



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
CITY COUNCIL MEETING – COUNCIL MEMBER ITEMS REPORT

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: MIKE POSEY, CITY COUNCIL MEMBER

DATE: SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

SUBJECT: ADOPT A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE ORANGE COUNTY VETERANS CEMETERY IN THE CITY OF ANAHEIM

On March 17, 2014, the Huntington Beach City Council adopted a Resolution in support of Assembly Bill 1453, which called for the establishment of a Southern California Veterans Cemetery in Orange County. Initially, local veteran groups sought to have the cemetery located in Irvine, but given a variety of local considerations, there has been a recent shift in consensus as to where the cemetery should be located. Today, rather than the facility being sited in Irvine, veteran groups and various government entities are advocating that the cemetery be located in Anaheim on property owned by the County of Orange.

To advance the new site proposal, on July 20, 2021, the Anaheim City Council unanimously voted in support of housing the Southern California Veterans Cemetery in their community. The proposal to build the cemetery in Anaheim has also garnered support from various Orange County and State officials, with County committing \$20 million dollar towards the project. Further, the proposal to locate the cemetery in Anaheim also has the support of the Veterans Alliance of Orange County, every Veterans of Foreign Wars post in our region, and multiple American Legion posts.

Given these recent developments, I am recommending that the City Council adopt the attached resolution to have Huntington Beach support the placement of the Orange County Veterans Cemetery in the City of Anaheim.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

I recommend the City Council adopt the attached resolution, which supports the development of a veterans cemetery on property owned by Orange County in located within the City of Anaheim.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-XX

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
HUNTINGTON BEACH SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF
THE ORANGE COUNTY VETERANS CEMETERY IN THE CITY
OF ANAHEIM.**

WHEREAS, Orange County is home to approximately 150,000 veterans representing the third largest population of veterans in California, who have until now had no final resting place in the County;

WHEREAS, the County of Orange has deeded 280 acres of County-owned land in the City of Anaheim to the Orange County Cemetery District for the purpose of building a veterans cemetery;

WHEREAS, the Orange County Board of Supervisors has voiced unanimous support and allocated \$20 million for the development of a veteran's cemetery in Anaheim.

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2021, a coalition of leaders representing veteran groups and other local organizations gathered at the proposed Orange County Veteran's Cemetery site in Anaheim to express support for the proposed project location; and

WHEREAS, the City of Huntington Beach, as a dedicated supporter of our veterans and their families, seeks to honor the men and women who have bravely served our country;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach does hereby resolve as follows:

We join with the Orange County veterans' community and Orange County Board of Supervisors in full support of a veteran's cemetery in Anaheim; and further encourage other state and local agencies to support this much needed project.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach at a regular meeting thereof held on the _____ day of _____, 2021.

Mayor

REVIEWED AND APPROVED

INITIATED AND APPROVED:

City Manager

Assistant City Manager

APPROVED AS TO FORM

City Attorney

