



Reimagining the Griffith Park Pony Ride Site: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is the City looking for in a future use of the Pony Ride site?

There are other considerations that will be applied to new uses suggested for the Pony Rides site. These include:

- Compatibility with existing and planned attractions in Griffith Park.
- Ability to be a high-volume attraction appealing primarily to local and regional users (priority) and then secondarily for out-of-town visitors.
- Ability to get new use up and running quickly
- Accountability of new concessionaires by establishing clear and transparent management, operating procedures (record-keeping, safety, maintenance, number of users, demographics, etc.).
- Overall cost, maintenance, and liability for the City.

While profit will not be the driving factor in the selection of a new concession, the City must address any long-term costs and liabilities that may be associated with a new proposed use and resulting contract. This will be achieved by determining the level of commitment of City resources (if any) that would be necessary for the new operation.

Will equestrian uses or other animal oriented uses be considered for the site?

The City will evaluate the potential for both animal and non-animal uses for the project site. PlaceWorks and RAP staff will present the Board with a series of options to consider at the end of the process based on the community feedback received. It will be up to the Board and the City Council to determine which type of use moves forward for consideration and implementation.

Will the site's historic and cultural significance be considered during this process?

Yes! In 2009, the LA Dept. of City Planning's Cultural Heritage Commission designated Griffith Park as a Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM), and the Pony Ride site was named a "Contributing Factor" in achieving that designation. This means that changes, updates, or improvements to the site must also take the history of the site into consideration. A team of historic preservation experts have visited and assessed the site, conducting research regarding its history and relationship to Griffith Park and surrounding communities; and documenting all structures and their findings will be used to guide the development of options for future uses, ensuring that the historic value of the site is properly acknowledged and accounted for. The report was completed in February 2024 and will be available on the website soon.

How soon will a new use be up and running on the Pony Ride site?

RAP desires to establish a new use for the site as soon as possible. When a new use has been determined at the direction of the Board and City Council, RAP staff will establish and share the timeframes required to implement improvements, solicit for a new concessionaire or lessee, and allow time for design and redevelopment of the site; ideally this will be accomplished in 1-2 years. Site features such as design, layout needs of new uses, or other environmental or historic factors may influence the overall timing, and the schedule will be refined when a proposed new use is identified and these factors can be more easily identified.



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How were the Focus Groups identified for individual meetings?

Focus Groups listed have either historically been actively engaged in discussions related to the operations of the Pony Rides and the use of the site, or they have requested to meet directly with the project team. The City wants to ensure as many viewpoints as possible have been considered during the process and is actively pursuing opportunities to connect with community members, especially users of the site such as parents and children. This will be done through the surveys the upcoming Community Open House. RAP will post notifications on this website and will be sending out notifications on social media and through established contact lists of park users and Neighborhood Councils. If you have comments, suggestions or recommendations of other groups our team should meet with, please fill Question and Comment form (<https://tinyurl.com/PonyRidesComments>) and we will see if we can accommodate your request.