Council Meeting: 07/12/2022 Agenda Item No. 14.A

RECEIVED ON: July 10, 2022

 From:
 Gwen Woirhaye

 To:
 WebMail - CCD

 Subject:
 Central Park

**Date:** Sunday, July 10, 2022 7:54:21 PM

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I am sorry to be unable to address you in person Tuesday evening, but all of the Woirhaye family are in Cedar City, Utah, on a long-planned vacation trip to the Shakespeare Festival. Whittier has a beautiful memorial garden honoring those who served their country in battle, from the Spanish American War through World War I and World War II, Korea, Viet Nam, and Afghanistan, placed appropriately on the grounds of our Civic Center. (Corner of Penn Street and Painter Avenue).

Please honor our local hero Jose Ramos by following your original decision to place his memorial with those of our other Whittier heroes. Three years ago, on April 23, 2019, the entire council came to unanimous consensus that the memorial be placed at the Civic Center--where all such memorials are located. (Per CC minutes).

By doing so you will avoid dishonoring the memory and beliefs of the Quakers who, before selling any building lots, set aside the area now known as Central Park, to be a place of serenity and meditation for the people of the Quaker Colony, predating by a decade the City of Whittier. The City cannot produce any proof of a transfer TO the City of this land and I was told by the City Clerk's office that no such document exists. The Quaker residents began almost immediately to celebrate Founders' Day in that spot.

These people and their faith descendants, the members of First Friends Church, East Whittier Friends Church, and Whitleaf Meeting, honor above all Simplicity, Peace, Integrity, Community, Equality, and Stewardship. Please honor their memory and intent in founding a Quaker Colony on the West Coast, as well as honoring war hero Jose Ramos, by placing his beautifully designed memorial where it belongs and NOT in Central Park. Thank you.

Gwen Woirhaye 5810 Friends Avenue

CC: CM; ACM; CA; Council; Original to CC; Public Binder; Department