

October 16, 2009

Office of Community Beautification

Dear Sir:

The Los Feliz Improvement Association (LFIA), representing 1,000 households in the Los Feliz district since 1916, is pleased to support John Marshall High School's request for a Beautification Grant.

Marshall High School has long been a source of great pride in the community. Indeed, LFIA and the PTA lobbied the school district to build a facility for our students in the late 1920s. Since its construction, its striking Collegiate Gothic tower has been a landmark in our community. Equally prominent in the neighborhood is the big blue M on the corner of Griffith Park Blvd. and St. George Street. For years art students have painted, maintained, and proudly signed the big blue M. As you can imagine at a high school, the big blue M is a frequent graffiti target for rival high schools and as such requires constant vigilance and repainting.

The plan to replace the painted M with a tile mural has been received with great enthusiasm by the community. There was a student competition to design the mural. Everyone in the neighborhood had the opportunity to vote on the design. LFIA sponsored a monetary prize for the student designer. The tile mural will have a protective coating to deter graffiti and keep the corner attractive.

With the support of the school, the community, and Councilmember Tom LaBonge, the track and football field behind the wall are currently being renovated and brought up to code. A stunning new mural with the big blue M would be the perfect crowning touch for the project.

Sincerely,

Marian Dodge, Past President

cc: Don Seligman, President