


INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

September 21, 2023

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>
Griffith Park Pony Ride comments		Referred to General Manager
1) City Council motion regarding supplemental services at Echo Park Lake	#9459	Note and File
2) Ron Bitzer comments regarding Park Fee Requirements	#9460	Referred to General Manager
3) Jun David comments Sepulveda recreational Center Tennis Court	#9461	Referred to General Manager
4) Richard Agay comments regarding Board report 23-160	#9462	Referred to General Manager
5) John Givens comments regarding Rancho Clubhouse Board report 23-160	#9462a	Referred to General Manager
6) Marcy Valley comments regarding Rancho Clubhouse Board report 23-160	#9462b	Referred to General Manager
7) Richard Agay comments regarding Board report 23-160	#9462c	Referred to General Manager
8) Raymond Regalado comments on behalf of San Pedro Neighborhood Council regarding Peck Park Canyon	#9463	Referred to General Manager
9) Sue Pascoe comments regarding Portrero /George Wolfberg bathrooms	#9464	Referred to General Manager

10) Bruce Bailey comments regarding Montecito Park Pickleball	#9465	Referred to General Manager
11) City Council motion Capital Infrastructure Plan for public right-of-way	#9466	Referred to General Manager
12) Conrad Urban comments regarding Pickleball at Petit Park	#9467	Referred to General Manager

Prepared by Carolyn Shannon-Joyner, RAP Commission Office

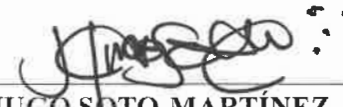
FOR REVIEW FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA TO BE POSTED

#53


MOTION

I MOVE THAT the Council action of June 30th, 2023 relative to the transference of \$44,233 from AB1290 Fund No. 53P, Account No. 281213 (CD 13 Redevelopment Projects - Services) to the Recreation and Parks Fund No. 302-89, Account No. 89814M-ER for supplemental services at Echo Park Lake in Council District 13, Council File #23-0702, **BE AMENDED** to extend the period of services to September 30th, 2023.

PRESENTED BY:


HUGO SOTO-MARTÍNEZ
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL



AUG 29 2023



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Sepulveda Recreational Center Tennis Court

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 7:19 AM

To: Jun David <

>

Good morning,

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

On Sat, Sep 2, 2023 at 7:54 PM Jun David <

> wrote:

Dear RAP,

The tennis court of Parthenia has been very dirty and 2 court w/o net. The gates are closed but the fence has hole maybe someone cut it to gain entrance to play. We used to play in that court last spring but due to the heat wave we temporarily stopped playing. We returned last Saturday to play but to our surprise it is very dirty with leaves & tree branches. I wonder what the administrator is doing. Please help us, we need this court to keep us healthy.

Thanks,

Juanito David

--

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: 23-160

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 11:53 AM

To: "r. agay" <

>

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 11:21 AM r. agay <

> wrote:

You were kind enough to forward the e-mail I sent yesterday to the Commissioners. Would you do me the favor of sending the correction which is attached? Thank you.

Richard Agay

--

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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

RICHARD D. AGAY

TELEPHONE:

E-MAIL:

September 5, 2023

Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners
of the City of Los Angeles

Ms. Renata Simril, President
Mr. Luis Sanchez, Vice-President
Ms. Fiona Hutton, Commissioner
Ms. Marie Lloyd, Commissioner
Mr. Benny Tran, Commissioner

BY E-MAIL: rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Re: September 7, 2023 Board Report 23-160
CORRECTION

Dear Commissioners:

Yesterday I submitted a letter regarding Board Report 23-160. The sentence beginning on the ninth line should be corrected as follows: That seems to be wise advise advice here as well.

Yours very truly,



RICHARD D. AGAY

RDA/hs



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: September 7th, Board Report 23-160

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 7:27 AM

To: "r. agay" <

>

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Sep 4, 2023 at 11:00 PM r. agay < > wrote:

Attached is a letter to the Board and the board Commissioners. I am uncertain of how to transmit to them by e-mail and hope you will forward it to them.

Would you please let me now if you will do so, and if not, where I should send this e-mail to-- obviously using mails would not get it to them in time for meeting.

Richard Agay

--

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Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
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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

RICHARD D. AGAY

TELEPHONE: :

E-MAIL:

September 4, 2023

Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners
of the City of Los Angeles

Ms. Renata Simril, President
Mr. Luis Sanchez, Vice-President
Ms. Fiona Hutton, Commissioner
Ms. Marie Lloyd, Commissioner
Mr. Benny Tran, Commissioner

BY E-MAIL: rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Re: September 7, 2023 Board Report 23-160

Dear Commissioners:

INTRODUCTION

You should reject Board Report 23-160. The authors of the Report, Rachel Ramos and Stanley Woo ("Ramos Report") seek to alter the existing contract in order to shift the cost of work from the concessionaire ("TRG") to the City, and thereby to its park users and/or taxpayers. It was and is a contract that was borne from circumstances, below detailed, leading to a reasonable suspicion of corruption and an undeniable fraud and deceit by the Department, hardly attributes that should lead you to aid the City's gift of three million, five hundred thousand dollars to Ms. Ramos' associates at TRG.

FULLER BACKGROUND

For the first line of the song "Doe, a deer" Mr. Hammerstein wrote, "Let's start at the very beginning." That seems to be wise advise here as well. Page 2 of the Ramos Report in part states, "In October 2017, RAP released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Golf Course Food and Beverage concession operation for multiple locations, which included Rancho Park (CON-G17-007). On September 5, 2018, the Board approved the selection of The Tavern at Rancho Park, LLC (TRP) as the highest ranked and best qualified proposer for the redevelopment, operation and maintenance of the Golf Food and Beverage Concession at Rancho Park Golf, RFP CON-G18-002 (Report No. 18-187)." But that was not the true beginning and it omits significant events.

Since before December 2008 there had been a restaurant in the clubhouse at Rancho. The process by which the Department gets a concession agreement with an operator begins with a request for proposal ("RFP"). On December 11, 2008 your Board approved the issuance of an RFP for a concession for the Rancho restaurant requiring improvements to the facility. That RFP was issued on February 23, 2009.

Pursuant to that RFP, bids were submitted, and on July 14, 2010, the Department's General Manager recommended awarding a ten year concession agreement with the then-operator, Rancho Golf Restaurant, Inc. ("RGR"). But at the Board meeting at which the recommendation was to be considered the Board took no action, and rather the matter was "held." Apparently it was never again taken up by the Board, but rather on September 5, 2012 the Board approved Board Report 12-252 cancelling that RFP. So at that point the City was doing exactly nothing about getting the restaurant upgraded or refurbished. Instead starting in 2010 the restaurant was operated by RGR for a while under an interim agreement that expired in February 2012, and thereafter on a month to month basis. Obviously no extensive upgrading was

going to be done by an operator under a short term rental (concession).

After wasting four years in getting the restaurant facility improved, the City then waited another four years until issuing a new RFP for that work. On October 17, 2017 it issued another RFP for upgrading the Rancho restaurant. But even though there had been a qualifying bid (and only such bid) by RGR whom the City had approved back in 2010 and who in fact had operated the restaurant since 2010, on March 14, 2018 the City mysteriously cancelled the RFP, and thereby once again delayed getting the restaurant refurbished.

Two days later, on March 16, 2018 the City once again issued an RFP, for the sole apparent reason of giving TGR more time to qualify thus providing the reason for the mysterious cancellation two days earlier. The Department has never stated any one reason for its cancelling and then reissuing an RFP two days later other than to favor TRP. And to state the obvious, neither impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic nor economic uncertainty, the entire premise for the Ramos' Report, had anything to do with this 10 year delay.

REASONABLE SUSPICION

On November 19, 2018 former RAP general manager Michael Shull responded to what he characterized as "accusations against Ms. Rachel Ramos, the current RAP Concessions Manager." In part he wrote, "In her previous capacity as a Senior Management Analyst with the Los Angeles World Airports Concessions Group, Ms. Ramos became acquainted with TRP and maintains a professional relationship with TRP principals. Ms. Ramos has acknowledged that prior to the release of RFP No. CON G17-007 she met with the TRP principals." Note: there was no statement that she met with TRP's competitor, RGR principals, much less ahead of the release of RFP, and no statement about what was discussed by her with TRP principals. And while Mr. Shull attributed her professional relationship with TRG to her position with the Airports, she then no longer held that position.

But so suspicious was the relationship between TRP and Ms. Ramos that Mr. Shull added, "In order to avoid any perceived conflict of interest Ms. Ramos did not serve on the evaluation panel for RFP No. CON G-18-002." Yet she is the author of the report before you seeking to save TRP money by instead making the City pay that which the contract currently requires TRG to pay. And more than that Paragraph 11.F of the contract has her so involved that it provides that she be copied on certain "scope of work."

Do these facts prove beyond a reasonable doubt that there was impropriety in connection with the grant of the contract to TRP or in Ms. Ramos proposal to you? Of course not. But on the other hand, given these facts is Ms. Ramos proposal that the City assume costs on a project that the Department sold to your predecessors on the basis that TRP would be the sole investor to be held free from suspicion of impropriety? Only by those who still believe in Santa Claus and the tooth fairy. If her connection to TRP was so serious that, as former General Manager Shull said, "to avoid any perceived conflict of interest Ms. Ramos did not serve on the evaluation panel," then surely you ought not rely on a report by her proposing to have the park users and/or taxpayers give TRG three and one half million dollars.

FALSE EXCUSE

At page 3 the Ramos Report says, “[D]ue to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic uncertainty, construction was put on hold until the fall of 2021.” But as noted above Rancho was just one of “multiple locations” covered by the RFP. One of those other locations was the Griffith Park golf course, and the “impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic uncertainty,” did not delay the work at Griffith. Moreover, the only “economic uncertainty” was that of TRG. A look at Pages 154 and 155 of the Ramos Report shows that from the get-go the Department was dealing with an entity whose liabilities exceeded its assets by over 5 million dollars. No wonder it seeks to switch responsibility for 3.5 million dollars of work.

THE PROBLEMS ON WHICH THE RAMOS REPORT RELIES WERE TOTALLY ANTICIPATABLE AND THEREFORE ARE NO BASIS FOR SWITCHING THE PAYER OF COSTS FROM TRP TO THE CITY

Page 3 of the Ramos Report purports to show justification for its recommendation to relieve TRP of costs and have the City’s park users and/or suffer by the City’s absorb them instead. There listed are problems with an ancient electrical switchgear, the discovery of lead in paint and the finding of asbestos. To adopt what Ms. Ramos proposes you would have to believe that when the contract was signed TRP and the Department assumed

- the electrical equipment installed over 70 years earlier would need no substantial replacement or repair;
- a building that had not be painted for a decade or more would be free from any lead, and that its roof that had not been redone for even longer would be free frm any lead;
- there was no risk that a 70 year old construction might contain asbestos. And that one is even more egregious because the Department just a year or two before entering this contract had redone bathrooms adjacent to the driving range and had to remediate the asbestos that was there! So it knew that asbestos was likely in the clubhouse.

In other words, none of these claims in the Ramos Report were beyond reasonable expectations, and thus do not constitute a basis for changing the deal that was made.

Perhaps most egregious is that on page 3 the Ramos Report proposes that the City pay for a construction fence that was put up in November, 2021 that was wholly unrelated to the work the cost of which the Report wants you to switch from TGR to the City.

IN ADDITION, THE CONTRACT SPECIFICALLY PROVIDES THAT THE RISK OF THE UNANTICIPATED OR UNKNOWN WAS THAT OF TRG

Perhaps most telling is that what is missing from this 393 page Ramos Report is an opinion by the City Attorney that TRP has no responsibility to do the very work for which the Ramos Reports seeks to have paid by the City. And there good reason for that absence. Consider just these provisions.

Section 6 of the Agreement between the City and TRG after setting forth an amount TRG was required to spend adds: "In the event that the proposed dollar amount listed above is not sufficient to complete the improvements as specified in its Proposal CONCESSIONAIRE shall be responsible for any additional costs to complete the Redevelopment Project as set forth in its Proposal. . . . So the risk that there could be greater cost was placed on TGR, not the City or its park users and/or taxpayers.

The Section continues, "In the event that CONCESSIONAIRE becomes aware that it will be unable to complete the required improvements within the one year period set forth above due to the discovery of any unforeseen material structural issues with the building or any other circumstance beyond the control of CONCESSIONAIRE" then the parties will negotiate an extension. (Emphasis added.) So there was an precise solution for unforeseen issues or circumstances beyond TRG's control: an agreed upon delay, not switching who paid for that.

In other words, none of the events about which the Ramos Report speaks is outside the provisions of the contract which itself says what happens if they occur, and yet the Ramos Report asks you to sanction imposing a penalty upon park users and/or taxpayers nowhere anticipated or allowed under the contract.

And those are not the only provisions which make it clear that TRG, and not the City should pay for what the Ramos Report would have switched. Section 6.A of the contract in part provides, "RAP shall hold CONCESSIONAIRE responsible for guaranteeing the completion of all improvements . . . regardless of cost." But now Ms. Ramos is asking you to foist those costs onto the City.

And were it any doubt but that TRP is responsible for everything the Ms. Ramos Department wants you to foist upon the City Section 6.A.1. of the contract in part provides: "All structural and other improvements . . . constructed or installed by CONCESSIONAIRE shall in all respects conform to and comply with applicable statutes (including the California Environmental Quality Act), building codes, rules and regulations of the City and such other authorities that may have jurisdiction over the facility areas . . . The written approval by RAP of any improvements shall not constitute a representation or warranty as to such conformity or compliance but responsibility therefore [sic] shall at all times remain with CONCESSIONAIRE."

In other words if the work the Ramos Report describes is, as it suggests, required by a governmental agency or law, it is TGR's duty to comply—not the City's

Further removing all doubt about what the contract provides, Section 18.B.3 repeats the same thing: "CONCESSIONAIRE shall conform to any and all applicable laws, ordinances, statutes, rules, regulations or orders . . . of any governmental authorities, federal, state or municipal." So to the extent that there is applicable law or order of governmental authority, ever the City's, that results in remediation work for asbestos or lead, that is TRP's responsibility and this Board should not be shifting it to the City.

Page 108 of Ms. Ramos' Report is from what TRG submitted back in 2018-2019. It in part states: "The General Contractor (GC) shall be responsible for all general conditions of the project and shall comply with all City of Los Angeles and Governmental regulations governing the work. In particular, the Contractor shall visit the site before bidding to thoroughly inspect existing structure and site and become familiar with any and all site conditions that may affect the scope of work."

Either that inspection in fact revealed the supposedly unanticipated problems or and the inspection was not “thorough” and failed to make TRG “familiar with any and all site conditions that may affect the work.” Either way there is no justification for making a change to make the City rather than TRG responsible for that failure.

And insofar as the electrical issues to which the Ramos Report refers, page 116 of Ms. Ramos Report requires TGR to “Inspect existing ground mounted transformer and service panel and replace if required.” So hardly should any electrical costs be foisted upon the City.

MAKE NO MISTAKE; WHAT THE RAMOS REPORT PROPOSES IS THAT THE CITY AND ITS PARK USERS AND TAXPAYERS END UP HURTING

In trying to sell you on endorsing the switcheroo where the City ends up paying for what TRP is now obliged to pay, on page 4 Ms. Ramos’ Report tries to make you believe that there is no economic impact upon park users and/or taxpayers from that change. In part she says, “RAP will reimburse TRP, through rent credits, for the costs of the Supplemental Work which is estimated to be \$3.5 million. This will not affect the RAP General Fund as it will be credited via payments that would have gone to the Golf Special Account” as though that makes a difference. It does not. The City’s treasury funded by its taxpayers and park users suffers just the same regardless of which account pays for it. Ms Ramos insults your intelligence by asking you to believe that there is no downside to the Department’s loss of revenues. Why else did she make that statement?

The truth is that when the City gives away that 3.5 million dollars, one of two things must happen: Either park users suffer reduced park facilities or taxpayers suffer from the imposition of some additional tax to make up for the loss. For years golf revenues have been siphoned off to pay for other park functions so the loss of 3.5 million dollars in golf revenues will be felt by park users. Beyond that for years the Department has excused the grass deprived fairways at its premier golf facility on the basis that the cure requires a redo of the irrigation system that would cost millions the Department does not have. Well, it would have them if Ms. Ramos did not give the three and half million dollars away to TRG.

THE DEPARTMENT COMES TO YOU WITH UNCLEAN HANDS

For many years the City maintained locker rooms at Rancho rented to Rancho users, golfers, who wish to store clubs, clothing and whatever renter chooses (“Locker Users”). Many, if not most, of the Locker Users were either elderly or with disabilities such that their using the lockers to store their golf bags with their golf clubs and golf shoes is all but essential. The benefits of the locker rooms is so significant that the City to this date boasts on its website for Rancho under the caption “Amenities” “● Locker Rooms: Men’s and ladies’ locker rooms.” But while not a part of the project under the RFPs from 2008 to 2017, the removal of the locker room became part of this project. And while the Department still advertises the existence of locker rooms, in fact they were closed in April, 2020. But the harm to Locker Users from the elimination of lockers was an issue the Department thought it needed to address in order to gain the approval of its project from your predecessors.

So in its March 6, 2019 Board Report 19-048 the Department represented, “Rancho Golf staff will offer a golfer assistance service to aid any golfer who may require help in transferring their [sic] golf clubs from the parking lot to the course due to the elimination of on-site personal

golf club storage.” That promise was repeated under oath by the then Manager (Laura Bauernfeind) on March 26, 2020. Yet to this day, now over three years since the locker rooms were destroyed, such service has never been offered.

And it is not as if the Department simply forgot. On February 16, 2023 an e-mail reminder was sent to the current Golf Manager. A copy of that e-mail is affixed which fully explains the evidence demonstrating that the promise was a hoax from its inception. There was no denial from the Golf Manager of the facts asserted therein.

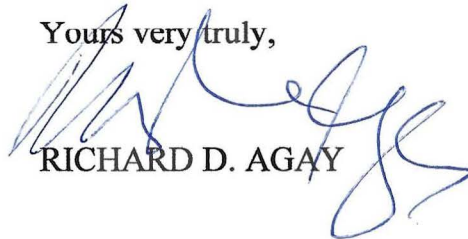
Civil Code Sections 1572 and 1710 define “fraud” and “deceit” as including “**A promise made without any intention of performing it.**” How else can we characterize the promise of help for those impacted by the closure of the locker rooms.

Even if the contract did not specifically place the risk and cost of the matters discussed in the Ramos Report on TGR and even if they were not clearly anticipatable such that their existence was no ground for reversing who bore the brunt of them, the combination of the Ramos connection with TGR and the promise made without intent to perform should weigh against adopting the Ramos Report.

CONCLUSION

Neither Covid nor economic conditions justify foisting the burden of additional costs upon the City’s park users and/or taxpayers. The events upon which the Ramos Report relies were totally anticipatable and do not justify changing the contract. With a 70 year old building the facts which the Ramos Report claims were a surprise could not possibly have been a surprise. The contract expressly dealt with additional costs from the unanticipated, and provides that TGR would be responsible. The contract places the risk of unforeseen circumstances upon TGR, not the City’s park users and/or taxpayers. The Ramos proposal simply does not pass the smell test, and you should not align yourselves with it.

Yours very truly,



RICHARD D. AGAY

RDA/hs
Attachment

Subject: **meeting promise**
Date: 2/16/2023 1:40:07 PM Pacific Standard Time
From:
To: rick.reinschmidt@lacity.org

Hi Rick,

There's no way to tell from zoom who attends Board meetings so I don't know if you were at today's meeting and therefore heard what I said and apologize if this repeats in part what you already heard.

The destruction of locker rooms was premised on providing aid to golfers desiring help taking their golf bags into the course (and then back to their cars). It was expressly promised in Board Report 19-048.

The people whom Laura said were going to provide the help were the driving range folks who supposedly had time on their hands and were located nearby the Patricia entrance at the range ball dispenser. But those people did not then and do not now sit around the ball dispenser with excess time to provide that function, and the Department had already planned on moving the ball dispenser away from that location and it has done so. The promise was a sham from the moment it was made, and the proof is in the pudding--its four years since the promise was made and that help has never been provided.

But that does not excuse the Department's failure to provide an alternative relief for nonagenarians like me, other seniors or others who have been deprived of leaving their golf bags at Rancho and for whom lugging their golf bags (along with coolers etc) back and forth from and to the car is a real burden. There is an easy solution: There is a gate in the construction fence near the Patricia entrance. The construction and course gates are opened for TRP, until recently were also opened for servicing the portapotties (I don't know when between December 23rd and last Monday they were removed) and no doubt for others, just not for golfers. Open those gates for golfers as well (except when work nearby is a real risk), and let the golfers take the electric carts from there into the parking lot.

Now I know that someone (my recollection it was Laura but it could have been you) objected to that because of possible accidents. But remember Hanson Dam and until a couple of years ago Woodley permitted golf carts in the parking lots. Do you know of even one electric accident at either of those places? No one has ever told me of one. Drivers know that the parking lot is traversed by golfers wheeling handcarts and otherwise walking so they already know they have to be extra careful. There are some risks that are so small they must be ignored. (You don't close the courses if there is a thunder storm for fear lightning may strike some golfer--a far greater risk than a car-electric cart accident.)

To complete the circle I think it may have been you who said the Patricia gate needed to be closed to stop theft of driving range balls and baskets. May I suggest there are two reasons that is not reasonable: First, any thief could just as easily take balls and baskets out the Pico exit so the problem is not the exit..

Secondly, I think the word "theft" is misapplied as to the range balls. I would bet you all you want that driving range balls are not taken from the range but rather come from outside the range on 9th and/or 18 holes, and I'll let you check with CA as to whether that then constitutes theft.

But beyond that the Department over my objection has steadfastly refused to protect golfers from projectiles (driving range balls) flying onto 9th and 18 holes by completing the driving range project by adding the final 20 year panel on top (the poles were made to support that addition). Those final 20 yards of screen would all but eliminate range balls leaving the range. The excuse for not raising the

9/4/23, 11:41 AM

range fence that the neighbors would object does not fly; they objected to TRW's brewery and late night parties, but the Department and City nonetheless went forward so neighbor objection is no real impediment.

Please provide the relief the Department promised when it took away the lockers.

Richard



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Letter from the Northwest San Pedro NC Re Peck Park Canyon

1 message

Kristina Smith < > Fri, Sep 1, 2023 at 12:24 PM

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

Cc: rap.commissioners@lacity.org, Tim McOsker-Councilmember CD15 <councilmember.mcosker@lacity.org>, Christian Guzman-CD15 <christian.l.guzman@lacity.org>, Diana Nave < >, Raymond Regalado

< >

Jimmy Kim, General Manager Dept of Rec and Parks:

Attached is a letter from the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council related to issues at Peck Park Canyon.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email and the attachment. Note that there are several photos contained in the PDF so it may take a few moments to download.

Thank you.

Kristina Smith
Neighborhood Council Services
cell

 **Letter to Rec & Parks Re Peck Park Canyon 9-1-23 with attachment.pdf**
33787K

Ray Regalado, President
Chris Valle, Vice President
Melanie Labrecque, Treasurer
Victor Christensen, Secretary



Certified Neighborhood Council
Certification Date 02-12-02
NW San Pedro Neighborhood Council
638 S. Beacon Street, Box 688
San Pedro, CA 90731

TELEPHONE: (310) 918-8650 • WEBSITE: NWSanPedro.org • E-MAIL: BOARD@NWSanPedro.org

September 1, 2023

Jimmy Kim
General Manager
Department of Recreation and Parks
Via Email
Jimmy.kim@lacity.org

RE: Peck Park Canyon

Attached is a copy of a letter the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council sent to your predecessor outlining some of our concerns about Peck Park Canyon. These are the priority concerns that still remain unaddressed.

It was our understanding that the next step regarding the replacement of the diverters was the development of a cost estimate. Has that been done? If not, what is the timeline for that assessment?

How can we get a plan for the replanting of trees? What about a schedule for the re-grading of the lower trail?

Thank you for your assistance with these matters.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Regalado".

Raymond Regalado
President
On Behalf of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
CC: rap.commissioners@lacity.org
conouncilmembertimemcosker@lacity.org

PECK PARK CANYON

While the maintenance of the canyon has improved, we still have significant concerns about the trail conditions.

RUNOFF DIVERTERS

Our most significant concerns focus on the runoff diverters, the condition of which is resulting in serious rutting of the trails destroying the significant work that went into grading and surfacing them with the Prop O funds.

The stone diverters are in good physical condition, however they are no longer functional due to the lack of maintenance. The rainfall runoff has silted them in and they no longer route water away from the graded trail surface into the wash at the bottom of the canyon. These diverters need to be cleared and a channel directing runoff to flow away from the trail and down into the wash must be created.

Stone diverters - silted in, allowing rivers of rainfall to rut and wash away the expensive degenerated granite surface.



Most of the rubber diverters are totally destroyed. These lasted 2-3 seasons before beginning to disintegrate and most are now completely gone. These should be replaced with stone diverters as pictured above.

Rubber diverter, disintegrated and buried.



TRAIL GRADING

Due to the heavy erosion and silting caused in no small part by the lack of proper grading and water diversion the bottom section of the trail adjacent to the wash has seen significant damage. The degenerated granite is no longer found, replaced by a very unlevel dirt bottom with deep ruts that are hazardous to many hikers, particularly where the trail narrows. When the trail is wet (and can remain so for days) it is extremely slippery and easy to fall on the angled surface.



These deep ruts are being carved just a few feet from the wash basin and wouldn't be prone to exist with the correct grading and drainage.



RUSTING BRIDGES

The bridges installed at several locations in the canyon were never painted by the original contractor. The raw steel has been left to the elements and is rusting aggressively. The only paint has been supplied by vandals in the form of graffiti. Unfortunately, this will not prevent structural issues in coming years. These bridges need to be painted.



<https://ladcp.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/minimalist/index.html?appid=58d1ac6a73764a36bb76c271117a428c>

TREES

The rate of large tree loss near the trails and along the tops of the hillsides in the park area has been substantial in the last several years. Trees help maintain the stability of the dirt, prevent landslides, curb erosion all while making the park a more pleasant environment for the public to enjoy. A plan should be made to re-tree the trail and hillsides in barren places with the intention of providing soil anchorage as well as shade. This will also help grow our urban forest and contribute to moisture retention and local atmospheric cooling. The last storm alone took 2-3 sizable trees.

MOTORIZED OFF-ROAD VEHICLE TRESPASSING

There are frequent visits to the trails by locals on small off-road dirt bikes and quads. Placards clearly outline the prohibition of such vehicles but they persistently are ridden recklessly around the park, tearing further into the graded degenerated granite trails, passing in close quarters near pedestrians and creating foul smell and noise. This is infuriating to the users of the park and



those neighbors whose houses are adjacent to the park and endure the noise.

Neighborhood Council Committee members have reported incidents in progress, but the Department of Parks and Recreation frequently does not have rangers on hand at Peck Park. The Parks' call center suggests calling LAPD. However, upon calling LAPD we have been informed that their policy is to forward such complaints to the Park. Thus, we are unsure if or how this is being enforced.

Meanwhile, shortly after the recent rains, the dirt bikers were out doing their damage.



While the Neighborhood Council has several ideas for ways to add features and improvements to this wonderful park at this time we are concerned with it being restored to its baseline condition of good health.

The Neighborhood Council would like to know what progress can be made on the above restorative items.



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Public Comment

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 7:18 AM

To: Ron Bitzer <

>

Good morning,

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

On Fri, Sep 1, 2023 at 5:43 PM Ron Bitzer

> wrote:

Please refer to the attachment. I cannot attend the 9/7 Task Force meeting.

Ron Bitzer

--

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

Memo

Date: September 1, 2023

To: Board of Commissioners, Department of Recreation and Parks

From: Ron Bitzer, North Hollywood

**RE: Recreation Credit Policy for Residential Project Applicants
Subject to Park Fee Requirements / RAP Form PF-6000 Issue**

Sir or Madam,

The September 7, 2023, briefing paper recommends the adoption of a revised policy for Park Fees, when a residential developer seeks a credit for capital park dedication and/or improvements against that Fee.

At least one recent fact pattern may have contributed to momentum for proposed reform of a policy designed by Quimby Park Fee reformers in 20016 to encourage dedication of new park land. Project applicants usually just pay the Fee by cash.

942 North Broadway -- VTT 8227-CN

Recreation and Parks Commissioners on September 15, 2022, and City Council on November 9, 2022, credited this applicant with **\$990,480.98** for primarily concrete and labor for a 0.19-acre ground level plaza and “park” for a 20-story plus building. In fact, I questioned such an “underwhelming” fact pattern at the August 4, 2022, Task Force meeting; Commissioners with questions at the Task Force did not pursue them at the full Commission meeting, and this credit was approved. Interestingly, staff dropped “recreational amenities” from the oral presentation of this project (see page 5, Report 22-241 for unspecified amenities).

Refunding of Cash Payment of Park Fees

I have one question following a very preliminary review of the briefing paper.

I do not seek to expand the scope of this draft policy statement; a closer review of the implementation of Municipal Ordinance 184,505 (enacted in 2016) would be timely, since implementation of Park Fee reform has faltered under a previous mayor.

However, the following Park Fee issue was brought to your attention last year.

My November 17, 2022, communication to Commissioners (see attachment) questioned implementation of the State Government Code that seeks to give project applicants an opportunity to apply for refund of cash Park Fee payments. Some of these cash payments are 7 and 8 figures, for example.

Is RAP publication PF-6000 (attached) accurate on this point or am I misguided (emphasis added) ?

Attachments

PF-6000 Park Fee Refund Request Form

Public Records Request RAP 22-288



APPLICATION

DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS
PARK FEE REFUND REQUEST FORM

THIS BOX FOR RECREATION AND PARKS STAFF USE ONLY

Case Number
Application Type REFUND REQUEST
Date Application Received
Date Completed/Cancelled

RAP CASHIER NOTE

Table with 4 columns: Total Eligible Refund Amount, Amount Deposited to Admin Account, Total Refund Approved, Refund from Account/Park Fee W.O. No.

Provide all information requested. Missing, incomplete or inconsistent information will cause delays.

All terms in this document are applicable to the singular as well as the plural forms of such terms.

1. Type of Residential Development

SUBDIVISION

Tract/Parcel Map #:

NON-SUBDIVISION

Application/Permit #:

Related Zone Change Case #:

2. Project Location

Street Address1 Zip Code

Legal Description2 (Lot, Block, Tract)

Assessor Parcel Number

Project Name (if applicable)

Existing Zone Proposed/Future Zone (if applicable)

3. Refund Request Amount

4. Reason for Refund Request (Use supplementary sheets if necessary)

1 Street Addresses must include all addresses on the subject/application site (as identified in ZIMAS—http://zimas.lacity.org)

2 Legal Description must include all contiguously owned properties (even if they are not a part of the proposed project site)

5. Applicant Information (Complete all applicable fields)

Applicant³ name (Original Payer) _____

Company/Firm _____

Address _____ Unit/Space Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Agent/Representative name _____

Company/Firm _____

Address _____ Unit/Space Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Primary Contact for Refund Information Name _____ E-mail _____

Phone _____

6. Required Attachments

Copy of Receipt issued by the Department of Recreation and Parks for payment of Park Fees.



PARK PROUD LA

³ An applicant is a person with a lasting interest in the completed project such as the property owner or a lessee/user of a project. An applicant is not someone filing the case on behalf of a client (i.e. usually not the agent/representative)
PF - 6001 [revised 01.11.2017]

APPLICANT INSTRUCTIONS

APPLICANT DECLARATION. A signature from the applicant, whether they are the property owner or not, attesting to the following, is required before the application can be accepted.

- A. I hereby certify that the information provided in this application, including plans and other attachments, is accurate and correct to the best of my knowledge. Furthermore, should the stated information be found false or insufficient to fulfill the requirements of the Department of Recreation and Parks, I agree to revise the information as appropriate and resubmit the application if required.
- B. I understand and agree that any report, study, map or other information submitted to the City in furtherance of this application will be treated by the City as public records which may be reviewed by any person and, if requested, that a copy will be provided by the City to any person upon the payment of its direct costs of duplication.
- C. I understand that the burden of proof to substantiate this request is the responsibility of the applicant.
- D. I understand that there is no guarantee, expressed or implied, that any application will be approved. I understand that each matter must be carefully evaluated and that the resulting recommendation or decision may be contrary to a position taken or implied in any preliminary discussions.
- E. I understand upon the Department of Recreation and Parks' determination, the fee payer may receive a refund, without interest, of the fees paid pursuant to this section; however, the portion of any fee revenue received by the City as reimbursement of its costs in administering the provisions of this section shall not be refunded. (LAMC 12.33, Section I.4)
- F. **I understand that an application for a refund shall be submitted to the City within one year of payment and that failure to timely submit the required application for refund shall constitute an absolute waiver of any right to the refund. (LAMC 12.33, Section I.4)**
- G. I understand that if Park Fees are paid prior to the completion of the recreational credit process, I am not entitled to a refund in Park Fees. (LAMC 12.33, Section H.4)
- H. I understand that if the Park Fee refund is approved the refund will be paid to the Applicant (Original Payer).

By my signature below, I declare under penalty of perjury, under the laws of the State of California, that all

I. **of this application**

Application Filing Process:

- a. In-person: Applications and additional attachments can be submitted at the Department Public Counter, located at 221 N. Figueroa Street, 4th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012.
- b. Via Mail: Applications and additional attachments can be mailed to the following address
 Department of Recreation and Parks
 ATTN: Park Fees
 221 N. Figueroa Street
 4th Floor, Suite 400
 Los Angeles, CA 90012.
- c. Electronically: Applications and additional attachments can be submitted electronically to rap.parkfees@lacity.org.

The City requires an original signature from the applicant. The applicant's signature below does not need to be notarized.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

November 17, 2022

Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

City of Los Angeles

Los Angeles, CA

Via Email

RE: Report 22-288 & Refund of Quimby / Park Fees

Dear Madam President and Commissioners,

Uncommitted Park Fee Funds Report 22-288

“As of June 30, 2022, the funds shown below were uncommitted...”

Account No.	Uncommitted Funds at end of FY2022
302/89/89460k	\$ 6,508,645.57
302/89/89440k	\$ 2,215,273.43
302/89/89716h	\$49,389,996.46
302/89/89718h	\$51,051,052.72

Assuming that Recreation and Parks staff does not apply its own definition of “committed” and “uncommitted” funds, I raise the issue of uncommitted Park Fee funds subject to sanctions on the City of Los Angeles upon the fifth year anniversary of only a specific Park Fee payment.

In other words, five years of uncommitted funds in excess of \$100 million (Report 22-288) would include Park Fee payments made after June 30, 2017 — despite a failure to have met a 5 year anniversary.

The State Governmental Code and the Los Angeles Municipal Code set sanctions for cities that collect Park In-Lieu Fees and then don't commit to their use by the end of year five following payment..

Any fees collected under this ordinance shall be committed within five years after the payment of the fees or the issuance of building permits If the fees are not committed, they, without any deductions, shall be distributed and paid to the then record of owners of the subdivision

Government Code subsection 66477(a)(6)(A). Also Los Angeles Municipal Code 12.33(l)(3).

Park Fee Applications and Instructions (Online)

Park Fee Refund Request Form

Pursuant to Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 12.33 I.4, applicants requesting a refund of Park Fees shall submit a claim for a refund with the Department of Recreation and Parks. Upon the Department's determination, the fee payer may receive a refund, without interest, of the fees paid. However, the portion of any fee revenue received by the City as reimbursement of its costs in administering the provisions of LAMC 12.33 shall not be refunded. The fee payer shall submit an application for a refund to the City within one year of payment. Failure to timely submit the required application for refund shall constitute an absolute waiver of any right to the refund.

Park Fee Refund Application

I understand that an application for a refund shall be submitted to the City within one year of payment and that failure to timely submit the required application for refund shall constitute an absolute waiver of any right to the refund. (LAMC 12.33, Section I.4), City of Los Angeles Form PF-6000, page 3.

Asserting a one-year deadline is wrongheaded because:

1. Reasons to request a fee refund under LAMC 12.33 (I) **(3)** include the City's failure to commit use of Park Fees within 5 years of payment. "If the fees are not committed by the City as specified in this section, Quimby fees shall be refunded" LAMC Section 12.33 (I) (3).
2. A one-year deadline is only asserted under a separate section, "Other Refunds," LAMC 12.33 (I) (4).and **not** under "Refund of Fees Under the Government Code."

Example

The developer of a 375 nonexempt residential unit project (VTT-66044) terminated the City of LA project and notified City Planning on March 26, 2021 (Exhibit A). Prior to this termination, the developer had paid the City of LA \$2,404,833.00 in Park Fees for his project (Park Fee Annual Report, Department of Recreation and Parks, December 13, 2017, p.5).

Question: Has any refund of the Park Fee been made to the project applicant or successors to this property? If so, how much was the refund?

Page Three

Example

The Annual Report on Park Fees for FY 2022 shows “Revenues” but then includes “D Refunds” in the Revenue column (Attachment 1).

Please provide me or direct me to Annual Report information showing the source of Refund activity in the amounts of \$2,508,422.00 and \$744,993.00.

Very truly yours,

Ron Bitzer
ronbitzer49@gmail.com

Enclosure

EXHIBIT A

MENT OF
PLANNING

MISSION OFFICE
(213) 978-1300

PLANNING COMMISSION

SAMANTHA MILLMAN
PRESIDENT

CAROLINE CHOE
VICE-PRESIDENT

DAVID H. J. AMBROZ
HELEN LEUNG
KAREN MACK

DANA M. PERLMAN
YVETTE LOPEZ-LEDESMA
AJAY RELAN
JENNA HORNSTOCK

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
200 N. SPRING STREET, ROOM 525
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012-4801
(213) 978-1271

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP
DIRECTOR

KEVIN J. KELLER, AICP
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SHANA M.M. BONSTIN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

ARTHI L. VARMA, AICP
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

LISA M. WEBBER, AICP
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

VACANT
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 26, 2021

David Thompson, Vice President and Chief
Financial Officer (O)(A)
5601-5667 Santa Monica Blvd. (LA) Owner,
LLC, 5544 Virginia Avenue (LA) Owner,
LLC, 5545 Virginia Avenue (LA) Owner, LLC
4700 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90010

DJ Moore (R)
Latham & Watkins LLP
355 South Grand Avenue, Suite 100
Los Angeles, CA 90071-1560

RE: Vesting Tentative Tract No. 66044
Related Case: VTT-66814 / CPC-2006-4392-
GPA-ZC-ZV-HD-ZAA-ZAI-SPR
CPC-2006-4401-GPA-ZC-ZV-HD-ZAA-ZAI-
SPR

Council District: 13
Community Plan: Hollywood

WITHDRAWAL AND TERMINATION
RECEIVED AND FILED

Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 66044 for the project located at 5661 W. Santa Monica Boulevard, 5539 – 5545 W. Virginia Avenue, and 5536 – 5542 W. Virginia Avenue in the Hollywood Community Plan area was approved by the Advisory Agency on April 30, 2007. The Map was appealed twice, and the second level of appeal of VTT-66044 was denied and the map approved by the City Council on August 17, 2007 (CF 07-1824). The Tract Map expires on August 17, 2021.

On February 23, 2021, the Applicant through their Representative submitted a written request to terminate Vesting Tentative Tract Map No. 66044 as the Applicant is no longer pursuing the project. The Owner/Applicant has also requested that the related case (Case No. CPC 2006-4392-GPA-ZC-ZV-HD-ZAA-ZAI-SPR) be terminated.

In view of the above, and in accordance with provisions of the State Subdivision Map Act and Section 17.03 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, the Advisory Agency on March 26, 2021 agreed to terminate all proceedings relative to Vesting Tentative Tract No. 66044 and directed that the map be received and filed.

VINCENT P. BERTONI, AICP
ADVISORY AGENCY

Deborah Kahen

Deborah Kahen, AICP
Deputy Advisory Agency



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Agenda Item: 23-160

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Marcy Valley <>

Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 3:09 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 3:07 PM Marcy Valley <> wrote:

Commissioners

LA City

Recreation and Parks Dept.

Re: September 7, RAP Board Meeting
Agenda Item: 23-160
Rancho Park Clubhouse Concession Agreement

Dear Commissioners:

As a member of the Rancho Women’s Golf Club, I can assure you that golfers at Rancho Park are overjoyed at the recent restart of the clubhouse remodel. I have read the proposed revised contract and support it with the proviso that it adequately compensate the concessionaire for increased costs caused by the long delay and for the additional work he has agreed to perform for RAP.

My impression is that there is no increase in cost to cover inflation caused by the delay, and that the cost of the additional work requested by RAP is being funded essentially by a no-interest loan from the concessionaire.

Sincerely,

Marcy Valley

--
City of Los Angeles



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: attached

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 11:05 AM

To: "r. agay" < >

Good morning,

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

On Thu, Sep 7, 2023 at 3:53 PM r. agay < > wrote:

Would you do me the favor of forwarding the attached letter to the Commissioners. Thank you.

Richard Agay

--

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

RICHARD D. AGAY

TELEPHONE: (310)

E-MAIL: .

September 7, 2023

Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners
of the City of Los Angeles

Ms. Renata Simril, President
Mr. Luis Sanchez, Vice-President
Ms. Fiona Hutton, Commissioner
Ms. Marie Lloyd, Commissioner
Mr. Benny Tran, Commissioner

BY E-MAIL: rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Re: September 7, 2023 Board Report 23-160

Dear Commissioners:

Limiting public participation to a ten second speech (or two minutes) before staff reveals its contentions may well satisfy the Brown Act requirement to permit public participation, but it has little chance of allowing you to learn the truth or make an educated decision.

Typically, at least under the advocacy system in the United States, each side is given a chance to respond, but to avoid needless repetition he or she is restricted to addressing something new his or her opposition just raised. That is considered the best way to uncover the truth and reach the correct decision. Otherwise if one side is free to make contentions to which the other gets no chance to consider, much less to respond, the risk of ambush by the former and thus a form of "gotcha" is so great as to be a reality, and there is great likeliness that truth will be concealed.

So it was today when Ms. Ramos raised matters not set out in her 393 page report. To justify placing certain costs upon the City in part she said that the original contract covered nothing but the clubhouse interior and the ADA compliance came into play only with clubhouse exterior and to a outside path to the driving range unrelated to the clubhouse remodel. Each of those statements was false. TGR's proposal was to add structures to the outside of both the front and back of the clubhouse for added eating area so of course part of its work involved the exterior of the clubhouse.

And as to ADA part of the contract was TGR's making bathroom at "halfway house" ADA compliant—that's around a mile from the clubhouse. As to the path to the driving range to which Ms. Ramos referred, there were two paths leading from clubhouse to driving range. The northerly one needed no work to satisfy ADA restrictions. But it was being or has been—the construction fence conceals what is now there-- removed to accommodate the construction of eating area adjacent to outside of clubhouse back westerly wall (thus having nothing to do with separate "starter" wall to the east). So Ms. Ramos' assertion that the ADA grading changes on the retained path were not prompted by TGR's construction of backside eating area (which eliminated the ADA complaint path) path is untrue. Thus those costs should not have been included in the \$3.5 million absorbed by th City..

In my experience the ability to respond at past Planning Commission or Committee (or when I served, the Westwood Design Review Board) hearings enabled the ruling body to make its decision based on what appeared to be the truth by permitting those in opposition to respond to each new nuanced claim. So its not impossible to do so.

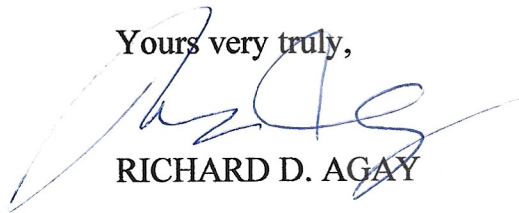
Yet one must acknowledge that even in the law there are higher values than truth—that is why

Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners
of the City of Los Angeles
September 7, 2023
Page -2-

one does not have to reveal conversations with his or her spouse, doctor or priest. And some may have their own values (whether or not admirable) greater than learning the truth, such as starting out to lunch before noon.

Mel Brooks played a king of France in "History of the World Part I." In acknowledging the satisfaction of whatever demand he made as that character he repeated, "Its good to be king." And you may well be thinking "its good to be a Commissioner." And that's right. But it does not change that today the appearance of your process was that you placed lunch over truth. I'll take a non-response as an adoption so that, given my dedication to truth, I not again waste my time or yours.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Agay", is written over the typed name.

RICHARD D. AGAY

RDA/hs



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Rancho Clubhouse Concession Agreement, 23-160

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 7:52 AM

To: John Given <>

Cc: Rachel Ramos <rachel.ramos@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, Sep 5, 2023 at 4:30 PM John Given <> wrote:

Dear Commissioners, I am a nearly daily user of the Rancho Park Golf Course and practice facilities. I am also the Golf Advisory Committee representative of the three Rancho Park affiliate golf clubs. I am writing in support of approving the amended concession agreement for the Rancho Park Clubhouse, Agenda Item 23-160.

It is nearly four years since the clubhouse was closed for development pursuant to the original concession agreement. Even prior to closure, the facility was decrepit and services mediocre. As envisioned the new clubhouse facility will be a welcoming service for the surrounding community and the municipal golfing community. At this prime location, this is a terrific opportunity for the City to realize long term revenue growth, expanding public engagement, and revitalizing a signature public facility.

Without further delay, I urge the RAP Board and City Council to approve the amended concession agreement. I look forward to meeting you all at a long awaited reopening in the fall of 2024!!

Sincerely,

John Given

--

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: portrero/George Wolfberg bathrooms.

1 message

Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>

Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 9:31 AM

To: >, "McGeagh, Rick @ South Bay" <>, Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, Rose Watson <rose.watson@lacity.org>, "Starrels, Andrew J (CCC - X68906, LAX - X52507)" <>, kristen.ly@lacity.org, president <>

Good Morning,

Please excuse the delay in response. I am checking with staff on the status and will have appropriate staff member follow-up.

Thank you SO much

On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 9:00 AM Pacific Palisades Park Advisory Board <> wrote:

Dear Kristen,

Could we get an update on the bathroom closure and sewer line repair matter, at Potrero Canyon, please?

Thank you.
Best,
Maryam Zar

On Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 5:16 PM Sue Pascoe <> wrote:

At the beginning of July, the bathrooms at the George Wolfberg Park at Potrero closed. They are still closed.

Here were the questions I posed then, but no one has ever responded.

- 1) Are the bathrooms on the same sewer line as the Rec Center?
- 2) When the GW bathrooms were being constructed, the pathway between the Rec Center and those bathrooms was closed and people were told it was because of a sewer line.
- 3) Where does the sewer line from the Wolfberg self-cleaning bathrooms hook into? Where does it drain? Is it back at the Rec Center?
- 4) is RAP aware that there have been numerous problems with the plumbing at the Rec Center? At one point sewage backed up into the small gym and the entire floor had to be replaced.

Finally, what is the timeline for opening this bathrooms?

Sue Pascoe
Editor
Circling the News

--
Jimmy Kim
General Manager

City of Los Angeles
Department of Recreation and Parks



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: portrero/George Wolfberg bathrooms.

1 message

Pacific Palisades Park Advisory Board < > Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 11:14 AM

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

Cc: Jasmine Dowlatshahi <jasmine.dowl@lacity.org>, Kortley Norris <kortley.norris@lacity.org>, "McGeagh, Rick @ South Bay" < >, Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, Rose Watson <rose.watson@lacity.org>, Sonya Young-Jimenez <sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>, "Starrels, Andrew J (CCC - X68906, LAX - X52507)" < >, Sue Pascoe < >, kristen.ly@lacity.org, president < >

Thank you so much, Mr. Kim - this is all very helpful. I have alerted CD11 and they are also following up with BOE for a timeline.

Thanks to Sue Pascoe for asking these questions, which needed to be answered for the Palisades community.

Best, Maryam Zar

On Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 10:40 AM Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org> wrote:

Good Morning,

Please see the response below from staff.

On Thu, Sep 7, 2023 at 10:28 AM Pacific Palisades Park Advisory Board < > wrote:

Hi there — any update on the bathroom closure?

On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 9:41 AM Pacific Palisades Park Advisory Board < > wrote:

Thank you, Mr. Kim.

On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 9:32 AM Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org> wrote:

Good Morning,

Please excuse the delay in response. I am checking with staff on the status and will have appropriate staff member follow-up.

Thank you SO much

On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 9:00 AM Pacific Palisades Park Advisory Board < > wrote:

Dear Kristen,

Could we get an update on the bathroom closure and sewer line repair matter, at Potrero Canyon, please?

Thank you.

Best,

Maryam Zar

On Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 5:16 PM Sue Pascoe < > wrote:

At the beginning of July, the bathrooms at the George Wolfberg Park at Potrero closed. They are still closed.

Here were the questions I posed then, but no one has ever responded.

- 1) Are the bathrooms on the same sewer line as the Rec Center? **No they are not.**
- 2) When the GW bathrooms were being constructed, the pathway between the Rec Center and those bathrooms was closed and people were told it was because of a sewer line. **pathway between the rec center and the Wolfberg restroom would not have been closed due to the installation of the new sewer. This is due to the fact that the new sewer line goes down the canyon. At one point the pathway between the tennis courts and the Wolfberg restroom was closed due to a sinkhole that was filled.**
- 3) Where does the sewer line from the Wolfberg self-cleaning bathrooms hook into? Where does it drain? Is it back at the Rec Center? **The sewer line is directly tied into the Wolfberg self-cleaning restroom and drains down the canyon towards a main sewer at PCH. There are clean outs along this line. It does not drain back to the rec center.**
- 4) is RAP aware that there have been numerous problems with the plumbing at the Rec Center? At one point sewage backed up into the small gym and the entire floor had to be replaced. **RAP is aware that there have been problems with the plumbing at the Rec Center. Sewage backed up one time a few years back and got on the gym floor. This was one isolated incident. There was a stoppage due to excessive tree roots growing into the main sewer line. The stoppage was successfully cleared. The floor was repaired**

Finally, what is the timeline for opening this bathrooms?**At this point, this is under the purvue of BOE,they are waiting on Sanitation to perform repairs to the Main Sewer Line from the Wolfberg to PCH. We are awaiting for a timeline.**

Sue Pascoe
Editor
Circling the News
()

--

Jimmy Kim
General Manager

City of Los Angeles
Department of Recreation and Parks

--

Jimmy Kim
General Manager

City of Los Angeles
Department of Recreation and Parks



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Fw: Montecito Park Pickleball

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Mon, Sep 11, 2023 at 7:13 AM

To: "Bruce A. Bailey" < >

Cc: Anthony Gallo <anthony.gallo@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, Sep 8, 2023 at 5:43 PM Bruce A. Bailey <

> wrote:

Dear Parks Commissioners,

I am a retired architect that has been playing pickleball since 2017. Pickleball is very popular for several reasons: It can be played by both children and their grandparents (me!). It is good exercise for all. It is easy to learn, and you can have fun in the first game you play. You don't have to arrange a time to meet with friends to play, you can just show up at the courts and join in.

I have played several times at Montecito Park on the two existing pickleball courts. It is very popular, and in prime times, players are waiting to get on the courts. I have planned courts for Pasadena, Altadena (Farnsworth Park) and La Canada Flintridge. Attached is the plan I did for Montecito Park. I suggest that since the nearby parks; Sycamore Grove Park with 2 tennis courts and Hermon Park with 11, that the one tennis court at Montecito Park, could be changed to 4 more pickleball courts. A six-court facility would allow players of all abilities to have a great time.

There are 4 courts at Annadale Park, just up the freeway in Pasadena and they are always busy. With many players from this area of Los Angeles. Adding courts at Montecito Park would be great for the sport and the neighborhood.

I have reviewed my plan with Darryl Ford of LA Parks Planning and with Anthony Gallo. Anthony suggested the best way to make something like this happen, is to convince a City Councilmember. I have forwarded this same plan to the District One office to hopefully gain their support.

I am reaching out to you for your support as well. I would be happy to talk on the phone or meet you or one of your aides at the park, to fully explain the options for pickleball going forward. This project can be as simple as just painted lines and adding nets, or with everything I have proposed on the plan. The complete plan improves ADA access to this side of the park. The photo below is the current dirt pathway that accesses the basketball courts and play structures. You can see the two pickleball courts, just inside the fence. My plan will benefit more of the park than just pickleball.

Every local player I have talked to has liked the plan. The other photo, from January, 2020, is me and then Vice Mayor of Pasadena, Tyron Hampton, the day I taught him to play at Allendale Park. And we won the second game we played.

Thank you very much, Bruce

Best regards,

Bruce A. Bailey, A.I.A.
BAB Architects

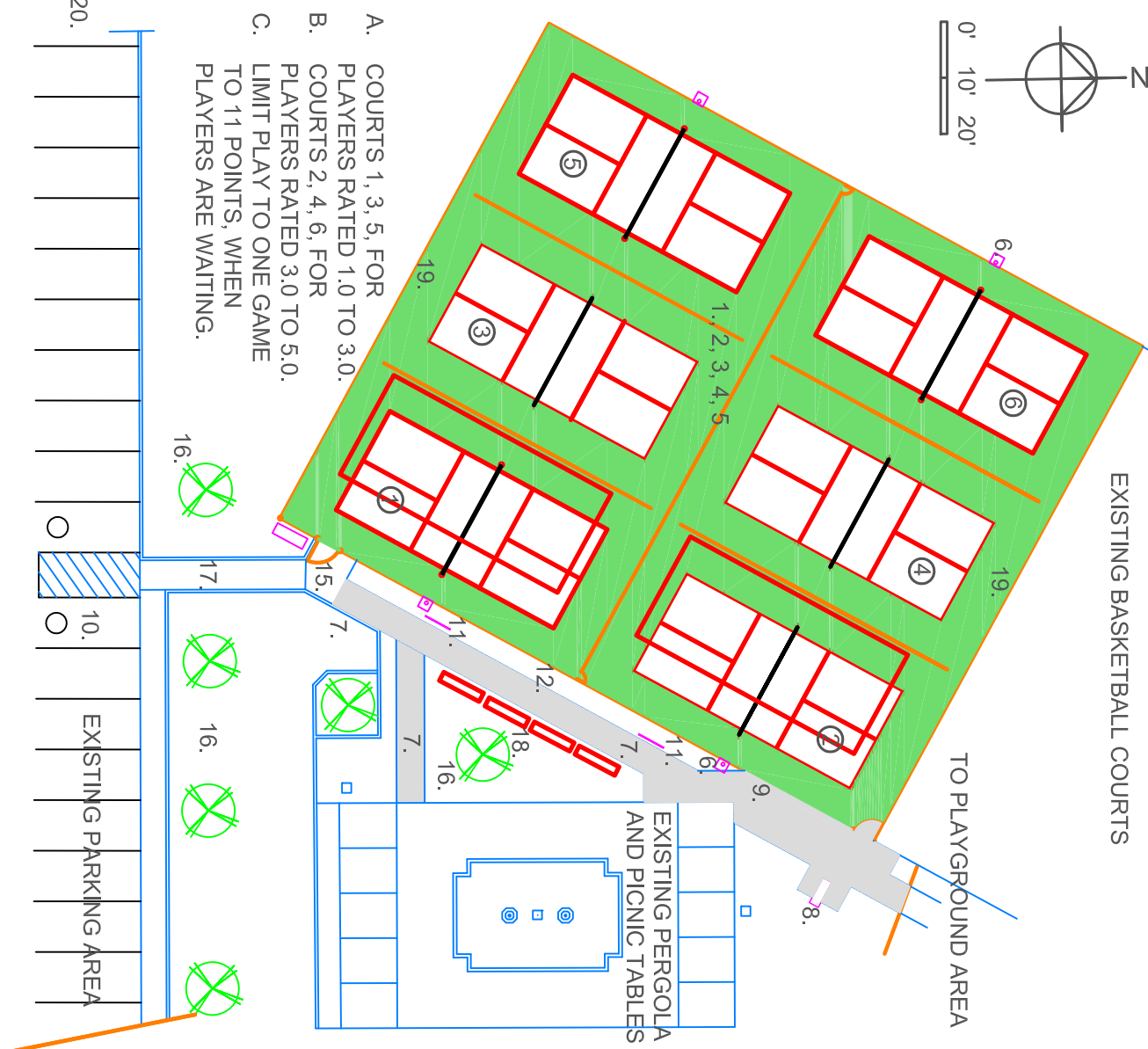
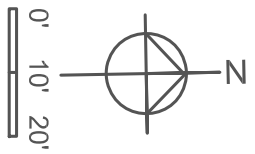
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City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
Figueroa Plaza
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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

Call LA Parks at 213-202-2681 to support pickleball at Montecito!



- A. COURTS 1, 3, 5, FOR PLAYERS RATED 1.0 TO 3.0.
- B. COURTS 2, 4, 6, FOR PLAYERS RATED 3.0 TO 5.0.
- C. LIMIT PLAY TO ONE GAME TO 11 POINTS, WHEN PLAYERS ARE WAITING.

PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK:

1. CREATE NEW 6-COURT PICKLEBALL CENTER, ON EXISTING CONCRETE COURT SLAB.
2. REMOVE EXISTING TENNIS AND PICKLEBALL POSTS AND PATCH CONCRETE SLAB, AND FILL LOW SPOTS.
3. INSTALL NEW NET POSTS AND 4' HIGH C/L. SEPARATION FENCES BETWEEN COURTS.
4. PAINT COURT SURFACE, COURT LINES AND COURT COLORS.
5. INSTALL NETS WITH CENTER TIE DOWN STRAPS.
6. INSTALL NEW LSI INDUSTRIES ZNL-78L-CT-40 LED LIGHT FIXTURES, ON 4 EXISTING POLES. 2 LIGHTS PER POLE. INSTALL NEW ON/OFF SWITCHES. PROVIDE ADDITIONAL TWO LIGHTS FOR PERGOLA AREA.
7. INSTALL NEW 60" WIDE CONCRETE ADA SIDEWALK FROM EXISTING ENTRY TO BASKETBALL COURTS AND TO EXISTING PERGOLA AREA. SUGGEST ADDING ADA SIDEWALK ACCESS TO PLAYGROUND AREAS. 2% CROSS SLOPE AWAY FROM COURTS. REMOVE AND REPLACE LOW CMU WALL AS SHOWN.
8. REMOVE EXISTING DRINKING FOUNTAIN AND INSTALL CONCRETE SLAB AND NEW ADA DRINKING FOUNTAIN.
9. REMOVE EXISTING WINDSCREENS ON EAST ELEVATION AND REUSE ON OTHER ELEVATIONS AS NEEDED.
10. RE-STRIPE PARKING AREA FOR NEW ADA VAN ACCESSIBLE SPACES, WITH ADA CODE SIGNAGE.
11. INSTALL TWO, 16 PADDLE, PADDLE HOLDER RACKS AND BAG HOLDERS ON 2 1/2" STEEL PIPE FRAMES.
12. INSTALL NEW PLANTING, DRIP IRRIGATION AND BARK ALONG EAST SIDE OF COURT. LOWER PLANTER GRADE TO 3" BELOW COURT SLAB.
13. ALL COURT WORK PER USA PICKLEBALL CONSTRUCTION MANUAL STANDARDS.
14. INSTALL "COURT RULES" SIGNAGE ON EACH GATE.
15. REVERSE SWING ON EXISTING C.L. ENTRY GATE.
16. ADD NEW 24" BOX TREES, MATCH EXISTING SPECIES. PROVIDE IRRIGATION.
17. EXISTING WALK. PROVIDE NEW ADA HANDRAILS.
18. NEW WOOD BENCHES WITH BACKS.
19. INSTALL METAL COURT NUMBER SIGNS ON FENCE.
20. MOVE METAL STORAGE CONTAINER FROM PARKING AREA TO DIRT AREA. REPAINT LINES AS NEEDED.





BUDGET & FINANCE

MOTION

On June 3, 2023 the Transportation Committee held a special meeting at the Michele and Barack Obama Sports Complex focused on mobility equity, bicyclists, and pedestrians. As part of the committee meeting a local advocacy coalition, Our Streets Action Committee (OSAC), presented several strategies to push the city towards a more equitable transportation infrastructure framework, including stepping back and rethinking how the City plans, budgets, and implements its transportation-related capital improvement projects.

As stated in the OSAC presentation "A Pathway to Mobility Justice in Los Angeles", "Most major US cities approach capital projects and infrastructure through a multiyear plan with targeted funding. This gives a predictability and transparency to how a City designs and maintains her streets. The City needs to budget itself ... long-term and multiyear." It appears long overdue that the City follows suit with implementing the recommendation to "Develop a 5-year long Capital Infrastructure Plan (CIP) containing all major projects and street assets, their funding, timeline and prioritizes equity and local hire. This allows predictable spending, project management and transparency."

Although the City does have a Five Year Capital and Technological Infrastructure Plan (CTIP) Book, that includes a list of approved and/or funded projects, it does not always represent a strategic approach toward developing, prioritizing, funding and implementing projects to meet mobility equity goals. The current process for developing the CTIP Book, or the Capital and Technological Infrastructure Expenditure Program (CTIEP) also does not ensure coordination among various programs that implement projects in the public right of way or in other mobility corridors, including those managed by the Department of Transportation; the Department of Public Works and its board and various bureaus, including Engineering, Street Services, Street Lighting, and Sanitation; and the Department of Recreation and Parks.

WE THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council INSTRUCT the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the assistance of the City Administrative Officer, Department of Transportation, Department of Public Works, and Department of Recreation and Parks, to report back with recommendations and best practices that will provide the basis for a Council proposal to the Mayor's office that would implement a 5-year Capital Infrastructure Plan for all public right-of-way projects as part of the FY 2024-25 Budget Proposal and going forward.

PRESENTED BY:

Heather Hutt

HEATHER HUTT
Councilmember, 10th District

Katy Yaroslavy

KATY YAROSLAVSKY
Councilmember, 5th District

Bob Blumenfeld

BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

ORIGINAL

SECONDED BY:

Amelda Pastida

MHD
AUG 3 0 2023



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Request for Lines to be Painted on Court #2 At Petit Park

1 message

Conrad Urban <

>

Thu, Sep 14, 2023 at 5:57 AM

To: Juan Aynat <juan.aynat@lacity.org>

Cc: Michelle Gross De La Hoya <michelle.gross@lacity.org>, richard.kraveitz@lacity.org, rap.commissioners@lacity.org, Harold.arrivillaga@lacity.org, Pamela.perez@lacity.org, jimmy.kim@lacity.org, chinyere.stoneham@lacity.org

Mr. Aynat:

Thank you for your response, but I hope that you guys did not spend too much time on this proposal. It is like offering serious basketball players limited time on a court with no hoops. I am frankly insulted by your offer and so is our community. The director at Petit Park continues to harass us as does the tennis pro.

Let me streamline the request of the 300 attached signatories which is simply to paint pickleball lines on Court #2 and let us use the court on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Courts under your jurisdiction are doing it already, as seen at Chatsworth South Park.

You have one thing exactly right about Petit Park and it applies to all of Los Angeles--we are very passionate about our sport. The other thing is that we are large in number and growing rapidly. Please educate yourselves quickly about us. The nation is already adapting to our growing numbers, but the Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks seems to be living in a cave with no cable TV.

Please consider painting the lines on Court #2. It does not eliminate the use of the court by the tennis players--that is an absurd argument (I have played tennis for 48 years). The director is making things worse at Petit by antagonizing the pickleball players through her biased actions and we have large numbers each evening. I encourage you to come by and visit us any time. We are not the thugs that people say we are. We just want to have fun and stay in shape while we do it.

Thank you for letting us do this,

Conrad Urban

On Mon, Sep 11, 2023 at 12:44 PM Juan Aynat <juan.aynat@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello Conrad, apologies for not replying last week as we were still working out the details.

Two things that were made abundantly clear at our virtual community meeting, the first is how passionate and enthusiastic pickleball players are about the fast-growing sport,

and secondly, how tennis continues to be a viable sport in the City of LA and not showing any signs of decreasing in popularity. So, RAP is faced with a difficult conundrum,

two groups are vying for the same space. To appease both sides we've decided that a compromise is the best way to move forward. As in any business deal, when all parties

are far apart, both sides must meet in the middle and give in a little. Neither side is truly getting what they asked for but are satisfied with some progress.

So, we've decided to add programming days and hours for pickleball play to help with the need for more court time. At least (2) two additional days and at least (8) eight additional

hours. However, at this time a conversion/hybrid of additional court(s) are not being considered. We can agree that helping the sport of pickleball grow, should not be at the expense

of the tennis community. In addition, we are still working on identifying real estate opportunities where the city can invest in building standalone – dedicated pickleball facilities.

As you know, this will take time.

The additional days, times and guidelines are being discussed internally with Senior Director Michelle Gross and her District Supervisor Rich Kraveitz. Once the exact times are

determined they will be relayed to our Granada Hills RC pickleball point of contact, Carole Hart. Carole has worked with RAP for months and has been a wonderful liaison between

our staff and both tennis and pickleball communities. If you have any additional comments or recommendations or if you're aware of any private donor and/or sponsors that may

be interested in investing in future courts, please funnel them through Carole.

As for your concerns about the threatening of players by Michelle, assessing additional sanctions, and planning to move your paddle rack outside risking theft, those will be addressed.

Thank you.

+Chinyere Stoneham - Valley Region Superintendent

+Richard Kraveitz - Mid Valley District Supervisor

Moving all others to bcc

On Sun, Sep 10, 2023 at 3:25 PM Conrad Urban <

> wrote:

Mr Aynat:

Thank you for your response, but it satisfies none of the short-term concerns of our community. I gave you a list of items that Director Gross has failed to do as a part of her job, and you have not addressed these and neither has she. As a matter of fact, she is threatening our players with additional sanctions and planning to move our paddle rack outside of our courts which will put our paddles at risk of being stolen. Our list of complaints against her is growing. She is making things worse for us at Petit Park and yet, our community of pickleball players is growing because of our kindness to others but without any support from the Department of Recreation and Parks.

I am glad that you are addressing the shortage of pickleball courts in the City of Los Angeles because there is a major one. You told me that you would get back to me at the end of the week about Granada Hills and I did not hear from you. The short-term solution for us is quite simple, and the model is at Chatsworth South Recreation Center —paint lines for two pickleball courts on Court #2 to make it into a hybrid court. We will bring our own temporary nets. We will only ask to use Court #2 on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Tennis players will have priority on all other days. I have video proof that all of the tennis courts at Petit Park are under utilized to show you that it will NOT cause a disruption to the tennis community. This is a very reasonable compromise.

I know you are a busy person, but this is an easy decision, and it will make at least 300 pickleball players happy in the short-term and would give you time to find a long-term solution to provide more pickleball courts throughout the Los Angeles area; thus, relieving bottlenecks in places such as Granada Hills recreation center.

The passionate pickleball players that I represent would like an answer by Monday before I play with them again in the evening. I look forward to hearing from you before then.

Conrad Urban

On Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 12:36 PM Juan Aynat <juan.aynat@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Conrad,

Thank you for your email,

We appreciate the passion that the pickleball community is displaying.

Our team is currently discussing all options and are working for short and long term solutions that can be agreeable to both the pickleball and tennis communities. However, we ask for your patience as we are still collecting and evaluating the information that was gained from last week's community meeting.

Valley Region Superintendent, Chinyere Stoneham and myself are working on a solution not only for Granada Hills but in all areas across the Valley Region.

We'll personally reach out to you later this week to discuss what is being suggested at the Granada Hills outdoor courts. We understand the need for adding more pickleball space in our city, and we are striving to make that happen asap.

Thank you for your continued patience. Talk to you soon.

On Sat, Sep 2, 2023 at 2:31 PM Conrad Urban <

> wrote:

Department of Recreation and Parks:

I am a patron of Granada Hills Recreation Park and represent at least 300 pickleball players as seen by the attached signatures that I gathered during the month of July. I did this because we are a growing community that is forced to play in a small space by a recreation director that is not doing her job properly. I will say nothing more on this subject other than to ask you to watch the zoom meeting that Director Gross held for us on Wednesday, August 30, 2023. After viewing this meeting, you can determine for yourself if I represent myself accurately.

We have been in communication with Director Gross on several issues as well as her supervisor without success, which directly reflects her competency as a manager of our park and may be why she cannot manage our needs properly. Here are some recent events:

- The signs state that cleaning of the courts will be done every Thursday, but they are not—we do it with our own blowers. I played every day this summer and know that it may have been cleaned once or twice at best.
- Leaves fall from the overgrown trees at the edge of the pickleball courts causing a trip and fall hazard putting the city and our players at risk. We have made several calls on this, and they still have not been cut back for safety.
- Recently, the lights at night were not turned on after the hurricane. We were promised by the office that someone would come out to fix them and they did not. I went to the office to inquire, and I was told to tell 30 pickleball players to “just go home” without an explanation. We went to the office for an explanation and then the office lied to us about the problem.
- Our community of pickleball players is growing rapidly and the wait time to play is high. There was a murder in our park recently and we have homeless people in our parking lot, so we keep our gear in the courts and many people do not feel safe waiting outside—this violates the Director’s new rules, so she is constantly chastising us for breaking them.
- The fact that we have so many players waiting to play near the adjacent Court 2, and the fact that the tennis pro hired by Director Gross is hostile towards pickleball players, there is animosity between the two camps. They complain that they cannot play on the court because they are intimidated by us, but there are never enough tennis players to warrant the need to use this court.

- Friday morning, and only two days after our contentious zoom meeting about the future of the courts at Petit Park, we found the outline of a dead person painted on one of the pickleball courts. The park office and Director Gross were informed of its existence by noon. There has been no communication from Director Gross to me or a notice placed on the courts, and it remains on our courts. I don't care what the explanation is for it being there--some people imagined the worst because of the murder in our park recently and how angry we see that the tennis players are at us.

Director Gross is doing a poor job and is NOT serving the 300 pickleball players that I represent. I am asking you to replace her, retrain her, or get her more assistance so that she can fulfill the needs of our community before someone gets hurt.

We are very passionate about pickleball at Petit Park and our demands are reasonable. You can see my original requests on behalf of our pickleball community below this email. Send clerks out to our courts to verify my claims in the email below that on any given day and at any given hour, we have 3 to 5: 1 pickleball players to every tennis player. Currently, the tennis players own 75% of the real estate with less than 25% of the taxpayer dollars contributed--we would like to take a 50-50 split on the real estate and we would be very happy.

Thank you for your consideration,

Conrad Urban

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

From: **Conrad Urban** >
 Date: Mon, Aug 28, 2023 at 6:43 PM
 Subject: Request for Lines to be Painted on Court #2 At Petit Park
 To: michelle.gross@lacity.org <michelle.gross@lacity.org>
 Cc: richard.kraveitz@lacity.org <richard.kraveitz@lacity.org>

Director Gross De La Hoya:

My Name is Conrad Urban, and I am a resident of the community of Granada Hills Park and frequently play at the pickleball courts. I have played tennis for 48 years, so there is not much that you can surprise me with about the sport. I am new to pickleball, but what does surprise me is how you discriminate against me and the 300 hundred pickleball players that I represent with the signatures that I have collected in the month of July 2023 and passed on to you in the attachment.

It is clear that you do not like pickleball players and that was evident from our first conversation and then you made it loud and clear when you hung two banners forbidding us from playing pickleball on Court #2. You now have shown your bias in making two separate sets of rules: one for tennis and one for pickleball players. The rules for tennis players are less restrictive and traditional, while the rules for pickleball players are mostly designed to manage our large numbers. This is exactly why we need more room to play.

I am a teacher and work with taxpayer money with the power of the government backing me, so I cannot choose a side based on personal feelings. Similarly, you must look at the best interests of the community and the taxpayers so that the Granada Hills recreation properties are used in their highest and best usage. We both know that on any given day and at any given hour, there are 3 to 5:1 pickleball players to tennis players utilizing the courts. Any outside and unbiased auditor would verify my claim. One pickleball taxpayer is equal to one tennis taxpayer, so we should have many more court spaces available to us to play every day of the week. The tennis courts are under utilized and we have long wait times to play pickleball. My fellow pickleball players and I have multiple videos that illustrate how busy our courts are in comparison to the tennis courts to prove our claims.

The 300 pickleball petition signatories are requesting the following:

- 1) Court #2 to have pickleball lines drawn (painted) on it and make it into a hybrid court like Chatsworth South Recreation Center. We will bring pickleball nets.
- 2) Create safe seating immediately outside of Court #1 and #2 for waiting.
- 3) Conversion of Court #2 to 4 permanent pickleball courts over the next 3 years as taxpayer traffic demands.

We can negotiate the days that the pickleball players can use the hybrid court (Court #2) for pickleball. I know that the tennis pro uses the tennis courts on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so we could be allowed to use it on Mondays and Wednesdays, for example. The idea is that we share this underused court and decrease the wait time for the pickleball players.

We have a very large, kind, and growing community of passionate pickleball players that just want to have fun and stay fit. We are not being unreasonable by asking for you to paint lines on Court #2 so that more of us can play and our wait time be decreased.

We are confident that you will make the right decision and I look forward to seeing you at the zoom meeting Wednesday.

Conrad Urban

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Juan A. Aynat

Principal Recreation Supervisor I - Valley Region
City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks
Municipal Sports & Camping Section

6335 Woodley Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91406
Phone: (818) 756-8060 Stop #641

PARK PROUD - LA

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Juan A. Aynat


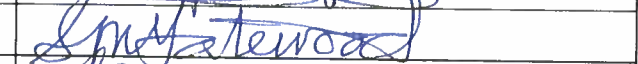

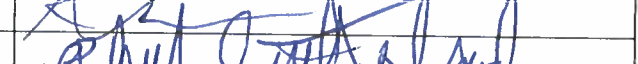
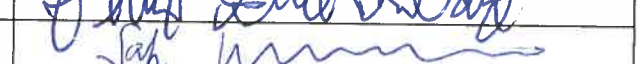
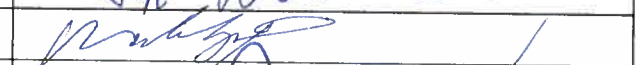
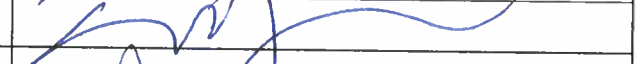


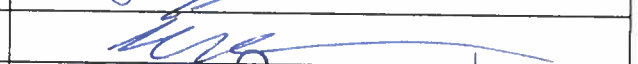
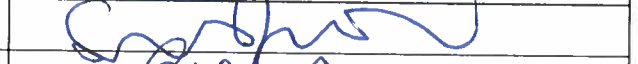

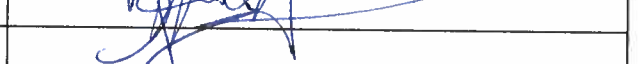







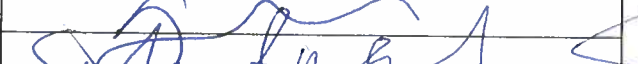
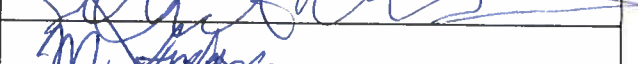
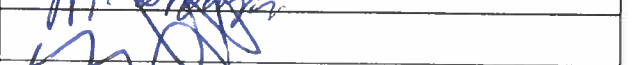





Principal Recreation Supervisor I - Valley Region
City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks
Municipal Sports & Camping Section

6335 Woodley Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91406
Phone: (818) 756-8060 Stop #641

PARK PROUD - LA

 **Petit Park Petition Signatures July-1.pdf**
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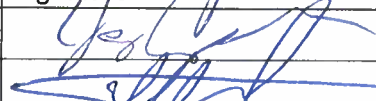
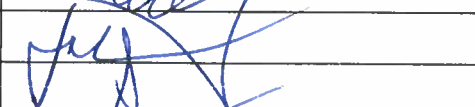
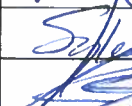
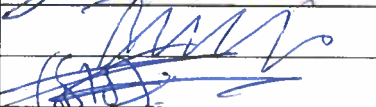
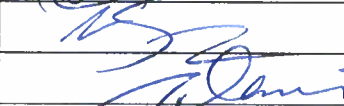
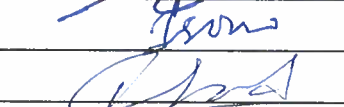
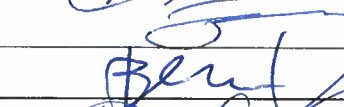


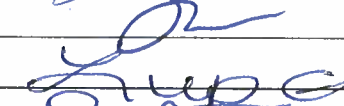
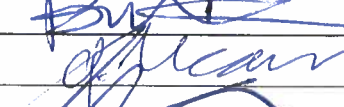
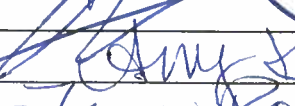
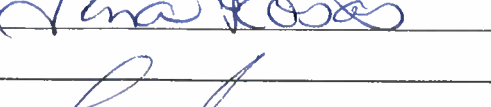
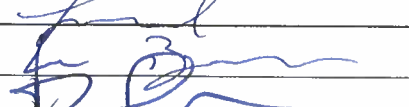
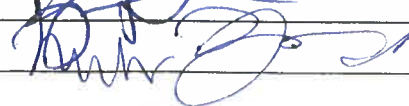


Granada hills Recreation Center AKA Petit Park has three tennis court and one tennis court (converted to 4 pickleball courts). The petitioners are asking that the City of Los Angeles draw lines for 2 more pickleball courts on the adjacent tennis court to the current converted tennis so that we can erect portable nets on designated and negotiated times of the week for open pickleball play time.

Name	Signature
Régina Ribes	
Susan Gatewood	
Chauces Carter	
Kathy Thomas	
Phil Sutherland	
SAK VARUNILA	
Madilyn Perez	
Alex Berman	
Alicia Perez	
JOHN MAXWELL	
Joey Warfield	
Jackson Warfield	
Sam Warfield	
KRIZIA TORRES	
MICHAEL ANDRA	
Andron Albee	
Joey Evana	
Caroline Shahin	
Majeed Shahin	
Jackilyn umi crisol	
LUIS GUERRA	
Alexis Deloy	
Barbie Black	
Ashley Mehta	
Gaia Collar-Schilling	
Sohail Nadeem	
Mathew Andaya	
Nick Andaya	
Elbert Lin	
Hannah Luug	

Anthony Hernandez

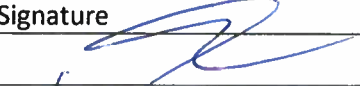
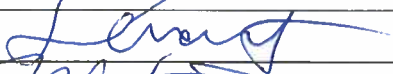




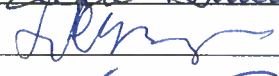

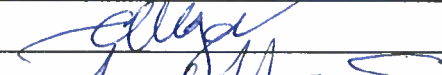
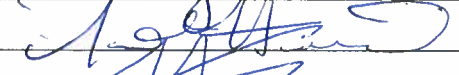


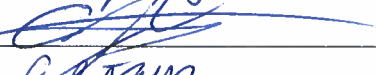

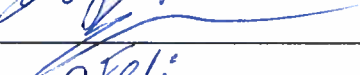

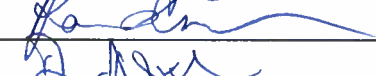


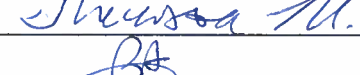




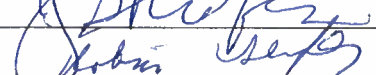
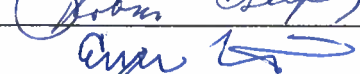
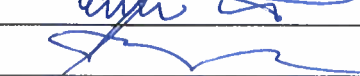

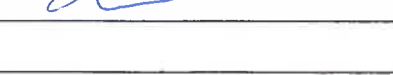


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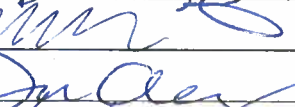
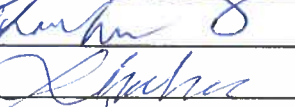
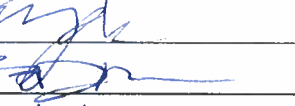
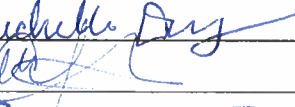
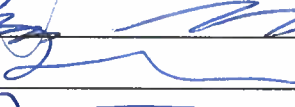


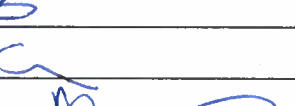
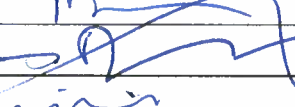
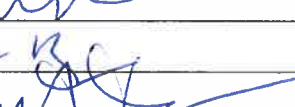
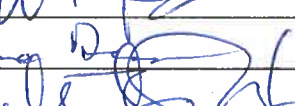

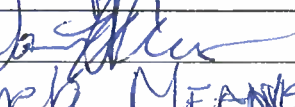
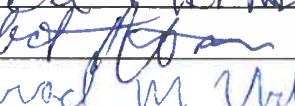


Name	Signature
Joey Compadre	
Hayk Changovic	
Jacki Anderson	
Moskos Ruiz	
Sylvia Hage	
Joe Reyes	
AMIR VARIV	
Destina Green	
Mikel Saleg	
Dawn Garrison	
Jerry Sorn	
Vikas Patel	
Fred Perez	
BETTY	
Derrick Cook	
Tina Gauthier	
Susan Berlin	
Bill Sie	
Jeff Vongjerda	
Lupeta Garcia	
Brigitte Habner	
Elara Medrano	
Thamer Hamana	
Amy Kerbeck	
Tina Kosas	
John Ray	
Brandon Larracvente	
Almando Bramasca	
Brian Teley	
Nick DiBizzi	



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Name	Signature
George Diaz	
Leda Hannon	
MARISA TURNER	
NADMI DIEP	
LOUIS GIORDANO	
Cara Biardi	
Lutzel Francisco	
XANI LEEON	
Nahari Avon	
Jessica Hernandez	
JACQUELINE RAMIREZ	
NICOLAS TRIUNFANTE	
Edgar Olazaba	
Estefani Contreras	
Evan. Alberto	
Felipe de Jesus Cruz Martinez	
R DEL ROSARIO	
DAN NEHR	
Adrian Crisol	
Theresa Manole	
BABY NUCIA MARTALO	
JOSEPH RAMIL C. MARTALO	
Rahul. Vas	
CORY COHEN	
JIM SHAFER	
Robin Shafer	
Emily Hart	
Hilsh Whiteave	
Rajee Ramas	





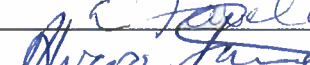
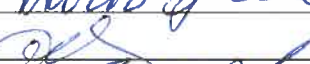


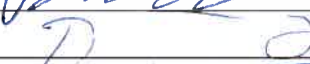
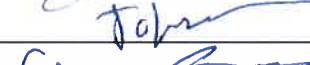


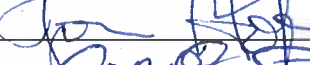

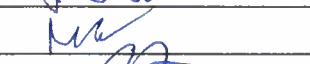


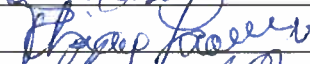
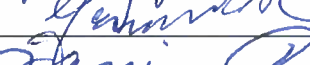







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Name	Signature
Gurpreet Sahn	
Daniel Alvarez	
Alan Smolihisky	
Dora Alvarez	
Laura Lu	
Linh Lu	
Christine Park	
Jose Diaz	
Michelle Diaz	
Rita Becker	
Frank Metcal	
David Weinberg	
Sharon Weinberg	
Seth Gluh	
Colton Herman	
Ashley Metcalfe	
Matt Daniel	
Debbie Gertze	
John Merigliano	
Heather Barron	
John Merigliano	
Lee Roger	
Rob D. PCAN	
Lynne Dunca	
Colette VanMiedo Wheeler	
TERRY WHEELER	
DEBORAH GRAY	
DARREN HEANS	
PAUELA HEANS	
Robert Means	
CONRAD URBAN	

Replacing Tennis Court with Pickleball Courts









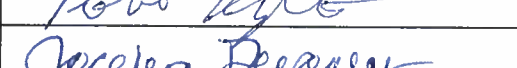
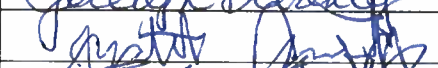


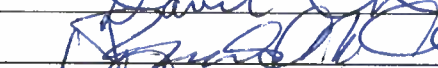


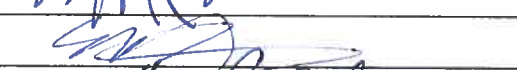






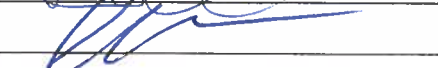



Petition Signature Sheet

Please provide your name and signature if you support the replacement of the existing tennis court with pickleball courts at **Granada Hills Recreation Center**, also known as Petit Park. By signing, you express your desire to see this change implemented for the betterment of our community. Thank you for your support!

Name	Signature
Sinthuja Sivanantham	
Arthur Tharaitnam	
ANDRÉS PIGENIO	
GARY COVITT	
JOE BRACE	
Elizabeth Favela	
Alvaro Favela	
Angelina Gil	
ROBIN FISBECK	
Patricia Charron	
Charles Chun	
Thuy Tran	
Johnny Walls	
C.J. Paz	
Alon Hergotz	
Joshua Favela	
Jon Hofman	
Guy Gluck	
Justin Gluck	
Monica Crisol	
BABY LUCILA MANALO	
JOSEPH BAKIL G. MANALO	
Austin Bui	
Fabiane Lemm *	
GERARDO DIAZ	
Tyline Alberts	
Sharon Harkers	
Blayne Pacelli	
Mark Zirkovich	
Alan Hoge	

* fabianalamm@gmail.com

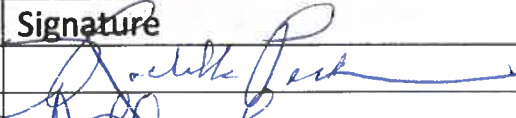
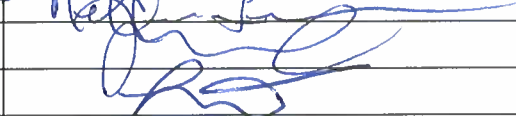


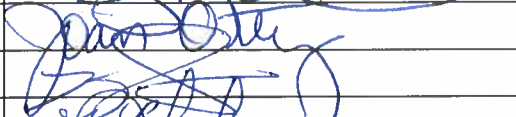
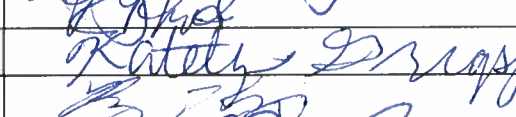
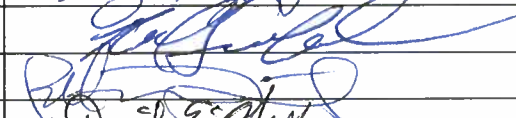
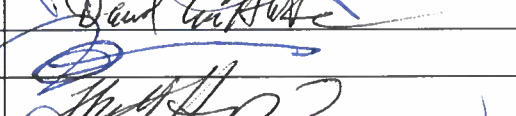
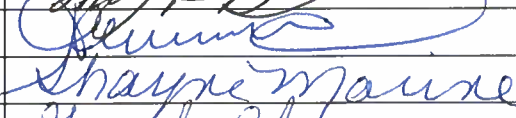
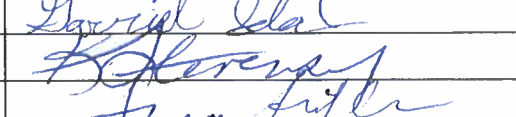
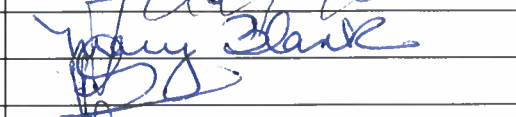
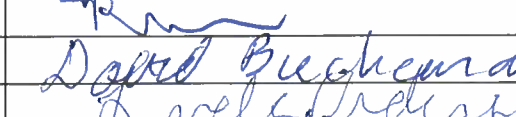
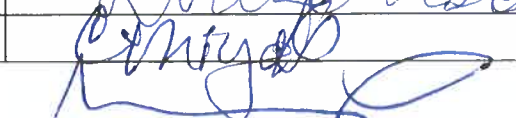


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Name	Signature
CHRIS COPOLA	
Richard Nelson	
KEVIN A. ZIMMERMAN	
LEONARD GARRA	
KATHY HEATH	
CRAIG X GOTFREY	
Mushond Lee	
LEE DELANEY	
STEVE ADER	
Robert Knight	
Jocelyn Devaney	
Judith Armstrong	
Steven Perry	
Susan Berry	
DAVID O'HENR	
KON ASS	
Wendy Thomas	
Nancy Sallu	
Maya Haber	
Michael Jones	
Andres Castaneda	
Robert Heinrich	
JACK SCAPA	
JUDITH REDON	
Emily Carrillo	
Dohmy Callaghan	
Colmar Clements	
Feil Sibels	
Angela Tricera	

Replacing Tennis Court with Pickleball Courts

Petition Signature Sheet

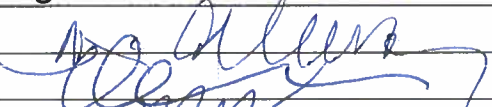
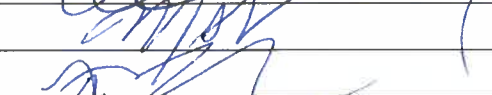
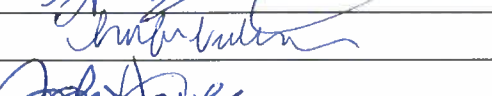

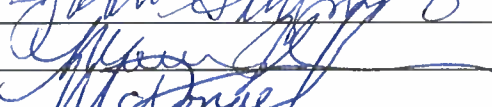
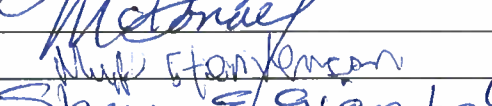

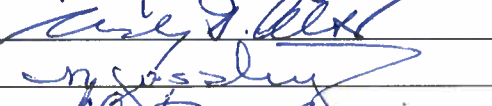

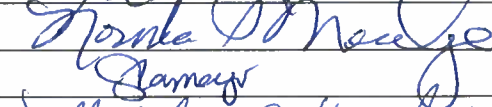
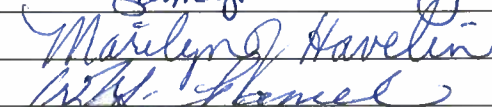
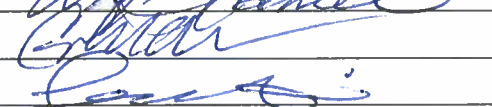
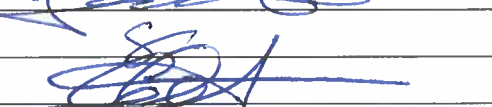
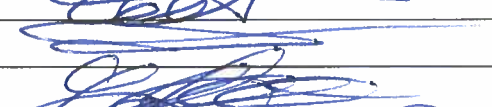





Please provide your name and signature if you support the replacement of the existing tennis court with pickleball courts at **Granada Hills Recreation Center**, also known as Petit Park. By signing, you express your desire to see this change implemented for the betterment of our community. Thank you for your support!

Name	Signature
Rochelle Periman	
Nellie Levesier	
JAMIE ULLYWHITE	
Grace Sawattanangkul	
RISHI MEHTA	
BEN Thatcher	
Charles Esquiverra	
ALEXANDER STONE	
Stacy Palomara	
JOAN ORTIZ	
Kristy Field	
Richard Fields	
Katelyn Briggs	
Tommy Lopez	
Robert Sandoval	
PATRICIA FERNANDEZ	
DAVID HAWKINS	
JEFF HERRERA	
Wendy Hawkins	
LAMMY TUCKER	
Shayne Marine	
Gavriel Seb	
KATIE STEVENSON	
JOES MATILEA	
MARY BLANK	
Kurt Haas	
Brian Michimoto	
David Buchanan	
Wesley Anderson	
CAROL MEYER	
Aaron Sharp	

Replacing Tennis Court with Pickleball Courts

Petition Signature Sheet

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Name	Signature
MEL A. MESA Eronica Villalobos	
MICHAEL VILLALBA Alex Villalobos	
Amber Villalobos	
Jack Havelin	
Rosina Chavez	
Joan Sattym	
Maureen Serra	
MARIANNE McDONALD Mike Stevenson	
Sherry Giambalvo	
Nancy Swan	
Wendy Alter	
Nancy Grosslight	
Marlita Cotons	
Anne Capata	
Norma Mendoza	
Camille Tamayo	
Marilyn Havelin	
BILL FARMER	
GABRIEL OJON	
James Adkin	
JORDAN REYES	
CHRIS DARBY	
MTH HOWARD	
RONALD [unclear]	
TONY O. AUG	
Jonathan Bevan	
Steffano CROVETTO	

Replacing Tennis Court with Pickleball Courts

Petition Signature Sheet

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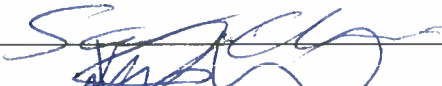
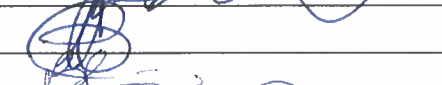


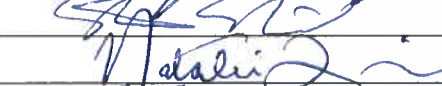




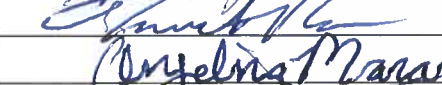

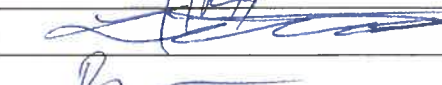




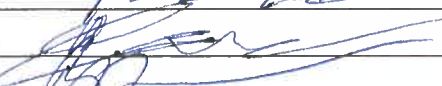



Name	Signature	PHONE
Alexander Kostenko		
Kenny Clinite		
Joseph Lee		
Wes Gouling		
Claudio Rosas		
Mike Fin		
Jeff Shulen		
Philaporn Phumathorn		
CONRAD URBAN	CONRAD URBAN	8183229980
ROBIN HOWARD		
MICHAEL HOWARD		
Nathan BUDDHAMATHA		
Adam Park		
Mike Mennin		
AMI MONGKOL		
GOAD GOAD		
Dana Lasprada		
C. Steinhilber	C. Steinhilber	
Jeanne Morgan	Jeanne Morgan	
Jeanne Morgan		
Kitirak Jovanthomongkul 323 401 5905		Kitirak
Scott McCutcheon		818-517-4669 SM
OLEG ZATSEPIN		323 804 6383
Jose Forastiere		818-424-0834
SAHIB SINGH		
JAY SINGH		
Abhijeet Singh		
Kevin Windsor		
Xavier Antony		
May Schummer		

a

Replacing Tennis Court with Pickleball Courts

Petition Signature Sheet

Please provide your name and signature if you support the replacement of the existing tennis court with pickleball courts at **Granada Hills Recreation Center**, also known as Petit Park. By signing, you express your desire to see this change implemented for the betterment of our community. Thank you for your support!

Name	Signature
SANG CHUN	
Kelly Lowell	
Mark Bourdeas	
Bella Simmons	
Jon Chung	
Tina Bradford	
CHRISTOPHER CROPER	
Steve Shiba	
Natslie Livermore	
Gabe Berger	
Jael Adler	
Xavier Ubasi	
DAVID SONGS	
Sean Tony	
RUIZ, JOSE	
Nick Padilla	
Tim Bredas	
Angelina Maranan	
Arithran Thurgiretham	
Michelle Havin	
Ralph Monale	
Roberto Acosta	
ROD CLAVERIA	
Nathan Gafala	
BRUCE SUTHERLAND	
Peter Marki	
Chris Paez	
Sarkis Tarsisyan	
Tony Wafa	
Harminder Singh	
Seun Nijch	



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Activities for young children In Griffith Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: BETSY BURMEISTER <

Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 10:52 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, Sep 6, 2023 at 5:24 PM BETSY BURMEISTER

> wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

Please find attached some fun activities for young children to replace the ponies at Griffith Park.

These fun activities are big hit with youngsters. The older children could have water parks, go carts, bouncy house etc.

It is cruel to make sentient beings, like the ponies, to walk in circles for hours everyday. They need to run and play and have enrichment in their lives. It is 2023 and we now understand that animals feel pain, fear, boredom, and joy just as humans do and deserve to be treated with respect.

Thank you for sending them to farms and sanctuaries.

It is too hot for any animals to be out on display. It is only going to get hotter as the years go by.

Thank you for your compassion.

Sincerely,
Betsy Burmeister

--
City of Los Angeles
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Adventure Playground



Ideal for young climbers!

The Adventure Playground allows children ages 3-6, to navigate scaled down versions of The Adventure Park's full-size bridges and challenges.

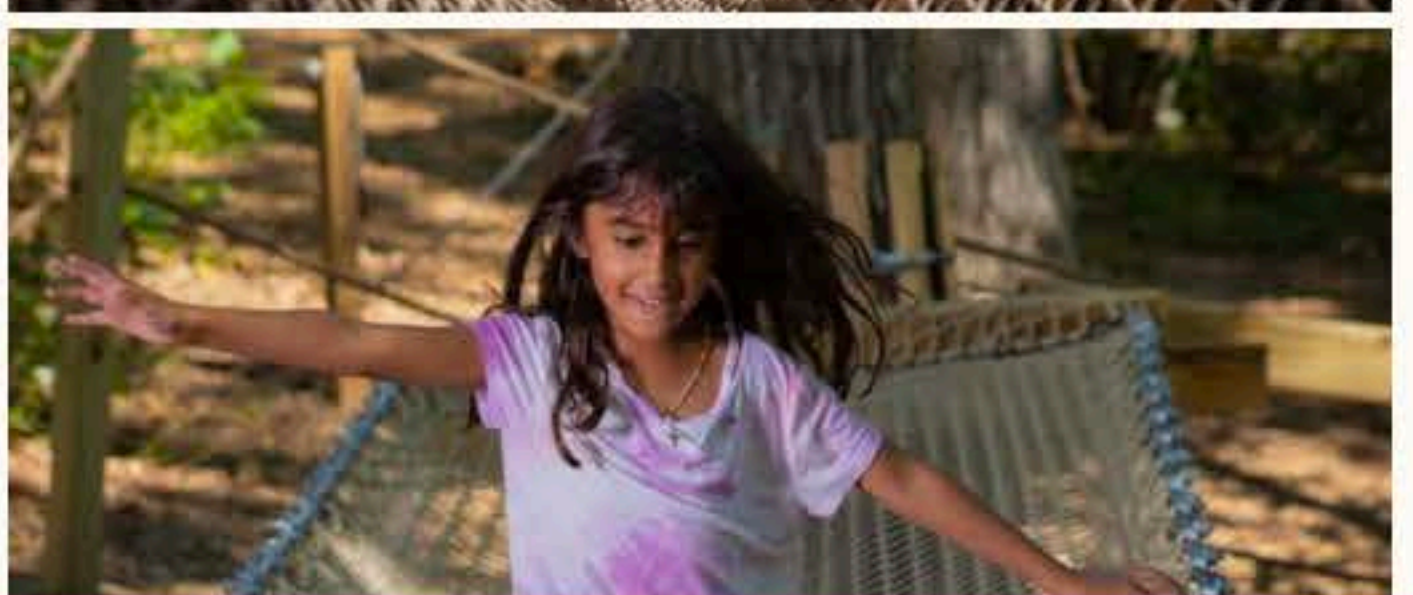
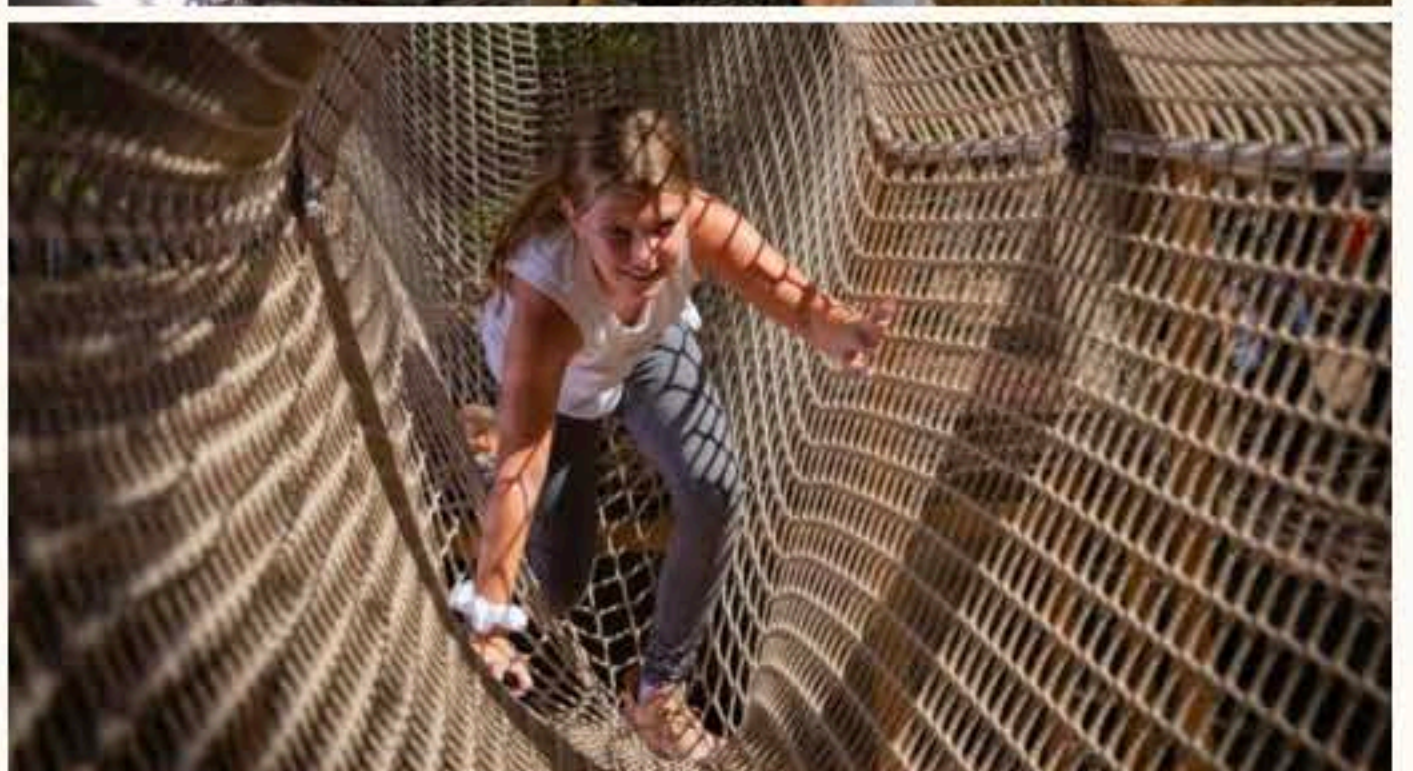
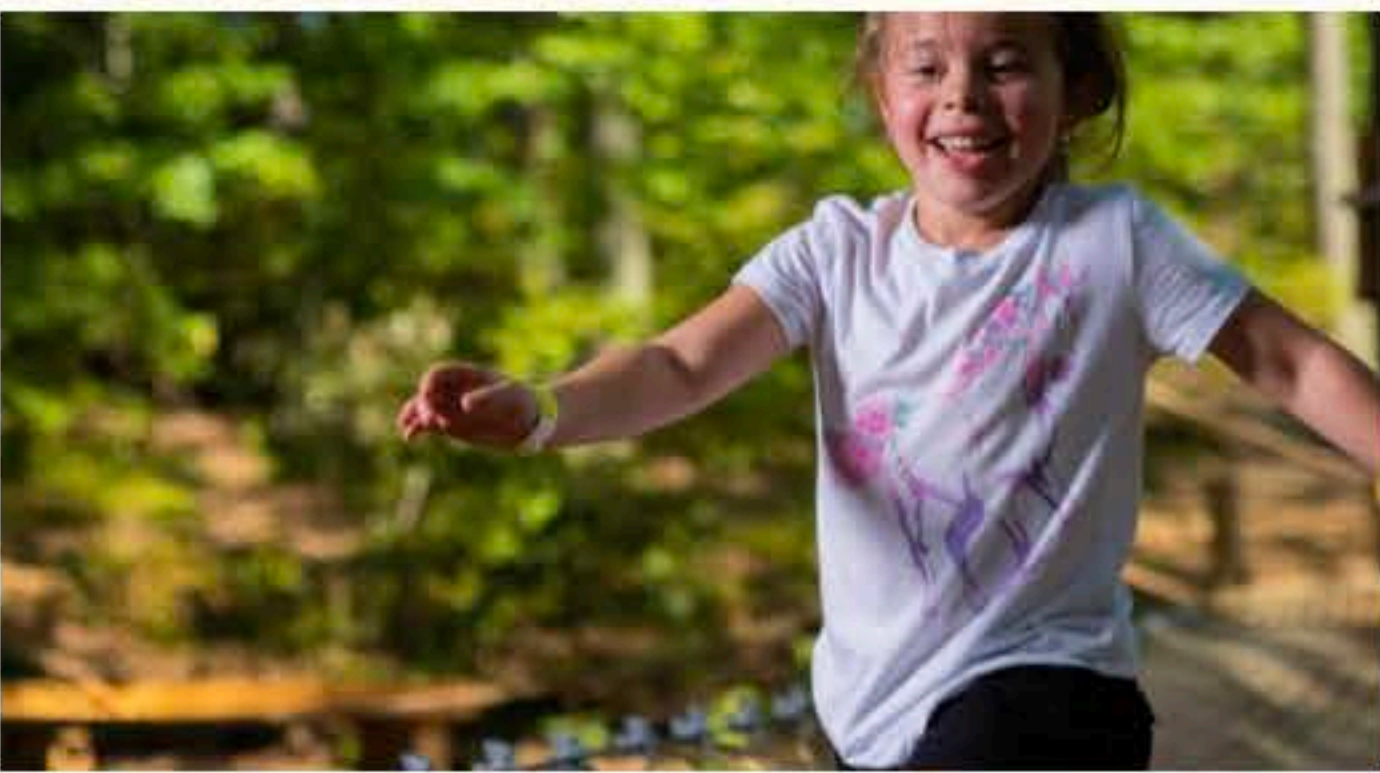
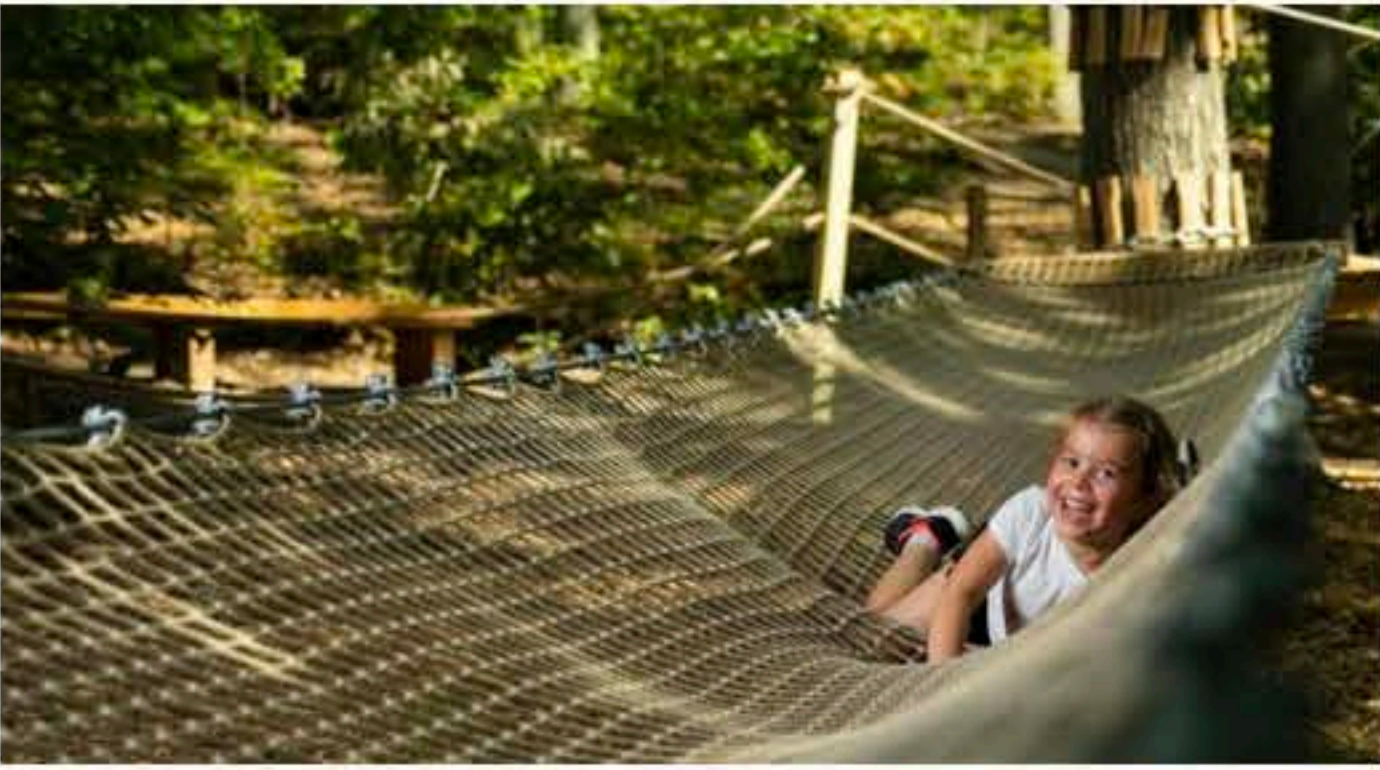
With the highest element only 24 inches off the ground, grown ups can give their young climber the level of encouragement or support they may need.



BOOK NOW

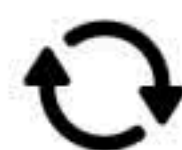
The Adventure Park™

AT LONG ISLAND



983-3844

BOOK NOW





Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Choose Non-Animal Model To Replace Griffith Park Pony Rides!!!

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Andrea Kaye < >

Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 10:52 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, Sep 6, 2023 at 10:19 AM Andrea Kaye < > wrote:

Dear Leaders:

As a constituent and long time resident of West Los Angeles, I urge you to replace the former Griffith Park Pony Rides and Petting Zoo with a non-animal model. There are many options to consider that do not involve harming and exploiting animals, including environmental education programs, recreational activities, and entertainment such as go-karts and obstacle courses. Please take a stand for animals and make the compassionate choice.

Thank you so much.**Andrea Kaye**

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

Re: Ex pony ride site

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 12:38 PM

To: Mike Fujimori <

>

Good afternoon,

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

On Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 12:08 PM Mike Fujimori <

> wrote:

Hi commissioners

Please whatever business you decide to put in the old pony ride location - make it a non animal model.

Thank you so much

Regards

Michael Fujimori

Sent from my iPhone

--

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Griffith Park pony rides

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Carolyn Seeman >

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 2:31 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 2:14 PM Carolyn Seeman < > wrote:

Dear Commissioners:

Please convert the pony rides to an activity that does not involve animals. We can show the world that Los Angeles is a leader in animal protection--and a city that helps kids to be as active as possible.

Carolyn Seeman

--
City of Los Angeles
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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Griffith Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 12:40 PM

To: Amanda <

>

Good afternoon,

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

On Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 12:38 PM Amanda <

> wrote:

Dear Recreation and Park,

I am urging you not to convert the Griffith Park and Pony rides to a NONANIMAL Model.

Thank you,

Amanda Turner

--

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Keep live ponies at Griffith Park!

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: David Soyka <>

Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 7:56 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, Sep 6, 2023 at 7:32 AM David Soyka <> wrote:

Dear Park Commissioners,

I am a local Angelonian, in fact, my Mother was born in the same hospital as me, very close to Griffith Park. I was lucky enough to have parents who appreciated being outdoors and taking me to the park on the weekends and of course, riding the ponies was a highlight.

When my wife and I adopted a baby girl from China, I made sure to give her the same outdoor experience and I began the weekend by putting her in my backpack and going for a hike. Sometimes she was a little reluctant, but her desire to ride the ponies at the end of the afternoon was always motivation to finish the hike.

I'm curious how many of the people who are protesting live ponies have ever ridden one? How many of the people opposed to live ponies **live** in the area? Do they have children? There doesn't seem to be a forum to ask these simple questions, so for all we know, these people are being hired to appear and take away a real special feature of this great park.

Please save the live ponies.

Best regards,

David Soyka

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

Re: Non animal entertainment

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 12:38 PM

To: Pauline doucet <

>

Good afternoon,

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

On Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 12:11 PM Pauline doucet <

> wrote:

Please, this is the right opportunity to opt for something that does not use animals to replace the pony ride. Animals are not ours to use, they deserve a normal life. There are so many other possible options, so, I am hoping you will choose a compassionate one, and being on the right side of history.

Thanks for your attention,

Pauline Doucet

Sent from my iPad

--

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Pony Rides replacement

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 7:56 AM

To: Kim Delgado <

>

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 12:25 AM Kim Delgado <

> wrote:

Dear Recreation and Parks,

I urge you to PLEASE convert the Griffith Park and Pony Rides to a **non-animal model!!**

Please do not any longer, allow the animals to suffer!! ...And they do!!

Thank you!

Sincerely,
Kimberley Delgado

--

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Reimaging the Griffith Park Pony Rides

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Patty Shenker <

Wed, Sep 13, 2023 at 8:25 AM

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Sep 12, 2023 at 4:50 PM Patty Shenker <

> wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

I was at your last meeting to urge a non-animal model to replace the pony rides. As I said, it was nice to see all of you, even if it did take over an hour. I will not be attending your next one as I will be out of town.

First, I want to commend you on the written pamphlet about Reimagining The GP Pony Rides Site as well as the woman's excellent presentation on this subject and process.

I want you to know that Paris, France has banned all pony rides so you're in good and global company in doing this!

I also want to reiterate the idea of FunBox.com. It's a bounce park that appeals to kids of all ages and it also gets them to exercise. The 9000 foot maze has obstacle courses, dodgeball, a Ninja wall, slides and much more.

As described on their website- "Our founder, Antonio Nieves, a visionary entrepreneur, combines the physical and digital worlds to craft immersive experiences that captivate and inspire. Drawing inspiration from his personal journey growing up with nine younger siblings in the foster care system, FUNBOX is committed to supporting a small, localized community charity dedicated to advocating for children in foster care."

His email is . Funbox is currently in Arcadia, Ca.

I have written him, with no response, but I think/hope he would respond to you.

I will stay involved until I know that you will be using a non-animal model. After that, I trust your judgement on the "Reimagined Park". I do hope you will respond to this letter.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Patty Shenker

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Reopening of Griffith Park pony rides

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Sep 8, 2023 at 10:55 AM

To: Ann Ammons <

>

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 10:20 PM Ann Ammons <

> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone ladies and gentlemen, I am asking with the utmost respect and sincerity that you reconsider opening the Griffith Park pony rides.

My earliest memories are in the back of an old walking Pony on the track at Griffith Park pony rides around 1956 or 57.

I fell in love with horses and couldn't get enough. Ponies and horses have taught me compassion and empathy and a sense of responsibility that was passed onto my own four children. Ponies and horses have been my life. They have brought jobs and Therapy to many many children and teenagers. Many of them were my customers as youngsters, and then sought me out for employment as they grew older. Some children go Through school- graduate high school , perhaps get the gift of a car and going to college. But a goodly portion of those that came to work for me were given a suitcase and sent packing. "Find your own way" is what they were told.

Animals gave them a sense of purpose and taught them responsibility, empathy and the importance of being responsible for yourself and the well-being of others. Many of them went on to school to become nurses , respiratory therapists , teachers, veterinarians , animal health technicians. All are noble careers.

I know horses . Those animals were treated fairly at the pony rides. The Ponies had shelter. Sometimes they stood out in the rain. Many horse owners, get frustrated and watch their horses stand out in the rain when they could be in a nice warm, stall, or under a roof. They are not people they are horses . we cannot humanize the way an animal thinks.

In the last days of the Griffith Park pony rides, I met my daughter and granddaughters there so they could have a ride before they closed (even though they have horses at home.) They got started on ponies themselves.

My granddaughters began crying when they heard a male protester using the F word to another woman and then telling them that their own mother was a cruel person for bringing them to the pony rides. They were very upset and crying. I was very angry. It was obvious to me that these protesters really knew nothing about animals so I approached a woman who was out on the street holding a sign. I politely engaged her in conversation for a while, just sort of asking her about herself after a few minutes of talking she confided in me that she had in fact been hired to protest and that they were being paid \$25 an hour. That explains their misinformation. As for the foul language, there is no explanation or excuse for that.

If you are seeking out cruelty, you're literally barking up the wrong tree there are dogs, cats, horses, livestock, languishing in peoples backyards in filthy conditions, and receiving poor quality or little food. One of the veterinarians that I use tells me that she has been there to the pony rides before they closed. She said , "there's no problem there. " There are some sports in the horse world, where the horses are plagued with drugs and abuse. I urge you to look elsewhere. There was no cruelty at that pony ride. Respectfully, Ann Ammons . I am available for any questions -

--
City of Los Angeles
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Fax: (213) 202-2610



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Replacement for Griffith Park Pony Rides

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Kathy Cullen <>

Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 12:39 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Tue, Sep 5, 2023 at 12:16 PM Kathy Cullen <> wrote:

I am writing to urge you NOT to replace the pony rides with another animal form of entertainment. There are plenty of other options for getting the public excited and involved in what comes next! A community garden, a sensory garden, a natural maze, a discovery museum for kids, an intimate concert venue for kids, a hands-on art center, an art museum, the possibilities are endless! Organizations like TreePeople have wonderful programs for adults and kids with a natural setting that enhances our environment and natural education.

Sincerely,
Kathy Cullen

--
City of Los Angeles
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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Support Live Pony Rides

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 10:52 AM

To: John Coldiron <

>

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 10:09 AM John Coldiron <

> wrote:

Hi

My name is John Coldiron and I have been a Los Feliz resident for nearly 40 years.

I support the idea of re-introducing live ponies back into Griffith Park.

My daughter started her equine career at the Griffith Park Pony Rides. She is now a professional equine massage therapist and also a national sales rep for an equine medical supply company.

She rode ponies and learned horsemanship basics from her time at Griffith Park.

This is a valuable asset for the community of people and horses.

I watched as Professional protesters harass families at the pony rides for months.

These were Not local residents who came out to protest but people for other areas with personal agendas and no knowledge of horses or horsemanship or actually any experience with pets at all. I gathered video of these professional protestors yell and scream at children and their parents until they became aware of my camera before they ran to their cars to hide.

It's unfair to our community to put park facilities at risk for the benefit of a small cadre of people who's only interest is to promote their personal social media agenda.

Very Sincerely

John Coldiron

Lois Feliz resident and regular Griffith Park user.

--

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Griffith Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 10:52 AM

To: Wendy Hollis >

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Sep 6, 2023 at 10:26 AM Wendy Hollis < > wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

Please convert the Griffith Park pony rides to a non animal model. Please make a safer, humane choice that doesn't involve animal abuse and exploitation .

Thank you, Wendy Hollis

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)

--

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