the sign. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Witkowsky and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

###

Attachment B

Council Meeting of
December 12, 2006

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the Council City
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the City Council:

SUBJECT: City Manager – Approve proposed design and funding for median landscaping on Zamperini Way

RECOMMENDATION

The City Manager recommends that City Council:

1) Approve the proposed landscape design for the median on Zamperini Way; and
2) Appropriate $5,000 from the Council set aside fund (remaining balance of travel expenses) and $1,276 from the Airport Enterprise Fund to assist in the construction of the median landscaping project on Zamperini Way; and
3) Approve in kind costs for labor and materials in an amount of $4,500.

Funding

Expenditure: $10,776

- $5,000 is available from a Council set aside fund (remaining balance of travel expenses)
- $1,276 is available from the Airport Enterprise Fund
- $4,500 of in kind services provided by the Public Works Department

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

In April 2004, City Council denied the vacation of the southeast side of Zamperini Way. As part of the discussion, there were suggestions that enhancements could be made to beautify the entrance into Zamperini Field. At the request of Council, the City Manager's Office formed a committee with members of the Torrance Airport Association (TAA) and City staff to look into improving Zamperini Way.

The committee developed a landscape plan utilizing the existing median on Zamperini Way. This median is located between Pacific Coast Highway and Airport Drive which leads in and out of the airport, Zamperini Field. The median is approximately 20' wide and 135' in length. Currently, this raised median in not landscaped. The proposed landscaping includes the installation of an automatic irrigation system and planting of nine (9) queen palms, shrubs and groundcover. In addition, there is a proposal for a sign ("Zamperini Field – Torrance Airport") in the median near the intersection of Pacific Coast Highway. The proposed sign will be in keeping with the City's sign program that includes the arch shape band of 'Torrance' on the top, leaf detail as a background and the City Seal. A color rendition of the proposed landscaping has been prepared and is available for viewing.

The total project cost is estimated to be $18,750 (Attachment A). The TAA proposes that this project be a joint venture and is requesting the City to assist with the funding of the project. The Torrance Airport Association has held many fundraisers and received donations from airport tenants and businesses, individuals in the community and sale/book signings of Louis Zamperini's 'Devil at My Heels' book. The TAA has a total of $14,690 to pay for this project. The TAA has already expended $2,216 toward this project leaving a balance of $12,474 for the construction of the median landscaping. To defray some of the cost, the TAA has obtained a landscape contractor to volunteer and donate a portion of his labor charges to the project.

The TAA requests the City to fund the balance of the construction cost of $6,276. This request includes the City's assistance with site preparation, installation of the water service and providing topsoil and mulch. Funding to cover the TAA request of $6,276 is available from two funds: (1) $5,000 from an account created from the remaining balance of travel expenses from Councilman Nowatka and Mayor Scotto and (2) $1,276 from the Airport Enterprise Fund.

The TAA also is requesting certain in kind assistance from the City in order to accomplish this project. The Public Works Department will, if Council concurs use a small portion of the existing dirt stockpile located at the east end of the runway. Also, the City will provide mulch from the wood chipper, delivery and grading of the dirt and the placement of the water line and meter for the project. The meter is included in the budgeted costs; however, the construction of the water line is not. The estimated value of this request is approximately $4,500 to cover both labor and materials.

Construction of the project is anticipated to take 3 to 4 weeks. The goal of TAA is to begin construction of the median landscaping immediately, in hopes to complete the project in time for Louis Zamperini's 90th birthday which will take place at the end of January 2007.

City Staff has reviewed the landscape proposal and recommends that Council approve the landscape design.

Respectfully submitted,

LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

By _____
Brian K. Sunshine
Assistant to the City Manager

CONCUR:

_____
LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager

Attachments:

A. Torrance Airport Association Proposal and Cost Estimates
B. Location map

Attachment A

ZAMPERINI WAY MEDIAN BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT
TORRANCE AIRPORT ASSOCIATION
2785 PACIFIC COAST HWY #E164
TORRANCE CA 90505
(Nancy Clinton, Secretary, 310-530-3337 – FAX 310-325-7223)

BACKGROUND

During the April 27, 2004 City Council Meeting Public Hearing for the Vacation of a Portion of Zamperini Way, a member of the Torrance Airport Association, (TAA), suggested that the association be permitted to raise funds to beautify the median at Zamperini Way, the main entrance to Zamperini Field off Pacific Coast Highway. It was stressed that the airport entrance should be pleasing and inviting to the public and the community. A request was made to Councilman Nowatka for his assistance after the meeting. A request was made to the City Manager's Office for someone from the City to interact with the TAA committee and Brian Sunshine, Assistant to the City Manager, made a request to represent the City for the project.

PROJECT COMMITTEE

A committee of TAA members and City personnel was formed:

Brian Sunshine, City of Torrance. Assistant to the City Manager
Henry Sakamoto, City of Torrance, Planning Associate, Community Development
Shant Megerdichian, Airport Facilities Manager, Zamperini Field,
Mike Blyleven, Airport Operations and Operations Personnel
Dave Bean, President, Torrance Airport Association
Nancy Clinton, Secretary, Torrance Airport Association
Arvid von Nordenflycht, Treasurer, Torrance Airport Association
Maurice Vogel, Owner, New Leaf Gardening and Landscape

FUNDING

Since April of 2004, many fund raisers have been held and have resulted in: donations from airport tenants, individuals from the community and airport and local businesses, a book signing with Louis Zamperini and the sale of Louie's book, "Devil at My Heels," at community and airport functions. A total of $14,690 is available to pay for the projects by TAA which are planned for the airport, which includes the beautification of Zamperini Way. In addition funds in the amount of $3284.32 (please add the additional funds added by Councilman Nowatka),were also donated by Councilman Scotto and Councilman Nowatka and are being held in a City Enterprise Fund for the project.

PROPOSAL

Listed below is a prioritized list of tasks to be accomplished by the City:

Designation of one point of contact for the project and obtaining City Permits
Removal of 2 inches of mulch prior to the preparation of site for topsoil
Running a water line to the middle of the West curb for the sprinklers
Removal of the one directional signs facing Airport Drive
After installation of the sprinklers by New Leaf Landscaping, grading and providing topsoil fill to the site from soil stored at the airport
Delivery of mulch to the site from city yard to be spread by the landscaper
Future cement and curb repair work in the Caltrans area.

An estimate of costs is attached. Mr. Maurice Vogel, Owner of New Leaf Gardening and Landscape, has volunteered to donate a portion and possibly all of his personal labor charge to the project in order to pay for the project with the funds that have been donated by the pilots and friends of Zamperini Field. A plaque will be purchased and placed at the airport, not at the site. "Beautification of Zamperini Way donated by the pilots and friends of Zamperini Field (date)"

It is the understanding of TAA that Zamperini Way median will be maintained by the Airport Operations personnel. The median was designed to meet the specifications of the mowing equipment at the airport.

Upon completion of the project, TAA will host a reception at the General Aviation Center to formally donate the project to the City. We hope that the Mayor and City Council will be present.

ZAMPERINI WAY MEDIAN BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT
ESTIMATE OF COSTS FOR THE PROJECT

PLAQUE (Cost $650.00 plus labor)	"Zamperini Way Beautification Donated by the Pilots and Friends of Zamperini Field, (date) 2006" to be placed at the airport not the site.
SIGN	$2000.00 (need exact cost)
SPRINKLER SYSTEM	
Solar Timer Clock	$300.00
Pedestal & Cement for Timer	$300.00
1804 Rainbird Heads w/swing joints around perimeter	$150.00
Backflow Device 1-1/4" RPV 70 psi	$300.00
Cage for Backflow	*$300.00
Pipe	$200.00
Fittings	$100.00
Valves with boxes	$250.00
Trencher rental	$200.00
Labor	$ 500.00
Labor for Maurice	$1500.00
Total	$3900.00/*$3600.00
CEMENT WORK	
Cement – city spec 520@2500 psi	
5 yards ¾ inch rock	$ 850.00
Concrete finisher labor	$ 300.00
Forms	$ 50.00
Total	$1200.00
PREPARATION FOR CEMENT	
Grading	$ 200.00
Tamper - rental	$ 100.00
Labor	$ 200.00
Labor for Maurice	$ 300.00
Total	$ 800.00
MULCH – material & labor (if obtained from City Yard - $100.00)	$200.00
TOPSOIL FILL – 50 cu yds	5 loads $150.00 a load = $750.00 delivered
Labor	$ 300.00
Labor for Maurice	$ 450.00
Total	$1500.00
SOD	
4,000 sq ft sod – Marathon 1 light	$2000.00
Labor	$ 500.00
Labor for Maurice	$ 500.00
Total	$3000.00

Palms – 24" box size - 9	$ 2250.00
Plants – 50 – 5 gallon size	$ 750.00
Plants – 100 – 1 gallon size	$ 500.00
Ground Cover – 20 flats	$ 400.00
Labor	$ 600.00
Labor for Maurice	$1000.00
Total	$5500.00

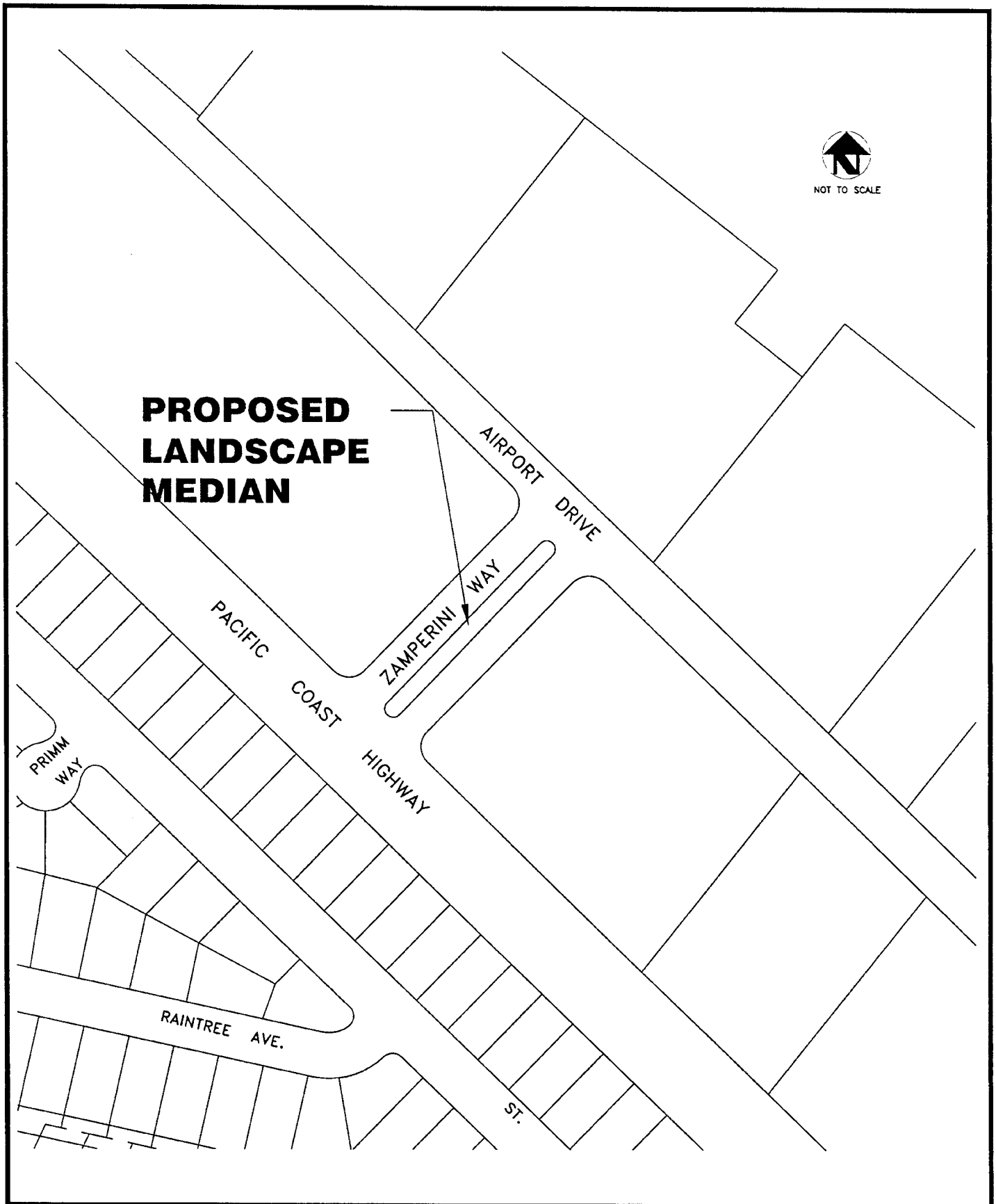
Total	$18,450.00* /$18,750.00

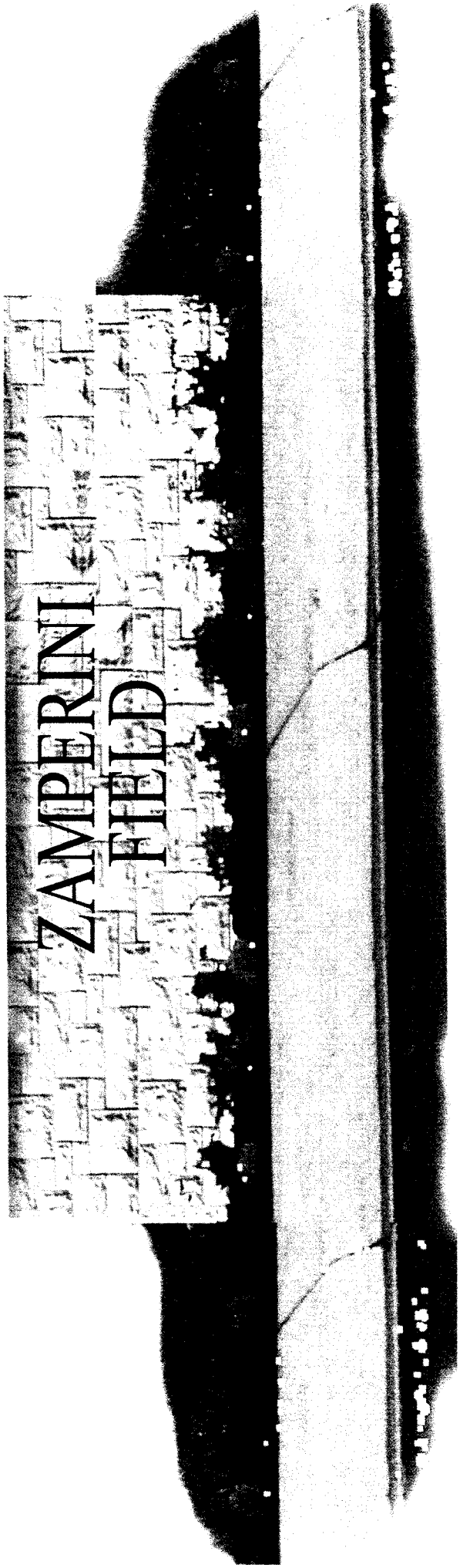
*(Cost without a cage for the backflow device.)

EXPENSES TO DATE:

Landscape Design, Marlene Breem	$ 200.00
"Devil at My Heels" books	$2016.00
Total	$2216.00

Attachment B



CITY OF TORRANCE - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT	
DEC. 2006	LOCATION MAP

Attachment C