



ORANGE COUNTY CEMETERY DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

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Date: November 7, 2023  
To: Board of Trustees  
From: Tim Deutsch, General Manager  
Subject: Temporary Storage of Cremated Remains

As we prepare for the development of the new public and State Veterans cemeteries at Gypsum Canyon, there will be several families who had a loved one pass away, were cremated and want to place the cremated remains at the new cemetery. Some of the families may choose to just keep the cremated remains at home, while others may have emotional concerns about holding on to the cremated remains. I've had some conversation with decedents of Veterans who are intending to place the cremated remains, but are concerned about the length of time and have asked if there is a temporary place for safekeeping until the placement is scheduled.

At the Anaheim Cemetery, the District has a wall crypt in the Community Mausoleum which has never been sold, which currently has approximately 55 individual urns of cremated remains that were considered abandoned at a mortuary. In the 1990's the District agreed to place these cremated remains in a common secured location in the Mausoleum, per the Health & Safety code regarding abandoned remains. There is no fee charged for this storage, but if a family member comes forward to retrieve an urn, a disinterment fee will be charged to the family member, who would need a refilled permit to take the remains.

I would like the Board to discuss the creation of an additional dignified storage, to assist families as a temporary option. We would need to create a storage facility, determine fees for storage and retrieval and then draft legal documents that stipulate a time frame and process for placement and retrieval of these urns.

I will have some additional information and pictures of options to review and discuss.

**Recommended Action**

Board to discuss the concept of offering temporary storage for cremated remains.

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**Cemetery Locations**

Anaheim Cemetery  
1400 E. Sycamore St.  
Anaheim, CA 92805  
(714) 535-4928

El Toro Memorial Park  
25751 Trabuco Rd.  
Lake Forest, CA 92630  
(949) 951-8244

Santa Ana Cemetery  
1919 E. Santa Clara Ave.  
Santa Ana, CA 92705  
(714) 953-2959