

INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

October 20, 2022

TO: BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS
FROM: JIMMY KIM, General Manager 
SUBJECT: VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications addressed to the Board have been received by the Board Office, and the action taken thereon is presented.

<u>From</u>		<u>Action Taken</u>
1) Chip Mallek comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136aaq	Referred to General Manager
2) Gayana Sarkissova comments regarding Palisades Pickleball Courts	#9166j	Referred to General Manager
3) Eric Drachman comments regarding Glen Bill Rosendahl Del Rey Park	#9181f	Referred to General Manager
4) Mauro Garcia comments regarding Sycamore Grove Park Repair	#9205	Referred to General Manager
5) Mauro Garcia comments regarding Sycamore Grove Park Graffiti	#9205a	Referred to General Manager
6) Eric Yves Lafayette Felicia Mahood Senior Center	#9206	Referred to General Manager
7) Lisa Gaines comments regarding Westchester Senior Center	#9207	Referred to General Manager
8) Debra Huston comments regarding Westchester Senior Center	#9207a	Referred to General Manager
9) Hollywoodland Homeowners Association	#9208	Referred to General Manager
10) Miss Jackson comments regarding E.G. Roberts Pool	#9209	Referred to General Manager
11) Jennifer Freel comments regarding Lake Balboa Jesse Owens Park	#9210	Referred to General Manager

12) Claire Nach comments regarding Lake Balboa Jesse Owens Park	#9210a	Referred to General Manager
13) Nathan Baguio comments regarding Lake Balboa Jesse Owens Park	#9210b	Referred to General Manager
14) Dan Braunstein comments regarding Lake Balboa Jesse Owens Park	#9210c	Referred to General Manager

Prepared by Carolyn Shannon-Joyner, RAP Commission Office



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Safe Parking at Westchester Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Oct 5, 2022 at 9:14 AM

To: Chip Mallek <

Cc: debra.huston@gmail.com

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Wed, Oct 5, 2022 at 7:32 AM Chip Mallek < > wrote:

Dear RAP Commissioners,

Thank you SO MUCH for your actions at Westchester Park! I and the community are much appreciated that your team listened to our concerns and allowed our park to flourish...

More good recreational times to come

On Thu, Sep 15, 2022 at 8:27 AM Chip Mallek < > wrote:

Dear RAP Commissioners,

Please take time to read this and understand that the majority of Westchester residents are opposed to safe parking at Westchester park. We are not opposed to safe parking, just not at a park.

PLEASE reconsider your decision to allow it at Westchester park!

Thanks,

Chip Mallek

--
Chip Mallek
NCWP District 15

--
City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
Figueroa Plaza
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Mail Stop: 625/15
Website: www.laparks.org



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Pickleball Ball Courts

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Gayana Sarkissova < >
Cc: palisades.rc@lacity.org

Thu, Oct 13, 2022 at 11:09 AM

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Thu, Oct 13, 2022 at 10:00 AM Gayana Sarkissova < > wrote:

Dear director Dowlatshahi,

Hope my email will find you well.

I am emailing you on behalf of John and Amy Hollingsworth, Emily and John Park. They reside behind the Palisades Tennis Center. Please find the attached letter in regards to the pickleball courts. Hard copy will be sent out today.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Gayana Sarkissova

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October 4, 2022

From: Jeff Van Wagner

Attorney at Law

Fortiss LLC

To: Director Jasmine Dowlatshahi

851 Alma Real Dr

Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Phone; 310 454 1412

Email; palisades.rc@lacity.org

CC: Joe Halper

Board of Recreation and Park Commissioner

Dear Director Dowlatshahi:

I represent homeowners John and Amy Hollingsworth, Emily and John Park. They reside behind the Palisades Tennis Center.

My clients are in adamant opposition to the proposed pickleball courts being placed in the Palisades Tennis Center. They believe there will be a substantial increase in noise, traffic and parking congestion.

Noise:

Although pickleball resembles tennis, there are notable differences that create elevated decibel levels when pickleballers gather.

- Unlike the soft, nap-covered balls used in tennis, the pickleball is hard plastic and much noisier than a tennis ball when struck.
- Pickleball courts are much smaller than tennis courts — about one-fourth the size. This means that at least four times more pickleballers can occupy the space of a former tennis court.

- Instead of stringed rackets of the type used in tennis, a pickleball paddle is a larger variation of the ones used in Ping-Pong.
- The exchanges in pickleball are much faster than those in tennis and more closely resemble those in Ping-Pong, leaving far fewer silent gaps between ball strikes than in tennis.

Frequent pickleball sounds are typically about 70 dBa at about 100 feet away from the strike of the ball. Residents in homes located in a quiet residential area, that are within 100 feet from pickleball courts are used to noise levels of 40 dBa, therefore the level of pickleball noise is 30 decibels louder. Each time you increase a sound level by 10 decibels, it will sound twice as loud. So, an increase of 30 decibels is (10dB+10dB+10dB) or 2x as loud x 2x as loud x 2x as loud, or 8 times as loud.

There are no effective means (other than enclosing the entire pickleball court in a well-designed building) of reducing the noise emitted by the pickleball courts such as noise walls, barriers or screens. Although these types of solutions are frequently suggested, they are not effective (for reasons of fundamental physics) and will not reduce the noise to acceptable levels.

My clients wish for additional information regarding the city's current regulations regarding noise ordinances plus further detailed information on the proposed noise impact study.

Traffic and Parking Congestion:

Unlike tennis, in which a single match between two good players can tie up a court for hours, many pickleball matches last just 15 to 30 minutes.

The sport is perfectly suited for high-turnover open play. Multiple times an hour which is conducive for a higher number of participants waiting to participate in matches. With the limited number of parking spots located by the lower courts has there been any discussion about how this will impact the sporting events at the recreation center and neighboring street parking?

Memorial Park in Santa Monica is a good case study for pickleball. Memorial Park is now very crowded and there are 20-40+ people playing pickleball during park hours.

The difference however is there are no homes surrounding these courts at Memorial Park.

My clients urge you to commission a traffic and parking impact study for the surrounding neighborhood. There will already be more car congestion with the upcoming opening of the Park Improvement Project.

My clients believe that they will suffer economic harm with a drop in their home values and the pickleball games will cause “unreasonable interference with” their “enjoyment of their property if pickleball is allowed at the Palisades Tennis Center lower courts.

Sincerely,

Jeff Van Wagner

Attorney at Law



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: BILL ROSENDAHL DEL REY PARK (large dog park update)

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Oct 7, 2022 at 11:17 AM

To: Eric Drachman < >

Cc: RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Fri, Oct 7, 2022 at 9:41 AM Eric Drachman < > wrote:

Hello again –

This is Eric Drachman. I've been contacting you about the Glen Alla large dog park.

I attended the FACILITY REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE COMMISSION TASK FORCE meeting yesterday and spoke at the public comment, but I missed an important point which I would like to add...

First of all, I attended the Commissioner's meeting after, where they were supposed to discuss the money requested to complete that project, but it was not discussed. They merely stated that they had requested money for the project. There was no comment and no opportunity to add a comment at that point, so it's not clear to me what the next step is. When will that be approved and what are they planning with the dog park?

The point I missed when I spoke on the task force meeting...

It was explained that there was an original project which was completed and then a later "fix" to repair the plumbing. It was a working park before the "fix" started. Then they repaired the plumbing, but started to do MORE! They brought in piles of gravel and materials (I think) to use to secure artificial turf. That would have been a welcome additional project, but to say that leaving it in that state - an unfinished project, with tools sitting around and piles of gravel and trash cans and temporary fences constitutes a completed plumbing project is incorrect.

Can I get an update on what should happen next?

Thanks for your help with this!

Eric Drachman

--

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK SERVICE REQUEST CD1 LA 90065

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Garcia Incareal < >

Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 8:17 AM

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Sun, Oct 2, 2022 at 4:49 PM Garcia Incareal < > wrote:

OCTOBER 2-2022

SYCAMORE GROVE PARK

Supervisor Yvonte Robinson

There is a water leak by the tennis court

There is a broken door in one of the buildings

Attach picture

Also the washed dirt on the side walk of N. Figueroa St. has been cleaned

The poles at the parking lot have been repainted.

Mauro Garcia

--
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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK SERVICE REQUEST CD1 LA 90065

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Yovonte Robinson <yovonte.robinson@lacity.org>

Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 8:18 AM

Good morning,

Thank you the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office.

On Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 5:37 AM Yovonte Robinson <yovonte.robinson@lacity.org> wrote:

The service requests has been submitted and any other issues will be resolved as time permits.

Best Regards,

On Sun, Oct 2, 2022, 4:49 PM Garcia Incareal < > wrote:

OCTOBER 2-2022

SYCAMORE GROVE PARK

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK GRAFFITI CD1 LA 90065

1 message

Yovonte Robinson <yovonte.robinson@lacity.org>
To: Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
Cc: Garcia Incareal <i >

Tue, Oct 4, 2022 at 12:21 PM

Good afternoon,

The job order #22-37476.

Best Regards,

On Tue, Oct 4, 2022, 11:28 AM Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org> wrote:

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Tue, Oct 4, 2022 at 10:38 AM Garcia Incareal wrote:

OCTOBER4-22
Sycamore Grove Park Supervisor
Ms.Yvonte Rovinson

The Sycamore Grove Park has graffiti
Attach picture
Mauro Garcia

--

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Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK GRAFFITI CD1 LA 90065

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Cruel, insane rules at Felicia Mahood senior Center

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Eric Yves Lafayette <

Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 10:51 AM

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners and staff.

On Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 9:51 AM Eric Yves Lafayette < > wrote:
Cruel, insane rules at Felicia Mahood senior Center

Dear commissioners

I am sure you are against setting a trap to harm or risking the lives of senior citizens at the senior citizen Centers but it is what is happening at many Senior Citizen Centers in Los Angeles and I personally experienced it and I am 72 years old and went to the Felicia Mahood Center in West Los Angeles which is on Santa Monica Boulevard next to the public library

When I say insane I am not exaggerating:

I was rejected twice at the Felicia Mahood Senior Center because the first time I didn't want to participate in the only activity going on which was aerobic yoga and the reason I didn't want is that I have an illness that hurts when I stretch my body. The second time there was no activity.

I was very kind but the manager yelled at me three times "Leave now, Leave now, Leave now" then of course I left. The second time the manager was not there but the assistant manager was there and she was very polite but she insisted extremely strongly for me to leave and she explained to me that if I did not enter any activity I couldn't stay and this time there was no activity we are talking absolute insanity and cruelty.

My two attempts were during heat waves and even during heat waves and I'm talking real heat waves the managers at the Felicia Mahood Center kicked me out, me the 72 years old senior citizen.

Each time I went in this gigantic facility it was empty, there were one day three seniors the other day Zero senior at the place that could hold at least twice as many people as in the library because it is three times as big as the library.

To have zero seniors in a huge Senior air conditioned Center is not the goal I hope of the city of Los Angeles

I finally found the rules in writing thanks to a remarkable man outside the Park and Recreation Center division of Los Angeles. This guy is remarkable, put him in charge at a very high level of park and recreation. He actually is not part of Park and recreation center.

. " to address a few of the concerns you brought up about the Felicia Mahood Center:

1. The City's Recreation and Parks (RAP) department owns and operates the Felicia Mahood Center. There are staffing issues at Felicia Mahood preventing them from fully opening. Per RAP:
2.
 - o *"Starting October 1st, Felicia Mahood's hours of operation will be Monday - Friday (8:00 am - 5:00 pm). Patrons will be able to call or visit the center during those hours for office assistance. The facility will continue to be open for center programs and permit groups. Patrons not participating in center programs or permitted activities will not be allowed to linger inside the facility."*
3. RAP has current COVID-19 protocols that all centers must follow (including, proof of vaccination for everyone entering the facility, health screenings, mask-wearing, etc). All RAP facilities are not open to full operations. [Felicia Mahood is available for center programs and permit groups only](#). Only registered participants are to be inside the facility to participate in programs.
4. The City's Emergency Management Department (EMD) [designates certain City facilities \(mostly Recreation Centers and Libraries\) during heat waves](#). EMD has not designated Felicia Mahood as a cooling center. I would be happy to look into why that is and if it can be used as a cooling center in the future.

While this may not be the response you were hoping for, I hope this clarifies the situation.

Have a great rest of your week.

All the best,

Noah Fleishman

--

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Cruel, insane rules at Felicia Mahood senior Center

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 11:36 AM

To: Kortley Norris <kortley.norris@lacity.org>

Cc: Samone Rankins <samone.rankins@lacity.org>, Mindy Schneider <mindy.schneider@lacity.org>

Hi Kortley,

Thank you!

On Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 11:29 AM Kortley Norris <kortley.norris@lacity.org> wrote:

Good morning.

This patron contacted the Council Office (Noah Fleishman) who then reached out to both the Director (Samone Rankins) and the Supervisor (me) for some clarification. The responses that Noah gave the patron are from my email to him. His response is accurate. Below is what I sent Noah:

To clarify...

- Felicia Mahood MPC is operated by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. Jewish Family Services uses some office space inside the center for their operations and may utilize areas of the center for their activities (approved by RAP).
- RAP has current COVID-19 protocols that all centers must follow (including, proof of vaccination for everyone entering the facility, health screenings, mask wearing, etc). All Recreation and Parks facilities are not open to full operations. Felicia Mahood MPC is open for center programs and permit groups only. Only registered participants are to be inside the facility to participate in programs. The facility is not open to the public to leisurely "hang out." Patrons may call the park office to reach a RAP employee on site or visit the office during programming hours. Office hours vary, depending on staff availability.
- Starting October 1st, Felicia Mahood's hours of operation will be Monday-Friday (8:30am-5:00pm). Patrons will be able to call or visit the center during those hours for office assistance. The facility will continue to be open for center programs and permit groups. Patrons not participating in center programs or permitted activities will not be allowed to loiter inside the facility. Again, the center is not open at full operations, not open for leisure, and patrons should not stay and "hang out" at the facility.
- Cooling Centers are designated by the Emergency Management Division. There are various factors/resources affecting the decisions as to what centers will be designated as such and what operations and logistics they will offer. I don't know what all goes into designating Cooling Centers, as that is a different Department from RAP.

I hope this information is helpful. Internally, we've had staffing issues with Felicia Mahood that's been preventing us from being open more to the public. I hope these issues will be resolved starting October.

Unfortunately, we continue to have staffing issues at this facility (some are HR related and cannot be disclosed) and we still have COVID-19 protocols in place, so we are unable to fully serve the community as we did pre-pandemic. We are doing our best with the resources we have.

If you have additional questions, please feel free to reach out to me.
Thank you.

Kortley Norris

Recreation Supervisor

West Region ~ Coastal District 

City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation & Parks

Phone: (310) 202-2803

www.laparks.org

Notice of Confidentiality:

This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under the applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are strictly prohibited from storing, disseminating, distributing or copying this message and/or its attachment(s).

On Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 10:58 AM Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org> wrote:

Good morning all,

Please see email received by the Board office below and advise. Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
 Date: Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 10:51 AM
 Subject: Re: Cruel, insane rules at Felicia Mahood senior Center
 To: Eric Yves Lafayette

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners and staff.

On Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 9:51 AM Eric Yves Lafayette <eric.yves.lafayette@lacity.org> wrote:
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While this may not be the response you were hoping for, I hope this clarifies the situation.

Have a great rest of your week.

All the best,
Noah Fleishman



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: In Los Angeles, Handicapped Access Is Blocked by Homeless Encampments to Senior Center and Public Library But City Refuses to Help Handicapped

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Oct 5, 2022 at 9:15 AM

To: Lisa GAINES >

Cc: councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, contactCD4@lacity.org, paul.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.martinez@lacity.org, councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, councilmember.Lee@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org, councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org, Geoffrey.Straniere@lacity.org, connie.llanos@lacity.org, Brian Hale <brian.hale@lacity.org>, Brian Gallagher <brian.gallagher@lacity.org>, Mike Bonin <mike.bonin@lacity.org>, noah.fleishman@lacity.org, Paula Gerez < >, Alex Reynolds

<

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Tue, Oct 4, 2022 at 6:03 PM Lisa GAINES wrote:

I have called twice to the "homeless contact", Noah Fleishman, with NO response in the last week. These are pictures taken yesterday in front of the Westchester Senior Center. It was 77 degrees and our disabled and seniors could not get to the senior center or the library to get cool or to get food due to homeless \$hit everywhere. Disabled matter! This is a disgrace. It is your disgrace. THIS IS ILLEGAL! DO SOMETHING TODAY. (For those of you who may not know, Noah Fleishman, works in the building across from the Senior Center and if he simply looked out the window he would see this for himself.)

I believe your constituents deserve a response.

Lisa Gaines





On Aug 18, 2022, at 10:38 AM, Lisa GAINES

> wrote:

Dear Council Members and City Officials,

This might be the third letter I have written to some of you to no avail. I am writing to you in sheer frustration on behalf of my handicapped mother-in-law and other handicapped patrons of Westchester Senior Center and Westchester Library located in CD 11 on the busy Manchester and Lincoln boulevards and in support of the woman and children who wish to use this parking lot for the library or to use the parking lot for children's sports. I have sent letters, emails and have called numerous times with absolutely NO acknowledgement or action taken. Our elected officials need to listen and respond. *Am I wrong to believe that clear safe access to public spaces is a right to all, and not just for the homeless?*

THE CITY HAS ILLEGALLY PREVENTED THE CLEAR ACCESS TO PUBLIC SPACES FOR HANDICAPPED AND FRAIL SENIORS

I have a handicapped mother in law whom I cannot take to the Westchester Senior Center or the Westchester Library because of these illegal RVs and campers taking up the handicapped spots. Due to her circumstances, I cannot park on the street because I would have to park illegally (and dangerously) 3 feet away from the curb to be able to get her out of the car and into her wheelchair. On Manchester, this would be certain injury to body and car. I am unable to park in another regular spot because if someone parks in the adjacent spot after I'm in the building, I will not be able to open the door wide enough to accommodate her wheelchair. *Don't the handicapped and seniors matter?* Seniors are vulnerable and yet our politicians do NOTHING.

Woman and children don't feel safe as the daily Westchester news about these homeless living in this lot assaulting park goers, starting fires, stabbing people, stealing and even shooting at people in and around this parking lot. Handicapped children use the Westchester Library as their mental playground, yet they are prevented from accessing this important building due to the homeless encampments taking valuable spaces and the lack of safety as it takes quite some time to load and unload a severely handicapped person into and out of a vehicle rendering them vulnerable to aggressive homeless people. It is hard enough for a family to transport their handicapped loved one, you are making it harder on them. *Don't handicapped children matter?* Really, this simply disgusts me to have to ask.

Below are photos taken just 2 days ago showing how the handicapped spots are obstructed by RVS and people camping in handicapped spaces. This is a typical day. Many of these people are aggressive to anyone wishing to park here. They have illegally camped in the public parking spaces, including the handicapped with no enforcement, no safety patrols,

<fb05f29b967c11e5013a9dcf0bfe5a10.jpeg><IMG_8410.jpeg><IMG_8409.jpeg><IMG_8408.jpeg>
<IMG_8406.jpeg><IMG_8449.jpeg><IMG_8450.jpeg><IMG_8438.jpeg><IMG_8441.jpeg>

THE CITY HAS PREVENTED EQUAL ACCESS TO COOLING STATIONS, POLLING STATIONS, LIBRARY AND SENIOR SERVICES DISENFRANCHISING THE ELDERLY AND HANDICAPPED

The Senior Center has been a designated city cooling station, as well as the Library, unofficially, for people to seek refuge from the heat for heat stroke prevention. Elderly people on a fixed income can't afford to cool their homes and would go to the library during the day to stay cool. They do not feel safe to go there with the homeless encampment in the parking lot. They cannot park in a close handicapped spot. *Don't the seniors matter? Will more seniors die from heat stroke because they could not get cool during the hot summer days? Are they out of sight and out of mind? Or no squeaky wheel taking a microphone....*

Seniors and handicapped were disenfranchised in the June election as they were unable to vote due to the lack of handicapped parking and safe parking at their polling station there at the library. In June, the Westchester/Playa Neighborhood Council met and demanded Bonin's office to allow for safe passage to the Senior Center and the Library.

https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/outcry-at-westchester-senior-center-seniors-do-not-feel-safe-to-vote/article_242222ae-e600-11ec-9c83-937bc7dd151e.html

https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/neighborhood-council-of-westchester-playa-asking-for-safe-access-to-senior-center/article_ecaa9978-f0fe-11ec-9757-8f3e959954e6.html.

Bonin cared not, did nothing, and has clearly no interest in public safety, only HIS personal safety, but I will address that below.

The Senior Center has been a place for legal assistance, rent assistance, nutrition to help seniors from becoming homeless, too! But due to the homeless encampment, the Senior Center was closed for quite a long time. It is supposed to have opened by now, but looking at the pictures above from 1 days ago, I can assure you that seniors will not feel safe going there. How many seniors will lose their homes because they didn't get valuable legal and financial assistance from the free services provided at the Senior Center? How many seniors will be undernourished and lonely because they were unable to go to the Senior Center? How many seniors have fell victim to crimes that they won't have resources for because they feel unsafe going to the Senior Center or because they can't park close to the entrance? The City has caused this problem by not enforcing laws on the books for handicapped parking and camping but has chosen not to enforce these laws. *Do the 20 or so homeless encamped here illegally matter more than the thousands of seniors and handicapped residents?*

The Library has been the only location for seniors to get information from computers as many of them can't afford a computer or internet. Blocking their access to the library prevents them for daily activities that YOU take for granted. The library, aside from a cooling station, is a safe place to research and read. *Seniors and handicapped are unable to do this basic activity due to the lack of adequate, safe handicapped parking from illegal parking, camping and dumping in handicapped spaces.*

BONIN IGNORES OUR PLEAS FOR PARKING LOT CLEARANCE AND SAFETY YET SEEKS PERSONAL GUARDS AND FENCING FOR REGIONAL OFFICE LOCATED NEXT TO WESTCHESTER SENIOR CENTER AND LIBRARY

Bonin was begged and pleaded by thousands of Westchester residents to please do something to remove the homeless from the parking lot due safety and he ignored us. However, in June 2021, his own staff member sent a letter to the city attorney asking if the homeless can be removed from the entrance of this very building because he was "disruptive". Once she got pushback, she apologized to the community for speaking on her own but not from Bonin's perspective.

Again, through thousands signing park [petitions](#), [homeless petitions](#), emails, phone calls we pushed and asked to please move the homeless from the park and parking lot as it was unsafe for the public using the facilities and we were stonewalled. Bonin actually was a dissenting vote not to enforce the anti parking/camping ordinance that was passed by the City Council. Yet, secretly, overnight he erected a barbed fence around his field office at Westchester Park and hired private duty security while telling us there is not a safety issue.

https://nextdoor.com/p/8Fd8G_Whdy6N?view=detail&init_source=search&query=Bonin%20security%20fence

<3063bd8e8168e86e47fcb8e50041b747.jpeg><IMG_7377.jpeg>
https://nextdoor.com/p/8Fd8G_Whdy6N?utm_source=share&extras=MTg1OTczNQ%3D%3D<IMG_7396.jpeg>

HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS/PARKING AT WESTCHESTER PARK REDUCES PARK USE DUE TO SAFETY IN AN UNDER PARK/GREENSPACE COMMUNITY

The mayor mandated a 4.0 acre park/1000 person plan for the city. This community park space as shown below from the Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park & Recreation Needs Assessment Study below is critically below the Mayor's park equity goal. It shows that at present the park acres/1000 is terribly below the goal with less than 0.8 park acres/1000. Homeless encampments take valuable space needed for park and facility use. It has come to our attention that Bonin is clandestinely getting bids to fence the entire lot for 24 hour homeless camping. Where will our seniors, handicapped, families park? Don't they matter? Increasing safe parking by taking these valuable spots will reduce park usage in a very needed area that is underserved.

<Screen Shot 2022-08-18 at 8.15.14 AM.png><Screen Shot 2022-08-18 at 8.15.28 AM.png>

Here is an excerpt of an email that was sent to the Park & Recreation and City Council yesterday that summed up the most crimes against children and adults by homeless living in the Park that we have become aware of:

"We had another incident involving a homeless person on the tennis courts at Westchester Park this morning. A homeless man with his dog walked to the entrance of a court and would not let the tennis pro onto the court to use it. The stand-off lasted for about 15 minutes.

This follows three incidents involving homeless people at the tennis courts last month. In one incident, a homeless man wrapped in a blanket walked onto a court on which a pro was giving lessons to 12-year-old girls and started saying so all could hear, and repeatedly, that "these girls just want to f*** me." The next day he showed up again and jumped a fence onto a court on which a tennis pro was giving lessons to five-year-old girls. He spoke lewdly again. These incidents were frightening to children and tennis pros.

A week or two before that, a homeless woman walked onto the court area and grabbed a clipboard from a woman who keeps track of court assignments and yelled at the woman until a tennis pro went to the woman's rescue.

Over the past couple years, we have had hundreds of incidents in the park involving homeless people and children. These incidents have included indecent exposure, meth-infused meltdowns, racial slurs children could hear, following children, trying to engage children in conversation, poking penises through the chain link fence surrounding the tennis courts and urinating on the courts, attacking children in the restroom, claiming that children belong to them and demanding the children be turned over to them, fires, open drug usage, and more. The danger is well documented, and it continues.

It is not safe to have homeless people living in the park, and we have nearly 30 vehicle dwellers living in the park now. Most of these vehicle dwellers use more than one parking space, and some use up to six parking spaces each. There is already an insufficient amount of parking in the park. Families cannot be expected to cross Lincoln Blvd. or Manchester Ave. to find parking. These are both very busy streets with multiple lanes. The ball fields in the park will be open on October 3 which will increase the need for parking. I am attaching photos taken this week so you can see the state of this parking lot and the number of spaces used by homeless vehicle dwellers.

We ask that the City find another location for these vehicle dwellers so users of the park can be safe and have adequate parking available for users of the park for purposes for which it was intended.", as written by Debra Huston a resident of Westchester.

Our vulnerable have rights to safe use and passage of public spaces. Homeless near public parks and services harms more than it helps. Seniors, handicapped, children deserve access to the Library, Senior Center and park space without harm. Using the Park parking lot has proven to harm this community. We insist on relocating these individuals to lots not close to parks, schools or vulnerable people.

As our city representatives, I implore you to take action: enforce handicapped parking laws, enforce anti-camping/encampment laws. Find another lot, move these people, make safe passage today for the vulnerable.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter, as our own City Councilman has ignored our urgent requests.

Lisa Gaines
Resident of Westchester, 32 years



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Need for security at senior center, tennis courts, and ball fields rather than closure of facilities

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Oct 12, 2022 at 9:49 AM

To: Debra Huston <

Cc: Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, Jamie Paige

>, Sue Pascoe

< >, "Klemack, John (NBCUniversal)" <

>, "Villegas, Catalina"

< >, Rina Nakano Nakano <

>,

Nickee Liang

< >, L Perez <

>,

>, Paula Gerez <

>, Alexandra Reynolds <

>, kristin

ziebarth <

>, Sonya Young-Jimenez <Sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>,

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Tue, Oct 11, 2022 at 6:48 PM Debra Huston <

> wrote:

Jimmy Kim

General Manager, Recreation and Parks

Dear Mr. Kim,

We have confirmation that the senior center at Westchester Park is closed as of today. An email from RAP received by community members mentioned "considerable safety concerns" as the reason for the temporary closure of the senior center in Westchester Park. We assume this means the "considerable safety concerns" presented by the dozens of vehicle dwellers living in the park.

This has been a concern of the community for two years. Apparently, it is also a concern of the Council Office (Mike Bonin, CD-11) because a full-time security guard is in the Council Office in the Westchester Park field office, and there have been fortification measures taken to protect people in the Council Office in the park, such as 10-foot chain link fencing with razor wire on top, cameras, and an electric gate to the parking lot of that office with key card entry.

We have requested security of the Council Office, many times, and we have consistently informed the Council Office of incidents in which homeless people have harassed children in the park, exposed themselves to children in the park, slapped a tennis player (a person of color) in the face, spoken in vulgar language to girls as young as five years of age taking tennis lessons, yelled racial slurs when children of the offended race were taking tennis lessons just feet away and clearly within earshot, and much more. **I was a witness to the racial slur incident and have it on audiotape.**

Other witnesses were there at the time as well. The racial slurs were directed at a LAHSA worker who was also a witness. The LAHSA worker called 911 and LAPD responded, so there is a record of this call. We received no response from the Council Office. No response whatsoever. And no security for the children.

We have reported dozens, maybe hundreds, of incidents involving children at the park, and no response from the Council Office. No expression of concern whatsoever.

We have also reported these incidents to RAP and requested security from RAP. No response from RAP on this issue either.

Our community is very opposed to closing facilities because of security concerns because no security has been provided to the senior center, the tennis courts, the ball fields, or the recreation pool. **Security is a deterrent, which is why Bonin has security in his office.**

Our seniors and our children need the facilities in Westchester Park and they need safety while using those facilities. Communities from far and wide need the facilities as well. This park serves hundreds, maybe thousands, of people from Inglewood and South Central LA.

Westchester Park is not, as the CAO determined in his August 2021 report, an underutilized park and not feasible for camping. However, the closure of facilities will in all likelihood lead to a determination of infeasibility, and then thousands of youth, seniors and others will be deprived of their park. We oppose the closure of any facility or amenity in the park.

Once again, we request security at all facilities in the park. This park must be made safe for all and security will be needed and is requested until the dozens of homeless vehicle dwellers are moved from the park.

Please respond as our seniors are very concerned about this, as are parents of children.

Debra Huston
Westchester Playa Community Coalition

--

City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
Figueroa Plaza
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Telephone: (213) 202-2640
Fax: (213) 202-2610
Mail Stop: 625/15
Website: www.laparks.org



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: ● RAP Commissioners, A PRESS RELEASE!

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Oct 6, 2022 at 8:26 AM

To:

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Wed, Oct 5, 2022 at 2:42 PM Official Hollywoodland Homeowners Association eMail < > wrote:

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Celebrating Eighty years 1942-2022
Hollywoodland Homeowners Association

The Hollywoodland Improvement Association (HIA, now Hollywoodland Homeowners Association) was “ formed in 1942 at the beginning of the war to prepare to meet the threat of fire bombing. It had its own fire truck manned (purchased) by residents who were trained by the City Fire Department.”*

Eighty years later we are celebrating our community and our HOA’s legacy in an exhibit at Hollywoodland Realty on Tuesday October 11th 2022.

In 1942 Hollywoodland consisted of approximately 160 homes, a village shopping area, a private horse ranch and 440 plus acres of open space surrounding the residences. Hollywoodland (tract 6450)was still controlled by the Sherman Company whose staff dealt with the Hollywoodland sign, tennis courts, putting green and the Norman Castle at 6201 Rodgerton.

Los Angeles supplied goods for the war effort; airplane factories were in full swing gearing up for WWII, there was even a false alarm called the Great LA Air Raid on 2/24/1942(later documented as a meteorological balloon incident). There was also a shortage of man power since many of the young men were off to war. These elements contributed to reasons for neighborhood self preservation.

Review of the Hollywoodland Improvement Association’s Articles of Incorporation from April 28, 1942 listed purposes:

“to give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life, to encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships and to inculcate to the minds of the residents of that portion of the City of Los Angeles which is commonly referred to as “Hollywoodland” for the orderly, safe and beautiful maintenance of their residences, gardens, lawns and properties in said general area; and to obtain in connection therewith a cooperative spirit in encouraging others to assist therein; and particularly to encourage the adoption of all lawful and useful fire prevention practices.”

Over the past 80 years the Hollywoodland Homeowners (aka HIA) has continued to support an interesting vibrant community. We are sharing our legacy with you.

To view the exhibit by appointment on Tuesday October 11th please contact Christine Mills O'Brien HHA@hollywoodland.org, subject line: View Exhibit.

* 12/8/1960 Canyon Cryer

eMail us

Hollywoodland Homeowners Association | 2700 N. Beachwood Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90068

[Unsubscribe rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)

Constant Contact Data Notice

Sent by hha@hollywoodland.org in collaboration with

 Trusted Email from Constant Contact - Try it FREE today.

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City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
Figueroa Plaza
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Telephone: (213) 202-2640
Fax: (213) 202-2610
Mail Stop: 625/15
Website: www.laparks.org



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: E.G. Roberts Pool - Lack of Management and Major Concerns

1 message

Brenda Aguirre <brenda.aguirre@lacity.org>

Tue, Oct 11, 2022 at 12:11 PM

To: Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>

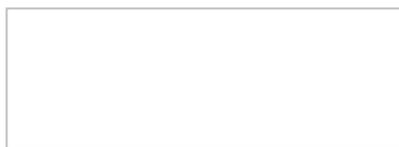
Cc: Miss Jackson <miss.jackson@lacity.org>, "rap.commissioners@lacity.org" <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, "citywide.aquatics@lacity.org" <citywide.aquatics@lacity.org>, "andre.brent@lacity.org" <andre.brent@lacity.org>, "serapia.kim@lacity.org" <serapia.kim@lacity.org>, "maha.yateem@lacity.org" <maha.yateem@lacity.org>, "leon.aguilar@lacity.org" <leon.aguilar@lacity.org>, "RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org" <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

Thank you Jimmy for adding me again to this thread.

Hello Miss Jackson,

I wanted to touch base with you to ensure that all of your concerns were addressed and also understand where the communication failed. I was not aware of this issue until I received your email. However at this time additional curtains are being procured to provide more adequate coverage for the locker rooms while the door is placed. At this time I do not have a timeline for the door delivery but there will be a temporary solution in place until the door is installed.

Please let me know if you are available for a call. In the interim temporary measures are being mobilized to address the concern.



Brenda D Aguirre

Superintendent of Recreation and Parks Operations

Citywide Aquatics and Emergency Management

(323) 906-7953

3900 Chevy Chase Drive. Los Angeles, CA 90027

www.laparks.org AND www.SwimLA.org

On Tue, 11 Oct 2022 at 12:04, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org> wrote:

Good Afternoon Miss Jackson,

I am now the General Manager for Recreation and Parks. I had understood that an issue related to the Swimming Pool was being addressed but was not aware of the issues with the women's restroom. +Brenda Aguirre will ensure that this is addressed immediately and will investigate your other concerns.

Thank you SO much.

On Tue, Oct 11, 2022 at 10:29 AM Miss Jackson <miss.jackson@lacity.org>

> wrote:

Greetings Brenda,

Thank you for your response and including your title. Who is your superior? Please provide me their contact as well as the title and position of Jimmy along with his head boss. I would prefer keeping all communications in writing as last year I spoke with Maha over the phone, and with both Jimmy and Leon in person, informing them all of visibility of nudity. This is not a new issue, rather a neglected one.

Assuming your staff keeps a log of day-to-day activities, and assuming at minimum a bi-yearly walk-thru is being done by upper management to each facility, and with management on site and doing their job properly, there would be no need of any investigation nor me having to send any emails. Being there is clear oversight occurring, concerns are being brought to the attention of those whom are on the payroll.

Please be kind and inform me of chain of command and to the resolve.

Thank you kindly,

jackson

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Brenda Aguirre <brenda.aguirre@lacity.org>

To:

Sent: Saturday, October 8, 2022, 08:46:19 AM PDT

Subject: Re: E.G. Roberts Pool - Lack of Management and Major Concerns

Thank you Jimmy.

Hello Miss Jackson,

Thank you for bringing this to my attention. We will immediately investigate this. Is the number listed on your email the best contact number for you?



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...>
<https://www.laparks.org/LACityParks>



Brenda D Aguirre

Superintendent of Recreation and Parks Operations

Citywide Aquatics and Emergency Management

(323) 906-7953

3900 Chevy Chase Drive. Los Angeles, CA 90027

www.laparks.org AND www.SwimLA.org

On Fri, 7 Oct 2022 at 13:42, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org> wrote:

Good Afternoon Miss Jackson,

I am adding Superintendent of Aquatic, Brenda Aguirre to ensure appropriate remediation occurs related to restroom and investigation of your allegations.

Thank you

On Fri, Oct 7, 2022 at 12:34 PM Miss Jackson

> wrote:

Attn: Sylvia Patsouras and Lynn Alvarez, Madam president and Madam VP along with other those responsible for overseeing E.G. Roberts Community Pool.

There are major concerns at the pool that need to be addressed immediately (see below).

Exposure to Nude Woman in Locker Room

Since 2020 I have witness from the deep side of the pool the ability to see directly into the changing room as nude bodies of woman and children pass by taking showers each time the door is opened from someone going in or having the curtain tied back or opened by anyone passing thru. The week of 9/19/22 while diving, I happen to see too much. I asked a few of the mature woman from the class if they could also see into the dressing room from their vantage point, in which they agreed. There was not a lot of activity previously in the am, but with the increase in patrons, the door is being flung more frequently. It shameful that as woman we are completely exposed to everyone using the diving board and/or the male



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: E.G. Roberts Pool - Lack of Management and Major Concerns

1 message

Brenda Aguirre <brenda.aguirre@lacity.org> Sat, Oct 8, 2022 at 8:45 AM

To: Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>

Cc: Miss Jackson < >, " < >, "Citywide.Aquatics@lacity.org" <citywide.aquatics@lacity.org>, "andre.brent@lacity.org" <Andre.Brent@lacity.org>, "info@mincla.org" <info@mincla.org>, "leon.aguilar@lacity.org" <leon.aguilar@lacity.org>, "maha.yateem@lacity.org" <maha.yateem@lacity.org>, "mike.shull@lacc.org" <mike.shull@lacc.org>, "rap.commissioners@lacity.org" <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, "serapia.kim@lacity.org" <serapia.kim@lacity.org>

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traveling to shower. *Addressed the issue initial to woman working front desk, then Calvin interrupted speaking over me stating I was complaining. As I told him its a major safety concern.*

Missing Door/ Shower Curtain for Woman's changing room

Some morning I'd walk into the curtain still tied up from the night before as late as 8:00 am, along with the wet floor sign that's left in the way from the night prior or fallen down from persons brushing past. The filthy stained shower curtain that is being touched daily since Covid is a hazard and breeding bacteria, as there is no way a fabric can be sanitized with the number of persons touching it, without it being replaced daily, and especially during an entire Covid outbreak.

Profanity and Explicit Lyrics on Loud speaker

Week of 9/19/22, I arrived in the early morning to the cultural inappropriate "Nigga" word blaring repeatedly over the speaker. After a minute, I unplugged the entire speaker. The lifeguards got upset, but I stated I should not have to be subject to this horrible vibrational music so early in the morning. The staff felt Rancheras was more appropriate for a workout class. The following week, although I was told by the teacher in advance the playlist would remain p.g., I would work out in the deep closet to a blaring and rattling speaker as it played Lil Waynes explicit lyrics from this song [Lil Wayne - Love Me ft. Drake, Future \(Explicit\) \(Official Music Video\)](#). Disgusted by the disturbance of tranquility which we all appreciate early in the morning, along with the horrible PH balance of the pool, I did not hesitate to get out and *speak with management on duty Calvin who brushed off my concerns with excuses of rec play music was permitted. and since the student attending the class with a portable speaker was not present, they can only use the loud speaker from the opposite end, thus it needed to be loud. And added they were checking the water.*

PH Balance of Pool

During the week of 9/28, there were (2) days in which I visited the pool, where the water taste like a mixture of salt and urine. In addition, there was much sediment at the bottom of the pool. *I notified the manager on duty Calvin and decided it best I not return for my own health. Hearing from neighbors the pool was in fact shut down as there was concern a few days later.*

Drought

During the summer we were asked to refrain from taking longer than 5-minute showers. Yet I have witness firsthand (2) Korean woman day after day taking full 30-45 min spas while the water is left running. Yet the homeless lady was told repeatedly she was in violation, and she got frustrated as to the double standard. Having spoken with her prior the facility banning her claiming harassment, I would agree in her feeling of being discriminated against. The harassment was a Latina lower class woman being made an example of, while others do as they please without ever being addressed. *Went brought to attention of management, I was told they don't have staff to police anyone.*

Lack of Management on Duty

Under the current management Leon, and understanding he is never present for the am shift, I have left my number for follow-up (no call to date). I made the effort to visit at other hours of operation (each time the staffs' response would be, we are looking for him too). So, I have stated my concerns with other managers on duty. Sadly, the upper management overseeing EGR pool needs to be seriously reviewed, as persons sitting in positions long term tend to become complacent. This included positions being held by Leon, Jimmy, and Maha. I'm not certain how Calvin is even able to be in a position as he lacks basic communication skills, listening or understanding of community, while speaking over or at a person. The lack of proper management at EGR is allowing for the deterioration of both the facility and the staffs moral.

New Management Replacement

The best thing that could have happened was having Elizabeth, our previous manager, come in and tighten up the ship at EGR. Instead of promoting her and allowing her to continue the upward beautification of the neglected Mid-City community pool, you return us the previous manager Leon who did nothing prior, and who is never available presently. It seems the good old boys are looking out for one another.... Jimmy, Leon and Calvin. While some lifeguards on duty are exceptional, others lead with ego mimicking management and lacking professionalism.

Tripped over the wet floor marker forcing one to catch their balance to avoid injury; arriving to the facility opening gates fully for the car to get inside, and/or double passage; letting down dingy curtains; subjected to exposure of our nude female bodies; being spoken to poorly by persons left in charge to manage the facility, are all all issues that we should not be subjected to. The above issues and mismanagement are appalling and as taxpayers we should be able to utilize a community space and feel safe doing so, especially when dealing with any sort of handicap.

10/11/22, 8:24 AM

City of Los Angeles Mail - Re: E.G. Roberts Pool - Lack of Management and Major Concerns

Those in high positions and dealing with budgets, need to figure it out quickly. This is not acceptable. Your immediate attention is greatly appreciated. Once the issues have been addressed properly, please advise so that I may return to the pool to continue my medically prescribed rehabilitation.

Kind regards,

jackson

CityWide Aquatics 323-906-7953
Parks and Recs. 213-202-2700
Commissioners Office: 213-202-2640

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Please excuse errors. Sent from Gmail Mobile



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Jesse Owens Park: Lake Balboa

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Oct 13, 2022 at 11:21 AM

To: Jennifer F <

Cc: Nathan Baquio <

>, Linda Gravani <

>, Jim Stein

>, Katie Cronin

Viana Parra <viana.parra@lacity.org>, Jonah

Glickman <jonah.glickman@lacity.org>

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Wed, Oct 12, 2022 at 10:32 AM Jennifer F

> wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to you regarding **Jesse Owens Mini Park, located at 7100 White Oak in Lake Balboa**. As a *neighborhood of volunteers*, we worked diligently for two and a half years to secure more than \$1m in funding to improve our park. Our goal was to create a safe place for our community, not to mention a safe place for our city workers to serve. As a team of neighborhood volunteers, we also secured permission from the Jesse Owens family to use his image, worked with Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council (LBNC), LA City Council, Rec and Parks, and we worked with RecWest to create a beautiful, custom landscape structure.

Here is the Approved RFP for your reference:

<https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2022/jun16/22-152.pdf>

RecWest has completed its work, but now **the brand-new playground sits behind chain-link fencing because Los Angeles Rec and Parks cannot complete their end of the agreement detailed in the RFP. The longer this park remains incomplete and unusable with construction fencing and boarded-up restrooms, the longer it continues to be an unsafe environment for my neighborhood. This park is not safe, and not accessible** (which is one of RAP's stated goals). This park has been sitting, abandoned by RAP for more than two weeks. This is not acceptable.

We have been working with Wayne Neal at Rec & Parks for more than two years. He provided us with a completion date for the project in a meeting he attended with LBNC. Our District Office and LBNC secured a permit from the City Clerk to have a Grand Opening event on October 29, 2022 (We originally had an earlier date planned but we did push it later per the request of our City Council President as she intended on being present).

Our LBNC rep has now been told by Rec and Park that we must cancel our event because they can no longer finish the work promised and have refused to provide us with a new completion date. We will not cancel our event. This is a community event where we will use the park space as neighbors.

I am asking Rec & Parks to do the following prior to October 29, 2022:

-

1. Pour Concrete and place picnic tables that are sitting behind construction fencing
2. Repair the leaking, boarded-up restrooms and unlock them (even though RFP details much more work). These have been locked for about 2 years.
3. Remove construction fencing and replace with required permanent playground fencing
4. Remove the heavy equipment stored at the park
5. Remove the unlocked, un-serviced porta-potty stored inside the construction fence (I have witnessed people jumping the fence to use this)
6. Repair all irrigation holes - several are unmarked and are an immediate danger to my neighbors (See Image)
7. RAP present (as agreed) on October 29 and allow community use of outlet in building from 11am-2pm

There is much more work (including lighting and walkways) detailed in the RFP, but this is a minimum of what we, as a community require to be done before October 29, 2022 as agreed with Neighborhood Council.

I would like to invite you to read LA RAP's Mission, Vision, and Motto as stated on the public website [here](#). RAP is not "providing a safe, welcoming" park at 7100 White Oak Avenue. Our community is in danger because you have failed to complete your work as approved in the RFP.

I look forward to hearing from you. For your reference, the attached photos were taken today, October 12, 2022.

Jennifer Freel
Stakeholder, Lake Balboa
Mobile:
Email:

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City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
Figueroa Plaza
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Telephone: (213) 202-2640
Fax: (213) 202-2610
Mail Stop: 625/15
Website: www.laparks.org



No Alcoholic Beverages







Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Lake Balboa Jesse Owens Park Satus

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Oct 13, 2022 at 11:23 AM

To: Claire Nach <

>

Cc: , viana.parra@lacity.org, jonah.glickman@lacity.org, cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org, Matthew.Rudnick@lacity.org, jimmy.kim@lacity.org, mayor.garretti@lacity.org, mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org, andre.herndon@lacity.org

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Wed, Oct 12, 2022 at 1:15 PM Claire Nach <

> wrote:

Hello,

I am writing to you regarding **Jesse Owens Mini Park, located at 7100 White Oak in Lake Balboa**. I am a Los Angeles native and a resident of this neighborhood since 2004. I am also a mother to a 9 year old child. I love Los Angeles and my neighbors. We couldn't be more thrilled with the improvements that were being made to our neighborhood park both to beautify the neighborhood and also honor an American Athlete, Jesse Owens.

As a *neighborhood of volunteers*, we worked diligently for two and a half years to secure more than \$1m in funding to improve our park. Our goal was to create a safe place for our community, not to mention a safe place for our city workers to serve. As a team of neighborhood volunteers, we also secured permission from the Jesse Owens family to use his image, worked with Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council (LBNC), LA City Council, Rec and Parks, and we worked with RecWest to create a beautiful, custom landscape structure.

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<https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2022/jun16/22-152.pdf>

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We have been working with Wayne Neal at Rec & Parks for more than two years. He provided us with a completion date for the project in a meeting he attended with LBNC. Our District Office and LBNC secured a permit from the City Clerk to have a Grand Opening event on October 29, 2022 (We originally had an earlier date planned but we did push it later per the request of our City Council President as she intended on being present).

Our LBNC rep has now been told by Rec and Park that we must cancel our event because they can no longer finish the work promised and have refused to provide us with a new completion date. We will not cancel our event. This is a community event where we will use the park space as neighbors.

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I would like to invite you to read LA RAP's Mission, Vision, and Motto as stated on the public website [here](#). RAP is not "providing a safe, welcoming" park at 7100 White Oak Avenue. Our community is in danger because you have failed to complete your work as approved in the RFP.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Claire Doyle
Stakeholder, Lake Balboa

Sent from my iPhone

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City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
Figueroa Plaza
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Website: www.laparks.org



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Jesse Owens Mini Park - 7100 White Oak Avenue - Lake Balboa

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Nathan Baguio <

Thu, Oct 13, 2022 at 11:23 AM

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Wed, Oct 12, 2022 at 6:37 PM Nathan Baguio < > wrote:
Recreation and Parks Department Commissioners,

I need your help.

I am a resident of Lake Balboa and serve on the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council RAP Committee. Also, I am a board member of the Parks Project Group, a non-profit formed by a group of concerned families in my neighborhood that have decided to take on improving community and safety through our local parks. Our first project was to improve Jesse Owens Mini Park as it was surrounded by RVs occupied by unhoused people, tents were up in the park, drug dealing and violence was taking over.

We have worked with the neighborhood council, council district 6 and most importantly my neighbors to be awarded over \$1M in Measure K Funding to improve the park.

We have worked with the Jesse Owens Foundation to use his image in the playground equipment and make it "track and field" themed. It is turning out amazing.

We had worked with RAP to set a date for the community (local children) to come out and celebrate what happens when people work together. The event has been scheduled for months for October 29th. Work on the playground is complete, but it is still fenced off because the city still needs to install benches. Work was progressing nicely, but it came to a halt more than two weeks ago without explanation.

We were recently told by RAP staff that we now have to cancel the event and there is no timeline for completion.

A lot of work and time has gone into this event. The LBNC approved refreshments from local businesses, we acquired the necessary permit, promoted the event and have the local high school track team running through the ribbon (instead of cutting it with giant scissors).

The work needed to make the park ready for the event is nominal. I am asking that you reach out to staff and have them complete the bench installation so the fencing can be removed so the event can proceed. As so much work on the event has already taken place we are going to proceed with some sort of gathering, but it will consist of children looking through chain-link fence at a playground they can't use.

Please reach out to me so we can resolve this issue as the event day is rapidly approaching.

Thank you,

Nate Baguio

--
City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
Figueroa Plaza



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Jesse Owens Community Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Oct 13, 2022 at 3:55 PM

To: Dan Braunstein >

Cc: darryl.ford@lacity.org, jimmy.kim@lacity.org, Matthew.Rudnick@lacity.org, cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org, mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org, andre.herndon@lacity.org, jonah.glickman@lacity.org,

Good afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners.

On Thu, Oct 13, 2022 at 3:21 PM Dan Braunstein <

> wrote:

Hi all,

I am writing to you regarding Jesse Owens Mini Park, located at 7100 White Oak in Lake Balboa. As a neighborhood of volunteers, we worked diligently for two and a half years to secure more than \$1m in funding to improve our park. Our goal was to create a safe place for our community, not to mention a safe place for our city workers to serve. As a team of neighborhood volunteers, we also secured permission from the Jesse Owens family to use his image, worked with Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council (LBNC), LA City Council, Rec and Parks, and we worked with RecWest to create a beautiful, custom landscape structure.

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There is much more work (including lighting and walkways) detailed in the RFP, but this is a

minimum of what we, as a community require to be done before October 29, 2022, as agreed with Neighborhood Council.

I would like to invite you to read LA RAP's Mission, Vision, and Motto as stated on the public website here <https://www.laparks.org/department/mission-statement>. RAP is not "providing a safe, welcoming" park at 7100 White Oak Avenue. Our community is in danger because RAP has failed to complete the work as approved in the RFP.

I look forward to hearing from you.

October 13, 2022

Dan Braunstein
Stakeholder, Lake Balboa
Mobile:
Email:

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Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
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