

INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

October 1, 2020

TO: BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

FROM: MICHAEL A. SHULL, General Manager



SUBJECT: VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS

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

<u>From</u>		<u>Action Taken</u>
1) Kevin Jackson comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ed	Referred to General Manager
2) Janice Malofsky-Berlowe comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ee	Referred to General Manager
3) Margaux Rainey comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ef	Referred to General Manager
4) Joanna Belson comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799eg	Referred to General Manager
5) Brenda Hillhouse comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799eh	Referred to General Manager
6) S. Jackson comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ei	Referred to General Manager
7) Chris Melikyan comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ej	Referred to General Manager
8) Jill Marx comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ek	Referred to General Manager
9) Jeffrey Wilkins comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799el	Referred to General Manager
10) Moises Arroyo, MBA comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799em	Referred to General Manager

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

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11) Gene Rubin comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799en	Referred to General Manager
12) Patricia Dexter comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799eo	Referred to General Manager
13) Diann Corral comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ep	Referred to General Manager
14) Scott Rosenthal comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799eq	Referred to General Manager
15) Gerald J. Rodriguez comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799er	Referred to General Manager
16) Stephen Rinka comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799es	Referred to General Manager
17) C S comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799et	Referred to General Manager
18) Zohrab Izakelian comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799eu	Referred to General Manager
19) Amy Ryder comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ev	Referred to General Manager
20) Larry Yaffe comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ew	Referred to General Manager
21) Suzette Sheets comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ex	Referred to General Manager
22) Kevin Jackson comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ey	Referred to General Manager
23) Valere Diamond comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ez	Referred to General Manager
24) Mario Serban comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fa	Referred to General Manager
25) David O comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fb	Referred to General Manager
26) Cynthia Juarez comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fc	Referred to General Manager

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

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27) Igor Spector comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fd	Referred to General Manager
28) Carmen Lozada comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fe	Referred to General Manager
29) Tony Puente comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799ff	Referred to General Manager
30) Stephan Olsan comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fg	Referred to General Manager
31) Comment regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fh	Referred to General Manager
32) Cristina Molina comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fi	Referred to General Manager
33) Adam Medina comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fj	Referred to General Manager
34) Eric LeVeque comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fk	Referred to General Manager
35) Deanna Martirosyan comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fl	Referred to General Manager
36) Jeffrey Wilikins comments regarding Valley Plaza Park	#8799fm	Referred to General Manager
37) Consideration of approval of the usage of the Hollywood Recreation Center for temporary interim housing	#8811	Referred to General Manager
38) Christine O'Brien comments regarding aerial tram	#8812	Referred to General Manager
39) Mauro Garcia comments regarding Sycamore Grove Park	#8813	Referred to General Manager
40) George Chatigny comments regarding Los Angeles Equestrian Center	#8814	Referred to General Manager

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

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41) Chelsea Catalanotto comments regarding Los Angeles Equestrian Center	#8815	Referred to General Manager
42) Joes Gedeon comments regarding Pershing Square	#8816	Referred to General Manager
43) Development for a master plan for the Sepulveda Basin, including a budget, and potential funding sources	#8817	Referred to General Manager
44) Property Acquisition, Development Expansion, Reseda Skate Facility Project	#8818	Referred to General Manager
45) Opportunities for unpaving underutilized spaces and using them for composting/mulching operations and/or to create healthy soil	#8819	Referred to General Manager
46) Diane Lea Weiss comments regarding aerial tram at Griffith Park	#8820	Referred to General Manager
47) David Ryu comments regarding Ruth Bader Ginsburg	#8821	Referred to General Manager
48) Marianna Varviani comments regarding Art Event	#8822	Referred to General Manager

Prepared by Jessica Martinez, RAP Commission Office



Re: Reject Homeless Pallet Shelters @ Alexandria Park in North Hollywood

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Kevin Jackson

Tue, Sep 15, 2020 at 11:36 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sat, Sep 12, 2020 at 6:36 PM Kevin Jackson

wrote:

Dear City Officials:

On behalf of concerned parents and neighbors in North Hollywood, we are asking that Councilman Paul Krekorian, the L.A. Recreation and Park Commissioners and all involved put an immediate halt to establishing Homeless pallet shelters at Alexandria Park – adjacent from the new NoHo West Development. We all agree homelessness is a problem in our community, but this is NOT the solution.

Band-aid policies will only lower property values and prevent a rebounding neighborhood to finally find its footing ... **once a site is constructed it will never be removed!**

“Councilman Paul Krekorian explained that the North Hollywood site has been an “area that has a long history of criminal activity and this project brings much needed activity to this area of the park.” **This is the wrong kind of activity... let’s work with new developers to build new mixed-use developments.**

“The people living in the “town” will receive three meals a day and “it will be a stable, safe environment for those housed there,” Krekorian said. “Obviously, this is only a temporary solution. Hopefully more services will come from the County. Longer-time solutions take time.” **Hope and prayers are not a plan! We need to seize this opportunity and use federal dollars to fund job-creation programs, affordable housing, and, most importantly, help people pay their rent.**

This plan is fraught with multiple problems. The local neighborhood HAS NOT BEEN CONSULTED DIRECTLY of this new development and the Community Council is meeting to discuss protests. **Our families, which include children, feel anxious and very concerned that our Mayor/City Council is considering allowing this temporary housing for people with a multitude of emotional, psychological, sexual and potentially drug abuse problems into our community.**

I am confident if this were your neighborhood and your family lived here you would not be in a hurry to rubber stamp this project. Please I am asking with great urgency to rethink this plan, allow proper analysis of data from similar proposals and choose another location where the community will not feel so threatened. Thank you.

Additional insight:

- The community was NOT informed of the shelter nor do we support the Pallet project in Alexandria Park in North Hollywood.
- To building a shelter 130 feet away from the 170 freeway causes a health risk to the people living in the shelter.
- Reduce the risk of COVID-19... revise your plan!

Thank you,

Kevin Jackson – 15 year resident

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City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
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Re: Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park Homeless Pallet project

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: janice malofsky-berlowe

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:59 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 12:25 PM janice malofsky-berlowe <

wrote:

I have lived in the Laurel Grove area for over 36 yrs. I am opposed to the Alexandria Park Homeless Pallet Project and feel that you should seek another location; it is the wrong size and wrong place for this project. Move this project to a location that would adhere to Judge Carter's recommendation of not placing the homeless near a freeway.

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Thank you for your consideration,

Janice & Howard Berlowe

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Re: PLEASE READ - CONCERNED TAX PAYER VALLEY PLAZA ALEXANDRIA PARK

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: margaux rainey

Tue, Sep 15, 2020 at 12:29 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 2:36 PM margaux rainey

wrote:

PLEASE DO THE FOLLOWING IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN SOME HUMANITY AND PUBLIC SAFETY FOR THESE HOMELESS AND NEIGHBORING CITIZENS:

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Margaux Rainey
Home owner at Agnes/Sylvan

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Re: Paul Krekorian 's UNETHICAL Pallet Housing Program in NoHo

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Joanna Belson

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:35 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 2:41 PM Joanna Belson

wrote:

Dear Mr. Krekorian: Thank you for your response on my issue with your new pallet housing program in North Hollywood that seems to keep moving forward under the radar with no ramifications. Can someone please speak up and hold him accountable for this lack of transparency.

First, I am shocked your response email omitted the September 9, 2020 City Council hearing regarding the proposed Pallet Shelter at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park. I would have loved to attend.

The shadiness of this is what really bugs me. You are an elected official. How can this occur???

Also, how convenient for your Chief of Staff Karo Torossian to arrange a presentation before our local Neighborhood Council tomorrow, September 14, 2020 after approval was already obtained by RAP and funding was approved by the City Council. Your office intentionally did not advise our community of the August and September meetings yet you claim community involvement. Requesting support after the hearings, when the hearings are said and done shows your lack of seeking honest community input.

Please find a new location:

- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties
- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants

over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Thanks, Joanna Belson

Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association member and lived in neighborhood since 2003

Sent from my iPhone

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Re: Concerns Regarding North Hollywood Homeless Pallet Shelter Project

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:39 AM

To: Brenda Hillhouse

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 2:43 PM Brenda Hillhouse

wrote:

Dear Council Member Krekorian:

As a homeowner in your district, I am appalled at the lack of communication and consideration of the concerns expressed by the Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association about the proposed homeless pallet shelter development in Valley Plaza Park. Why was the Association not informed about the hearing held on September 9th?

I am writing to request that the following issues be considered and addressed before this development moves forward:

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

If you truly want to garner support for this project, at a minimum the residents of your district deserve a response to these concerns.

Sincerely,
Brenda Hillhouse

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



Re: Reject the Homeless Pallet Shelter project

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: S Jackson

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:40 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 2:51 PM S Jackson

wrote:

Dear City Officials:

On behalf of concerned parents and neighbors in North Hollywood, we are asking that Councilman Paul Krekorian, the L.A. Recreation and Park Commissioners and all involved put an immediate halt to establishing Homeless pallet shelters at Alexandria Park – adjacent from the new NoHo West Development. We all agree homelessness is a problem in our community, but this is NOT the solution.

Band-aid policies will only lower property values and prevent a rebounding neighborhood to finally find its footing ... **once a site is constructed it will never be removed!**

“Councilman Paul Krekorian explained that the North Hollywood site has been an “area that has a long history of criminal activity and this project brings much needed activity to this area of the park.” **This is the wrong kind of activity... let’s work with new developers to build new mixed-use developments.**

“The people living in the “town” will receive three meals a day and “it will be a stable, safe environment for those housed there,” Krekorian said. “Obviously, this is only a temporary solution. Hopefully more services will come from the County. Longer-time solutions take time.” **Hope and prayers are not a plan! We need to seize this opportunity and use federal dollars to fund job-creation programs, affordable housing, and, most importantly, help people pay their rent.**

This plan is fraught with multiple problems. The local neighborhood HAS NOT BEEN CONSULTED DIRECTLY of this new development and the Community Council is meeting to discuss protests. **Our families, which include children, feel anxious and very concerned that our Mayor/City Council is considering allowing this temporary housing for people with a multitude of emotional, psychological, sexual and potentially drug abuse problems into our community.**

I am confident if this were your neighborhood and your family lived here you would not be in a hurry to rubber stamp this project. Please I am asking with great urgency to rethink this plan, allow proper analysis of data from similar proposals and choose another location where the community will not feel so threatened. Thank you.

Additional insight:

- The community was NOT informed of the shelter nor do we support the Pallet project in Alexandria Park in North Hollywood.
- To building a shelter 130 feet away from the 170 freeway causes a health risk to the people living in the shelter.
- Reduce the risk of COVID-19... revise your plan!

Thank you,

S. Jackson – 15 year resident

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Re: 96 Homeless Pallet Shelter Concern

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: "K.C. Melekyan"

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:42 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 2:57 PM K.C. Melekyan <

wrote:

Dear Decisionmakers,

I am writing this email to express my concern about the project that will build 96 homeless shelters less than a block away from where I reside. As a long time resident of Agnes Avenue, I have witnessed my neighborhood evolve from disconnected neighbors to a community, where we know each other by names, profession, and often stop to greet each other to communicate about improving our neighborhood safety.

I do applaud your initiative that projects to build homeless shelters, because it will (hopefully) cater to the needs of one of the most needy members of our community--the homeless. Yet, I believe that building the "biggest shelter in California" in one single neighborhood will undoubtedly jeopardize the safety and peace of our family oriented, relatively safe community.

I have had multiple encounters with transient people very close to my house. There were incidents where individuals that might need professional psychological assistance have thrown objects at my direction, angrily yelled profanities at my family members. I have always attempted to avoid escalation. One of the transients verbally attacked me because I had the US flag attached to my roof. When I tried to enter the house without responding, he got more angry and threatened to "beat the sh.. out of me." When I took my cell phone out of my pocket, he must have realized that I was going to call the police, and he quickly pedaled away. I was unable to sleep the following several nights, because I was guarding my house from a possible retaliation for something I had no fault with. I saw the same person weeks after the incident under the bridge (where 170 freeway passes), openly injecting something in his vein when I was biking to a 7/11 store.

I believe in Restorative Justice and restorative practices. I know that some of the less fortunate Los Angeles residents will benefit from the project. My humble recommendation is that you reconsider the number of beds that are planned to be in the building(s), and minimize them to a manageable size. It will be fair if other sites in other neighborhoods are considered for the project. Also, if possible, please consider choosing several factors when targeting the candidates' eligibility for this housing:

- 1) Their criminal records
- 2) Social emotional well being in case those individuals need professional assistance
- 3) And family status-- the likelihood of violence, vandalism, drug/alcohol use/abuse can and will decrease if the shelters are allocated to homeless families who are suffering the impact of the economic downturn.

I am not familiar with the entire project; my neighbor informed me yesterday about it while I was walking to Trader Joe's.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance. I can contribute with my expertise and knowledge as a long time educator.

Chris Melikyan,
Resident,

--

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Re: Alexandria Park Project - Laurel Grove (NoHo West)

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Jill Marx

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:43 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 3:17 PM Jill Marx < > wrote:
Dear legislative friends

We would like your attention to the following.

In regards to the Alexandria Park proposed Homeless Pallet project we would like for your to re-acknowledge our requests below.

We are a community in transition and have lived with horrible blight for the past 24 years. We need our elected constituents to pay attention to our requests. We are not against doing our fair share as a community to help the homeless. It is the scope of this project that is SO out of proportion with our responsibility compared to other more affluent communities nearby. We have suffered enough with crime, prostitution, drug abuse (you name it, it's here and has been for years). We are in favor of the premise of fixing homelessness, but not in favor of the overburden our community must bear.

My husband and I have lived here for nearly 40 years and raised our daughter here. We take pride in our home and we know many of our neighbors on our street. We would like to continue living here, but we don't feel like the neighborhood is going in a direction that offers us safety anymore. We had some hope that the NoHo West project would improve things, but now we know nothing will be done with the derelict Valley Plaza real estate across from NoHo West due to the 200 occupant 3 year commitment to the Alexandria Park project. As a result of safety concerns, my husband and I are seriously considering leaving our beloved home and community because **we don't believe the project (as currently imaged) will improve the homeless situation in our area** and has the potential to aggravate the many socio-economic problems that persist here.

Please consider our plea for the following changes to the project.

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway for the health of the homeless.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per selected location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Look for locations other than park land in a City that is lacking in green space. Consider city owned properties instead.
- Instead of the proposed tiny houses solution, provide actual housing in apartments with built in plumbing and support systems to offset further complications for the elderly from Covid13. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants (and impacted communities of tiny housing) would be better served in an apartment. Another idea would be to convert existing derelict malls and other abandoned properties with installed plumbing, heating and other amenities that could be adapted for the homeless.

Thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

Attached is a picture of our treasured home. Our diverse community means a lot to us. **Please help us equalize the burden of homelessness across all sectors of the region.**

Best,

Jill Marx



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Re: Homeless in NoHo

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:44 AM

To:

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 7:44 PM jjwilkinsdp < > wrote:

I appreciate what this office is trying to do regarding the homeless situation in the No Ho area.... however you are going about it all wrong.... and I might add.... to not run your plans by our community.... should be shameful to you!!! This monkey business you're trying to pull is not cool.

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Thank You.

Jeffrey Wilkins

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Re: Homeless Pallet Shelter - DEEP CONCERN...

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Moises Arroyo

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:45 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 9:16 PM Moises Arroyo > wrote:
Councilmember Krekorian & Everyone Who Supports this Project,

Why don't you bring this project closer to your homes?
Why are you not looking for alternative options.
Rent actual apartment for people.
Even warehouses in the Lakerhim/Sherman Way areas.
This plan wastes our money and does not work.
Go see how the venice project is working

We just got the NohoWest development and you want to bring more problems to our neighbors.
Night after night my camera catches people just walking in our neighborhood pulling on car door handles.

Thanks,

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Moises Arroyo, MBA

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Re: Valley Plaza Shelter Project

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Gene Rubin

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:46 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 9:27 PM Gene Rubin < > wrote:

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

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Re: Pallet Housing Project proposed for Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park,

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Patricia Dexter

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:46 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 10:43 PM Patricia Dexter

> wrote:

Dear Mayor Garcetti,

This is my second letter regarding Councilmember Kerkorian's blatant disregard for the well being of the homeless in our community, the outright lying and deceit in promising to "*strive to work with the community and inform the community of all matters*" of importance as is laid out in the "Bridge Home" guidelines, ignoring all court mandated "*ORDERS that these individuals be humanely relocated away from such areas (freeways)*" and be housed in a way that socially distances for Covid-19 safety.

I need not go into the details once again on these matters including the availability of at least ten other more appropriate city properties, but focus on member Kerkorian's deception this past week of dishonestly pushing through programs while claiming to have done all that was required. Kerkorian brought these plans before the Council on 9/9/20 without ever making any effort to seek community input. The meeting now scheduled a mere 5 days later for TODAY on a Monday night with the NoHo Neighborhood Council is laughable.

In short since Kerkorian's misdeeds pile up faster than any community or advocacy for the homeless at risk can keep up with, here are the community's main concerns:

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Sincerely,
Patricia Dexter

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



Re: NoHo NC Zoom Meeting tonight, 9/14/20, 7pm re: Homeless Pallet Shelters

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:48 AM

To: I

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 8:28 AM <[redacted]> wrote:

I am a home owner very near this proposed project and am EMPHATICALLY OPPOSED, SHOCKED, and ANGRY to learn of this proposed pallet shelter project so close to the existing residents and homeowners. While the need is great to effectively deal with the homeless situation in this city, such a project lacks thought and consideration and NEGATIVELY EFFECTS all the TAX PAYING and VOTING CITIZENS in this already congested area as it will VASTLY NEGATIVELY impact the health and safety of all who currently live here! It is still of great concern that this small area is soon to be unimaginably congested as it is. I AM ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED to this project and in agreement that the expenditure can best be served to offer an alternative in the ways described by our Homeowners' Assn!!! ENOUGH IS ENOUGH!
Laurie Basile

- councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org
- mayor.garcetti@lacity.org
- rap.commissioners@lacity.org
- michael.a.shull@lacity.org
- karo.torossian@lacity.org
- clerk.homelessnessandpovertycommittee@lacity.org
- gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org
- councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org
- david.ryu@lacity.org
- paul.koretz@lacity.org
- councilmember.martinez@lacity.org
- councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org
- councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org
- councilmember.price@lacity.org
- councilmember.wesson@lacity.org
- councilmember.bonin@lacity.org
- councilmember.lee@lacity.org
- councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org

-----Original Message-----

From: D C

>

To: Diann Corral <

Sent: Mon, Sep 14, 2020 7:27 am

Subject: NoHo NC Zoom Meeting tonight, 9/14/20, 7pm re: Homeless Pallet Shelters

Neighbors,

Attached is the agenda for tonight's NoHo Neighborhood Council meeting where Councilmember Paul Krekorian's Chief of Staff Karo Torrossian is asking for support of the Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park Homeless Pallet Project. It is a zoom meeting, click on the link below to obtain the zoom link and/or the number to call in.

TITLE: NoHo NC Board Meeting Agenda

DATE: 09/14/2020

TIME: 07:00 PM

To view the document online please visit: http://ens.lacity.org/ensnc/midtownnholly/ensncmidtownnholly816143594_09142020.pdf

If you are able to zoom in to the meeting above please ask the NoHo NC Board the following;

- Request that they not support the build at the Alexandria Park location, but rather request the City to pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway and adheres to Judge Carter's request to move homeless away from the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

If you did not receive our email from yesterday, below is the email which includes our recent 9/13/20 letter to Councilmember Krekorian.

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

From: **D C** <

Date: Sun, Sep 13, 2020 at 1:45 PM

Subject: Update on Homeless Pallet Shelter project

To: Diann Corral

>

Neighbors,

Update on Councilmember Krekorian's Homeless Pallet Shelter project at Valley Plaza (Alexandria Park)

Our community has sent over 100 email/letters to Councilmember Krekorian since he failed to notify us of the proposed project and 8/6/20 Recreation and Parks (RAP) Commission meeting. Councilmember Krekorian managed to send out a letter on 8/26/20 responding to our 8/18/20 LGNA letter and your many emails, but intentionally did not notify us of the 9/9/20 City Council hearing. Now we just found out that his Chief of Staff Karo Torrossian is conveniently requesting support for the Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park Pallet Housing Project from the NoHo West Neighborhood Council after the City hearings are said and done (I will provide a link to that meeting via separate email with information on how to log in). Below is our 9/13/20 letter responding to Krekorian.

Councilmember Krekorian,

While we thank you for your August 26, 2020, letter regarding the Pallet Housing Project proposed for Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park, we do not find that it adequately addresses the many concerns that the community has voiced concerning the impact it promises to have on the surrounding residents and businesses. We have previously been told by your office that you "*strive to work with the community and inform the community of all matters*" of importance. This hasn't been the case here and we are sorely disappointed that this matter was dropped on us without due notification and consultation. We find it appalling that your office having received over 100 emails/letters concerning this project failed to notify our Laurel Grove community of the recent September 9, 2020 City Council hearing regarding the proposed Pallet Shelter at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park. Why wasn't community input sought by your office prior to the August 6, 2020 Recreation and Parks (RAP) Commission meeting and the September 9, 2020 Los Angeles City Council hearing? How convenient for your Chief of Staff Karo Torrossian to arrange a presentation before our local Neighborhood Council tomorrow, September 14, 2020 after approval was already obtained by RAP and funding was approved by the City Council. Your office intentionally did not advise our community of the August and September meetings yet you claim community involvement. Requesting support after the hearings, when the hearings are said and done shows your lack of seeking honest community input.

We are perplexed by your letter's assertion that "*The proposed Tiny Home village also responds appropriately to the burdens and limitations applied to the city by federal courts.*" Judge Carter's May 15, 2020, order stipulates

that “to protect the homeless individuals camping near freeway overpasses, underpasses, and ramps—and the general public—the Court hereby ORDERS that these individuals be humanely relocated away from such areas.” The planned Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park location is a mere 130 feet from the 170 freeway and along the one stretch of the 170 freeway that does not have a soundwall and is not funded for one. Furthermore, the judge asserted: “All shelters and alternative housing options must be configured with adequate physical space to allow the sheltered individuals to maintain the minimum recommended social distance of six feet to mitigate the transmission of SARS-CoV-2.” With pallet houses measuring 8 feet by 8 feet, recommended COVID-19 social distancing would be impossible between housemates and near equally difficult when 200 or more individuals are fenced into a 75,000 square foot area. The Alexandria Park Pallet Housing Project is whistling by the graveyard by ignoring what the federal court order specifically calls for.

The City is burning through millions of dollars without adhering to the concerns put forward by Judge Carter. The project as it is proposed adjacent to the freeway will be dangerous for its inhabitants. The Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park and Chandler Pallet Housing Projects, both within your district, have a budget of \$13 million. These projects are designed to serve 270 inhabitants over a 3-year period. This breaks down to \$1,337.45 per person, per month. At Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park where 95 of the 8’x8’ shelters are double beds and 10 are single beds it breaks down to \$2,674.90 per month, per 8’x8’ double bed pallet shelter. The inhabitants will be required to share bathrooms, showers and eating space with 200 inhabitants. This will increase the likelihood of exposing the inhabitants to COVID-19. Based on the cost per person it makes more sense to simply provide housing vouchers for the inhabitants where they would not have to share bathrooms and eating space. Someone is making money off of this when the City is building basically storage sheds for the homeless at over \$2,600 per month, do they not deserve an apartment at that rate? At its current cost for the same or less you could use the funds to put them in real housing. Why put them in storage sheds at a park when you can put them in a real home with their own kitchen and bathroom. At those prices you could house the homeless in apartment buildings. In an attempt to say that you solved the problem you are simply kicking the can down the road for someone else to deal with 3 years from now. You have funding now, and the solution is not to move the homeless from tents to 8’x8’ storage sheds when you could provide actual housing in apartments.

Stretched along our neighborhood sidewalks on Laurel Canyon, Oxnard, Victory and Lankershim we daily witness the many faces of the homeless crisis. Your letter claims that when the Pallet Housing Projects are complete “we will have built enough capacity in my district to shelter every person currently living unsheltered in the district.” If the plan comes to fruition, with the planned 200 inhabitants at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park our neighborhood will not only house the largest pallet shelter in the state of California but will also be hosting additional homeless off-loaded from other locations in your district. A more equitable solution is called for. Indeed, the great bulk of all homeless-sheltering initiatives planned or in place in your district are east of the 170 freeway.

In addition, we are at a loss to understand your assertion that the Pallet Housing Project “will also leave the rest of the park better than it is now.” There is nothing in the project proposal that improves the small portion of Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park that would remain should the project come to be. In fact, that remaining part would see a road constructed right through the middle of it from Laurel Canyon resulting in less grass and the removal of existing trees. Also, troubling is your assertion that “The surrounding neighborhoods will be provided enhanced sanitation services, with regularly scheduled comprehensive cleanings of public areas, and enhanced police patrol.” If this is contemplated as necessary, it confirms our own fear that the health and safety of the surrounding neighborhoods will suffer with completion of this project.

The Pallet Housing Project at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park is the wrong size and at the wrong place. The City suffers from a lack of neighborhood parks. Please support park improvement and not their diminution. Move this project to a location that would adhere to Judge Carter’s recommendation of not placing the homeless near the freeway and protecting them from COVID-19, or preferably use the funding to relocate the homeless into dignified actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems.

Please call Councilmember Krekorian's office at 818-755-7676 and send an email to those listed below and ask them to:

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With

double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org
mayor.garcetti@lacity.org
rap.commissioners@lacity.org
michael.a.shull@lacity.org
karo.torossian@lacity.org
clerk.homelessnessandpovertycommittee@lacity.org
gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org
councilmember.blumenfeld@lacity.org
david.ryu@lacity.org
paul.koretz@lacity.org
councilmember.martinez@lacity.org
councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org
councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org
councilmember.price@lacity.org
councilmember.wesson@lacity.org
councilmember.bonin@lacity.org
councilmember.lee@lacity.org
councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org

Also copy;

For more information, click on the link below for a copy of the 8/6/20 RAP Commission report.

<https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2020/aug06/20-161.pdf>

Attached is our 9/13/20 and 8/18/20 letters to Councilmember Krekorian and his 8/26/20 letter which does not address any of the concerns laid before him.

Thanks,
Diann
Diann Corral, President
Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association





Re: Alexandria Pallet Housing

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Scott Rosenthal

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:49 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 8:38 AM Scott Rosenthal

wrote:

To whom it may concern,

I am a Valley Glen resident and realtor. My fiancé and I take a lot of pride in where we live and are concerned about the approved Pallet Housing Project. We moved to Valley Glen 2 years ago and gutted a 1949 home and invested over \$250k in doing so in lieu of all the amazing developments and opportunities the city and surrounding neighborhoods had. Needless to say, we were scared to hear the approval of this project in Alexandria Park not only financially but for the neighborhoods safety.

We are all incredibly empathetic to the homeless situation in Los Angeles. It is an obvious problem not only here but in the entire city. I am not sure what the answer is BUT I do know that the answer does not lie in a beautiful park of a gentrifying neighborhood less than 200 yards from a new development project and school.

We kindly ask the following:

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Scott A Rosenthal | Realtor®
Nourmand & Associates Realtors
Brentwood | Beverly Hills | Hollywood
Three Offices, One Respected Name

Make sure to watch us renovate our  on HGTV!

*A referral from a friend is the best compliment I can receive.

The contents of this message is confidential and may be privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please be advised that any review, dissemination, copying, distribution or other use of the contents of this message is strictly prohibited.

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



Re: Homeless Pallet Shelter project at Valley Plaza (Alexandria Park)

1 message

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

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:54 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 10:21 AM

> wrote:

Councilmember Krekorian:

I do not find that it adequately addresses the many concerns that the community has voiced concerning the impact it promises to have on the surrounding residents and businesses.

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Gerald J. Rodriguez

--

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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GERALD J. RODRIGUEZ

Homeless Pallet Shelter project at Valley Plaza (Alexandria Park)

Councilmember Krekorian:

I do not find that it adequately addresses the many concerns that the community has voiced concerning the impact it promises to have on the surrounding residents and businesses.

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Gerald J. Rodriguez
Homeowner



Re: Homeless Pallet Shelter Program

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Stephen Rinka

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:56 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 10:59 AM Stephen Rinka <

wrote:

Dear all,

I am disgusted at how our City leaders are engaging in clandestine meetings in order to push this disastrous Homeless Pallet project along Fwy 170 in the Valley Plaza Park.

First, this project is clearly being pushed through in order to line the pockets of your campaign donors. You want to build, for all intents and purposes, a Favela, in a park, that will cost close to \$1,400.00 a month per person to maintain and yet these occupants will still have to share bathrooms, shower areas and eating facilities. This is outrageous. The City could rent apartments on behalf of these individuals for less money and they would have their own bathrooms and kitchens. This is a deal that only a politician and his or her cronies would love.

This project is supposedly scheduled to last only three years, but we all know that this will not happen. This will be a permanent habitat that will become riddled with drug abuse, prostitution and violence in a park where families want to take their children. This is not the place for this type of project.

In addition, this program clearly violates Judge Carter's order by having this homeless camp next to the 170 freeway. That alone should be reason to abandon this project.

Lastly, due to the large number of habitants scheduled to live in this homeless encampment and the space dedicated to this encampment, each housing unit cannot be far enough apart in order to maintain the 6 feet of separation recommended to slow the spread of Covid.

Given these factors, this project should not go forward as proposed. Instead, the government should place these individuals in apartments because it would be more economical and safer for everyone. If this idea is rejected, then this project should be placed at a location that is not in a park or next to a freeway. Furthermore, the number of occupants per encampment must be reduced to 10-20 units to reduce the risk of Covid spreading.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at this email address.

Regards,
Stephen M. Rinka

--



A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

STEPHEN M. RINKA

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--

City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
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Mail Stop: 625/15
Website: www.laparks.org



Re: Concern over the suggested pallet shelter at Alexandria Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: C S

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:56 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 12:18 PM C S < > wrote:

Dear Council Member Paul Krekorian,

I am a concerned resident near Noho West and recently learned of the proposed pallet shelter at Alexandria Park.

I do not believe that is a proper location to place people to live. And more importantly, 200 homeless individuals is too great a number to place there all together. Homeless individuals who are are dealing with mental health, drug and alcohol addiction problems who are not getting adequate help in that number grouped together, is a great danger to themselves and for the surrounding neighbors who live in this area.

Just recently there was an incident where a man was walking near Noho West on Erwin street at 11:30pm and was attacked from behind. He was not robbed. It was just a random attack. When the police were called they surmised that it was a homeless person, based on the description of the assailant who was screaming gibberish, and randomly attacking the victim. Placing 200 individuals who are in desperate need of mental health and substance abuse care all together in a small park will create more problems for this community. Especially during this Covid-19 pandemic, it's not wise to place that many people together. Maybe 10 is OK, but not 200! Those homeless people and the residents of this community deserve better.

The Laurel Grove Neighborhood association and residents ask for the following:

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
-Look into placing a maximum of 10 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during Covid-19.
-Not give up park land in a city that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other city-owned properties.
-Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1.337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount

per 8X8 double bed pallet structure is \$2674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Please reconsider this dangerous idea and give our suggestions consideration. Thank you so much for your time and attention.

Regards,

-C Sides
Noho West

--
City of Los Angeles
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

Telephone: (213) 202-2640
Fax: (213) 202-2610
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Re: Fw: Terminate plans for Alexandria Park/Homeless Shelter

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Zohrab Izakelian

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 11:58 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 12:25 PM Zohrab Izakelian

> wrote:

Dear Councilmember Krekorian,

My name is Zohrab Izakelian and I am a resident of the Laurel Grove Neighborhood in North Hollywood in which you represent. I am writing to voice my concerns with the 96 Homeless Pallet Shelters you have proposed to be built at Alexandria Park (Valley Plaza) in my home town of North Hollywood. I strongly urge you to terminate this plan you have created as it does not have the interests of myself and the residents you represent in the city of North Hollywood's best interests in mind.

I have lived in North Hollywood for over 30 years and I have watched my city diminish as a result the neglect from LA County to enforce minor laws. These laws are in place to prevent the litter, loitering, sleeping, and camping on public property. Since LA County will not enforce these laws the city of North Hollywood along with other cities have become disgustingly covered with litter and a derelict population that are now the reason that I am not able to enjoy my city.

The addition of NoHo West in 2020 brought new hope of commerce and value to the area. The value of all property in North Hollywood rose in value with this new addition. To protect that investment, I recommend enforcing the minor laws that are in place to keep our city clean and protect the taxpayers and the voters that you were elected to represent. The 96 pallet homes bring no value to the city and they hurt the value of every property in the city.

The removal of a city part and the addition of 96 pallet homes is not a solution to help the people of North Hollywood that you represent. I want to be able to walk to that park and play with my children and grandchildren. I do not want the few green parks removed. I want the government to protect my investment in the city. I do not want my tax dollars spent to reward the illegal behavior that is ruining the city and attract a further derelict population.

I agree that there is a problem with homeless people living in North Hollywood. I do not agree that sacrificing a park and spending tax dollars to build 96 pallet homes near my neighborhood and the new development of NoHo West is the solution.

I implore you to listen to the people you were elected to represent in North Hollywood and terminate this plan.

Best Regards,

Zohrab Izakelian

--
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Website: www.laparks.org



Re: Alexandria Park: It's Right Next To The Freeway Move That Pallet Shelter Some Place Else!

1 message

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

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 12:03 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 2:25 PM > wrote:
Council Krekorian and Everyone Else Addressed in this E Mail-

Alexandria Park is right next to the freeway, therefore your reasons to move the homeless away from the freeway to that location are not viable. Please choose another of the City Owned Properties suggested to you by Merlone Geier and others, ask Caro he has the list.

There has been no out reach or information imparted to the surrounding community as you have claimed to have done.
For this you need to be held accountable or be recalled.

You are waisting taxpayers money and putting what amounts to a bandaid on an open heart surgery. This patient is going to bleed out.

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

Amy

Amy Ryder

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
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Website: www.laparks.org



Re: Fw: Update on Homeless Pallet Shelter project

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Larry Yaffe

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 12:04 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 2:27 PM Larry Yaffe

> wrote:

This is pretty egregious, unsafe, underhanded, and a misuse of taxpayer dollars.

I don't trust this this will just 'end' after three years either. North Hollywood will be the new homeless dumping ground.

When is the next City Council Election? I'm voting for Diann.

We oppose the building of this shelter.

Larry, Rebecca, Anna (9), and Evan(5) Yaffe

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

From: D C <

To: Diann Corral <

>

Sent: Sunday, September 13, 2020, 01:46:22 PM PDT

Subject: Update on Homeless Pallet Shelter project

Neighbors,

Update on Councilmember Krekorian's Homeless Pallet Shelter project at Valley Plaza (Alexandria Park)

Our community has sent over 100 email/letters to Councilmember Krekorian since he failed to notify us of the proposed project and 8/6/20 Recreation and Parks (RAP) Commission meeting. Councilmember Krekorian managed to send out a letter on 8/26/20 responding to our 8/18/20 LGNA letter and your many emails, but intentionally did not notify us of the 9/9/20 City Council hearing. Now we just found out that his Chief of Staff Karo Torossian is conveniently requesting support for the Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park Pallet Housing Project from the NoHo West Neighborhood Council after the City hearings are said and done (I will provide a link to that meeting via separate email with information on how to log in). Below is our 9/13/20 letter responding to Krekorian.

Councilmember Krekorian,

While we thank you for your August 26, 2020, letter regarding the Pallet Housing Project proposed for Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park, we do not find that it adequately addresses the many concerns that the community has voiced concerning the impact it promises to have on the surrounding residents and businesses. We have previously been told by your office that you "*strive to work with the community and inform the community of all matters*" of importance. This hasn't been the case here and we are sorely disappointed that this matter was dropped on us without due notification and consultation. We find it appalling that your office having received over 100 emails/letters concerning this project failed to notify our Laurel Grove community of the recent September 9, 2020 City Council hearing regarding the proposed Pallet Shelter at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park. Why wasn't community input sought by your office prior to the August 6, 2020 Recreation and Parks (RAP) Commission meeting and the September 9, 2020 Los Angeles City Council hearing? How convenient for your Chief of Staff Karo Torossian to arrange a presentation before our local Neighborhood Council tomorrow, September 14, 2020 after approval was already obtained by RAP and funding was approved by the City Council. Your office intentionally did not advise our community of the August and September meetings yet you claim

community involvement. Requesting support after the hearings, when the hearings are said and done shows your lack of seeking honest community input.

We are perplexed by your letter's assertion that *"The proposed Tiny Home village also responds appropriately to the burdens and limitations applied to the city by federal courts."* Judge Carter's May 15, 2020, order stipulates that *"to protect the homeless individuals camping near freeway overpasses, underpasses, and ramps—and the general public—the Court hereby ORDERS that these individuals be humanely relocated away from such areas."* The planned Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park location is a mere 130 feet from the 170 freeway and along the one stretch of the 170 freeway that does not have a soundwall and is not funded for one. Furthermore, the judge asserted: *"All shelters and alternative housing options must be configured with adequate physical space to allow the sheltered individuals to maintain the minimum recommended social distance of six feet to mitigate the transmission of SARS-CoV-2."* With pallet houses measuring 8 feet by 8 feet, recommended COVID-19 social distancing would be impossible between housemates and near equally difficult when 200 or more individuals are fenced into a 75,000 square foot area. The Alexandria Park Pallet Housing Project is whistling by the graveyard by ignoring what the federal court order specifically calls for.

The City is burning through millions of dollars without adhering to the concerns put forward by Judge Carter. The project as it is proposed adjacent to the freeway will be dangerous for its inhabitants. The Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park and Chandler Pallet Housing Projects, both within your district, have a budget of \$13 million. These projects are designed to serve 270 inhabitants over a 3-year period. This breaks down to \$1,337.45 per person, per month. At Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park where 95 of the 8'x8' shelters are double beds and 10 are single beds it breaks down to \$2,674.90 per month, per 8'x8' double bed pallet shelter. The inhabitants will be required to share bathrooms, showers and eating space with 200 inhabitants. This will increase the likelihood of exposing the inhabitants to COVID-19. Based on the cost per person it makes more sense to simply provide housing vouchers for the inhabitants where they would not have to share bathrooms and eating space. Someone is making money off of this when the City is building basically storage sheds for the homeless at over \$2,600 per month, do they not deserve an apartment at that rate? At its current cost for the same or less you could use the funds to put them in real housing. Why put them in storage sheds at a park when you can put them in a real home with their own kitchen and bathroom. At those prices you could house the homeless in apartment buildings. In an attempt to say that you solved the problem you are simply kicking the can down the road for someone else to deal with 3 years from now. You have funding now, and the solution is not to move the homeless from tents to 8'x8' storage sheds when you could provide actual housing in apartments.

Stretched along our neighborhood sidewalks on Laurel Canyon, Oxnard, Victory and Lankershim we daily witness the many faces of the homeless crisis. Your letter claims that when the Pallet Housing Projects are complete *"we will have built enough capacity in my district to shelter every person currently living unsheltered in the district."* If the plan comes to fruition, with the planned 200 inhabitants at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park our neighborhood will not only house the largest pallet shelter in the state of California but will also be hosting additional homeless off-loaded from other locations in your district. A more equitable solution is called for. Indeed, the great bulk of all homeless-sheltering initiatives planned or in place in your district are east of the 170 freeway.

In addition, we are at a loss to understand your assertion that the Pallet Housing Project *"will also leave the rest of the park better than it is now."* There is nothing in the project proposal that improves the small portion of Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park that would remain should the project come to be. In fact, that remaining part would see a road constructed right through the middle of it from Laurel Canyon resulting in less grass and the removal of existing trees. Also, troubling is your assertion that *"The surrounding neighborhoods will be provided enhanced sanitation services, with regularly scheduled comprehensive cleanings of public areas, and enhanced police patrol."* If this is contemplated as necessary, it confirms our own fear that the health and safety of the surrounding neighborhoods will suffer with completion of this project.

The Pallet Housing Project at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park is the wrong size and at the wrong place. The City suffers from a lack of neighborhood parks. Please support park improvement and not their diminution. Move this project to a location that would adhere to Judge Carter's recommendation of not placing the homeless near the freeway and protecting them from COVID-19, or preferably use the funding to relocate the homeless into dignified actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems.

Please call Councilmember Krekorian's office at 818-755-7676 and send an email to those listed below and ask them to:

- Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.
- Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.
- Not give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.
- Or preferably provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.

councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org
mayor.garcetti@lacity.org
rap.commissioners@lacity.org

michael.a.shull@lacity.org
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councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org
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councilmember.martinez@lacity.org
councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org
councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org
councilmember.price@lacity.org
councilmember.wesson@lacity.org
councilmember.bonin@lacity.org
councilmember.lee@lacity.org
councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org

Also copy;

For more information, click on the link below for a copy of the 8/6/20 RAP Commission report.

<https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2020/aug06/20-161.pdf>

Attached is our 9/13/20 and 8/18/20 letters to Councilmember Krekorian and his 8/26/20 letter which does not address any of the concerns laid before him.

Thanks,
Diann

*Diann Corral, President
Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association*



Valley Plaza Pallet Shelter Project Rendering Road through Middle of Park.jpg

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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



Valley Plaza Pallet Shelter Project Rendering Road through Middle of Park.jpg
4856K

Laurel Grove

Neighborhood Association

Officers:

Diann Corral, President
Jose Vargas, Vice President
Terri Foster, Treasurer
Suzanne Stinson, Secretary

Board Members:

Ken Bryant
Valere Diamond
Walter Hall
Jeff Hartman
Judy Humphreys
Joanne Jones
Laura Marquez
Barbe Nance

Liz Petrathelis
Amy Ryder
Arline Simon

September 13, 2020

Councilmember Krekorian
200 N. Spring Street, Room 435
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Valley Plaza Park – Proposed CD2 Pallet Housing Project

Councilmember Krekorian,

While we thank you for your August 26, 2020, letter regarding the Pallet Housing Project proposed for Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park, we do not find that it adequately addresses the many concerns that the community has voiced concerning the impact it promises to have on the surrounding residents and businesses. We have previously been told by your office that you “*strive to work with the community and inform the community of all matters*” of importance. This hasn’t been the case here and we are sorely disappointed that this matter was dropped on us without due notification and consultation. We find it appalling that your office having received over 100 emails/letters concerning this project failed to notify our Laurel Grove community of the recent September 9, 2020 City Council hearing regarding the proposed Pallet Shelter at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park. Why wasn’t community input sought by your office prior to the August 6, 2020 Recreation and Parks (RAP) Commission meeting and the September 9, 2020 Los Angeles City Council hearing? How convenient for your Chief of Staff Karo Torossian to arrange a presentation before our local Neighborhood Council tomorrow, September 14, 2020 after approval was already obtained by RAP and funding was approved by the City Council. Your office intentionally did not advise our community of the August and September meetings yet you claim community involvement. Requesting support after the hearings, when the hearings are said and done shows your lack of seeking honest community input.

We are perplexed by your letter’s assertion that “*The proposed Tiny Home village also responds appropriately to the burdens and limitations applied to the city by federal courts.*” Judge Carter’s May 15, 2020, order stipulates that “*to protect the homeless individuals camping near freeway overpasses, underpasses, and ramps—and the general public—the Court hereby ORDERS that these individuals be humanely relocated away from such areas.*” The planned Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park

location is a mere 130 feet from the 170 freeway and along the one stretch of the 170 freeway that does not have a soundwall and is not funded for one. Furthermore, the judge asserted: *“All shelters and alternative housing options must be configured with adequate physical space to allow the sheltered individuals to maintain the minimum recommended social distance of six feet to mitigate the transmission of SARS-CoV-2.”* With pallet houses measuring 8 feet by 8 feet, recommended COVID-19 social distancing would be impossible between housemates and near equally difficult when 200 or more individuals are fenced into a 75,000 square foot area. The Alexandria Park Pallet Housing Project is whistling by the graveyard by ignoring what the federal court order specifically calls for.

The City is burning through millions of dollars without adhering to the concerns put forward by Judge Carter. The project as it is proposed adjacent to the freeway will be dangerous for its inhabitants. The Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park and Chandler Pallet Housing Projects, both within your district, have a budget of \$13 million. These projects are designed to serve 270 inhabitants over a 3-year period. This breaks down to \$1,337.45 per person, per month. At Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park where 95 of the 8’x8’ shelters are double beds and 10 are single beds it breaks down to \$2,674.90 per month, per 8’x8’ double bed pallet shelter. The inhabitants will be required to share bathrooms, showers and eating space with 200 inhabitants. This will increase the likelihood of exposing the inhabitants to COVID-19. Based on the cost per person it makes more sense to simply provide housing vouchers for the inhabitants where they would not have to share bathrooms and eating space. Someone is making money off of this when the City is building basically storage sheds for the homeless at over \$2,600 per month, do they not deserve an apartment at that rate? At its current cost for the same or less you could use the funds to put them in real housing. Why put them in storage sheds at a park when you can put them in a real home with their own kitchen and bathroom. At those prices you could house the homeless in apartment buildings. In an attempt to say that you solved the problem you are simply kicking the can down the road for someone else to deal with 3 years from now. You have funding now, and the solution is not to move the homeless from tents to 8’x8’ storage sheds when you could provide actual housing in apartments.

Stretched along our neighborhood sidewalks on Laurel Canyon, Oxnard, Victory and Lankershim we daily witness the many faces of the homeless crisis. Your letter claims that when the Pallet Housing Projects are complete *“we will have built enough capacity in my district to shelter every person currently living unsheltered in the district.”* If the plan comes to fruition, with the planned 200 inhabitants at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park our neighborhood will not only house the largest pallet shelter in the state of California but will also be hosting additional homeless off-loaded from other locations in your district. A more equitable solution is called for. Indeed, the great bulk of all homeless-sheltering initiatives planned or in place in your district are east of the 170 freeway.

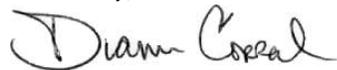
In addition, we are at a loss to understand your assertion that the Pallet Housing Project *“will also leave the rest of the park better than it is now.”* There is nothing in the project proposal that improves the small portion of Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park that would remain should the project come to be. In fact, that remaining part would see a road constructed right through the middle of it from Laurel Canyon resulting in less grass and the removal of existing trees. Also, troubling is your

Re: Valley Plaza Park – Proposed CD2 Pallet Housing Project
September 13, 2020
Page 3 of 3

assertion that *“The surrounding neighborhoods will be provided enhanced sanitation services, with regularly scheduled comprehensive cleanings of public areas, and enhanced police patrol.”* If this is contemplated as necessary, it confirms our own fear that the health and safety of the surrounding neighborhoods will suffer with completion of this project.

The Pallet Housing Project at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park is the wrong size and at the wrong place. The City suffers from a lack of neighborhood parks. Please support park improvement and not their diminution. Move this project to a location that would adhere to Judge Carter’s recommendation of not placing the homeless near the freeway and protecting them from COVID-19, or preferably use the funding to relocate the homeless into dignified actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diann Corral".

Diann Corral
President

Laurel Grove

Neighborhood Association

Officers:

Diann Corral, President
Jose Vargas, Vice President
Terri Foster, Treasurer
Suzanne Stinson, Secretary

Board Members:

Ken Bryant	Judy Humphreys	Liz Petrathelis
Valere Diamond	Joanne Jones	Amy Ryder
Walter Hall	Laura Marquez	Arline Simon
Jeff Hartman	Barbe Nance	

August 18, 2020

Councilmember Krekorian
200 N. Spring Street, Room 435
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Valley Plaza Park – Proposed CD2 Pallet Housing Project

Councilmember Krekorian,

Our Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association has been around for 21 years working closely with you and your Chief of Staff, Karo Torossian during your tenure both as Councilmember for District 2 for the past decade and for the 4 years previous when you served as our 43rd District Assemblyman. Because we have worked so closely with you over your 14-year representation of our neighborhood we find it alarming and discouraging that you would fast track the 96 Homeless Pallet Shelter Project at Valley Plaza with no notification to the Laurel Grove community. To this date, you and your staff have failed to reach out to our community.

It was by chance that we learned last week from a neighbor who regularly attends the Recreation and Parks (RAP) Commission meetings and by a local realtor that this project had been presented before the RAP Commission on August 6, 2020. We were shocked and dumbfounded to hear that you told the RAP Commission that you had community support when in fact you had not reached out to our community at all, nor had you informed the local businesses and this occurring when brick-and-mortar retail is in intensive care. The NoHo West developers were not informed until our neighborhood association finally was able to get in contact with them this past week.

We do not know how you can purport to represent this community when you have not consulted or advised us of this significant undertaking and instead approved plans behind closed doors. We are deeply disappointed by your silence and failure to consult and work with the community.

You claimed in the RAP Commission report that the park “has not been used much by the general public due to high incidences of crime.” We ask whose fault is that? It was the City's Community Redevelopment Agency which forced the businesses at Valley Plaza to close. You have been our Councilmember for the past decade representing this area and you have not sponsored any park improvements to Valley Plaza

Re: Valley Plaza Park – Proposed CD2 Pallet Housing Project

August 18, 2020

Page 2 of 2

(Alexandria) Park. Adding additional lighting, installing playground equipment, creating a walking path and exercise stations would make it a more usable park for the community. Instead, you have allowed loitering, trash and graffiti to take over Valley Plaza (Alexandria) park making it an eyesore in the East Valley and even a movie set for the movie *Straight Outta Compton*.

The report from Recreation & Parks Commission also states that the reasoning that an Environmental Review is not needed is because the City and County of Los Angeles need to 1) move the homeless away from the freeways as they found that living near freeways can "shorten a homeless person's life expectancy by decades." and 2) they want to provide housing for homeless who are 65 years of age or otherwise vulnerable to COVID-19. The proposed pallet shelter location does not mitigate either of the concerns for building it in the first place. Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park is adjacent to the 170 freeway, a mere 130 feet away. Also, during a time of mandated social distancing by Governor Newsom and Mayor Garcetti, cramming 175 people into a fenced-in area where residents will be sharing the same showers, bathrooms and eating areas borders on criminal negligence and endangers the lives of the very same individuals that this project proposes to protect.

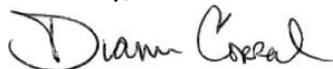
The size of the project increases the likelihood of an outbreak among this vulnerable population. If an outbreak occurs and spreads through the proposed Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park 175-bed facility, which it more than likely will, the City will be held liable for not providing safe housing during the pandemic. The City cannot adequately accommodate such a large gathering of people living in close quarters in a fenced-in area, sharing the same showers, bathrooms and eating space.

We implore your office and the City of Los Angeles to build pallet shelters for the homeless on properties that actually attempt to mitigate the two concerns presented in the RAP Commission's August 6, 2020 report. Selected locations must not be directly adjacent to freeways. The City should build multiple small locations. Limiting the size of the pallet shelter projects to 10-30 units and a maximum of 40 beds per location. This allows for social distancing and reduces the likelihood of a COVID-19 outbreak among the residents.

We all agree that we need to address the homeless crisis in the East Valley. To safely accomplish this task, we must provide safe housing for the homeless that is not adjacent to freeways and that limits the number of residents to a maximum of 40 per location to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. Residents of the East Valley deserve better alternatives that address the homeless crisis in a responsible manner and does not subtract from the precious limited green space that we have.

We request that you take a second look and find a more suitable location for this project that will not endanger the lives of the homeless.

Sincerely,



Diann Corral
President



PAUL KREKORIAN

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCILMEMBER

August 26, 2020

Dear Community Member,

Thank you for contacting my office about the proposed temporary tiny home village in Alexandria Park. I understand you may be concerned about the project details and I want to make sure that you and your neighbors have the most accurate information about the proposed project. I would also like to tell you about how this project aligns with the comprehensive work we have done to respond to the unprecedented crisis of homelessness in our community.

One thing that almost everyone in Los Angeles agrees on is that the current status quo with regard to homelessness is entirely unacceptable. The current inadequate availability of shelter and housing resources and services, and the various court decisions resulting from that inadequacy, have resulted in a horrendous situation for our entire community – both housed and unhoused.

The homelessness crisis has been devastating to our neighborhoods. Many of our sidewalks, underpasses and bridges have become impossible to navigate because of growing encampments. Large areas in our parks and other public spaces are unsanitary because people are living in and around them without restroom facilities or hygiene options. Mounds of personal belongings have become intermingled with piles of trash, garbage and illegally dumped items. Fires in and around encampments have caused great danger and harm. And, many encampments have become places where criminal activity is easily and freely engaged in and concealed.

At the same time, the homelessness crisis is a human tragedy of disastrous proportions. The life expectancy of the unhoused population is almost 20 years lower than that of the general population, and unsheltered people die in our streets every day. The unsheltered are also far more likely to be victims of crime and violence. Most lack access to showers, laundry facilities, storage, and the social services that can help them get out of this homelessness cycle.

This intolerable situation cannot go unchecked any longer. We need to bring order out of chaos. The time for bolder action and more effective solutions is now.

In my district we are taking action and making progress. In recent months, we have opened two bridge housing sites with a combined total of 185 beds, as well as the City's first homeless services outreach and navigation center. These three facilities are already making a significant positive difference in getting our local homeless population off the streets. In addition, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority has rented out hotels under the state's "Project Room

Key” program, including all the rooms at Sportsmen's Lodge in Studio City, as temporary shelter for the most vulnerable unhoused residents in our area during the COVID-19 crisis. These temporary measures are important interim steps to provide shelter and get homeless individuals off the streets while the city is in the process of building 10,000 Permanent Supportive Housing units - funded by Measure HHH - that will come online in the next 3 years. While these extensive efforts mark solid progress, much more still needs to be done. The tiny home village planned for a portion of Alexandria Park is one of three tiny home villages in our community that are in design. The target population for these homes will be unhoused people who are currently living in the area, especially the elderly and participants with pre-existing medical conditions. The facilities are designed to be a temporary solution and the City Charter requires them to be removed no later than three years after completion. Once these facilities are completed, we will have built enough capacity in my district to shelter every person currently living unsheltered in the district.

To help these individuals take the first steps out of homelessness, the Alexandria facility will include 105 individual air-conditioned Tiny Homes, showers, restrooms, and a laundry facility. Services at the site will include three meals per day, social services, counseling, and housing navigators to help people get through the labyrinth of government programs required to gain placement in permanent housing. The goal is to provide the individualized services necessary to help each individual move to stable housing within six months.

I want to highlight several critical factors that earned my support for this project:

- Alexandria Park and the adjacent freeway right of way are already beset with significant encampments of homeless individuals, rendering the park largely unusable by the surrounding neighborhoods; this organized facility will not only provide services to those who are sheltered, it will also leave the rest of the park better than it is now.
- The site will be patrolled by round-the-clock on-site security.
- All residents will be referred by experienced homeless services providers only; no walk-ins will be allowed.
- The surrounding neighborhoods will be provided enhanced sanitation services, with regularly scheduled comprehensive cleanings of public areas, and enhanced police patrol.

The proposed Tiny Home village also responds appropriately to the burdens and limitations applied to the city by federal courts. Taken together, these cases have prevented the city from enforcing ordinances that prohibit camping, “disorderly conduct,” or lodging or sleeping in public. As the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals stated in its decision in *Martin v. Boise*, “[a] state may not criminalize any conduct that is an unavoidable consequence of being homeless.” The impact of this decision has been that the city has been unable to take common sense measures to keep our streets clean until more local housing and shelter options are available.

The proposed tiny home village in Alexandria provides such a temporary shelter option that will make it possible for us to make our neighborhoods more livable for all residents, housed and unhoused.

Much more needs to be done to protect our homeless neighbors from the ravages of living on the streets, particularly those who are older or who have been chronically homeless for an extended period of time. Each person who is living without a permanent home has a story, a history, and reminds us that we live in a society that has failed for too long to care for its most vulnerable people. By making a safe living space available to our homeless neighbors, we make progress towards building a more compassionate Los Angeles that is better for everyone. In doing so, we provide hope and progress for both the housed and the unhoused, rather than more pain and dysfunction from a homelessness crisis that would otherwise seem without end.

I look forward to hearing from you and the community on ways that we can alleviate any concerns that you may still have. The design of the project continues to be refined and adjusted to take into account the legitimate concerns that have been raised with my office. I am confident that this project will be another critically important step forward in improving the conditions in the neighborhood and improving the lives of the unsheltered.

Very truly yours,



PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, Second Council District



Re: Pallet Housing Project Proposed for Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Suzette Sheets

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 1:01 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 14, 2020 at 4:54 PM Suzette Sheets <

> wrote:

Councilmember Krekorian,

In regard to the above mentioned project please review the following points as you go forward:

- **Pick a location that is not adjacent to the freeway.**
- **Look into placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per location. This will require more locations but it will ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19.**
- **Don't give up park land in a City that is lacking in green space, but rather look into the many other City owned properties.**
- **Or provide actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems. With the proposed budget of 13 million dollars for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment situation.**

I appreciate your time to take into consideration the importance of the aforementioned ideas.

Thank you,

Suzette Sheets
Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association



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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



Re: Reject Homeless Pallet Shelters @ Alexandria Park in North Hollywood

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Kevin Jackson

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 1:02 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Tue, Sep 15, 2020 at 8:52 AM Kevin Jackson
Dear City Officials,

wrote:

Good morning. I wanted to follow up on my email addressed to all above to better understand your decision to let down the very communities your were elected to serve. I have spoken with 25 of my neighbors who are unaware of RAP's approval of a pallet-home encampment in Alexandria Park in North Hollywood.

As such, I am formally requesting a copy of any and all communication addressed to the impacted community/businesses and/or minutes from the meeting(s) where the proposal was addressed. In addition, I would like a copy of the proposal to review, as well as a list to alternative sites that were recommended.

It is clear that someone is trying to fast track a half baked idea to address a very serious issue. I am at a loss to understand how the Pallet Housing Project *"will also leave the rest of the park better than it is now."* First, the short term fix would result in the removal of trees as a new road would need to be constructed, additional infrastructure (power, waste removal, sewer), added security and mental health support. Would it not be more cost effective to provide vouchers, section 8 housing or improve existing shelters. If this is contemplated as necessary, it confirms our own fear that the health and safety of the surrounding neighborhoods will suffer with completion of this project... especially at the end of the 3-year period as the inhabitants vacate the "Village."

I look forward to hearing from you and receiving the information requested.

Best,
Kevin

On Sep 12, 2020, at 6:36 PM, Kevin Jackson

wrote:

Dear City Officials:

On behalf of concerned parents and neighbors in North Hollywood, we are asking that Councilman Paul Krekorian, the L.A. Recreation and Park Commissioners and all involved put an immediate halt to establishing Homeless pallet shelters at Alexandria Park – adjacent from the new NoHo West Development. We all agree homelessness is a problem in our community, but this is NOT the solution.

Band-aid policies will only lower property values and prevent a rebounding neighborhood to finally find its footing ... **once a site is constructed it will never be removed!**

“Councilman Paul Krekorian explained that the North Hollywood site has been an “area that has a long history of criminal activity and this project brings much needed activity to this area of the park.” **This is the wrong kind of activity... let’s work with new developers to build new mixed-use developments.**

“The people living in the “town” will receive three meals a day and “it will be a stable, safe environment for those housed there,” Krekorian said. “Obviously, this is only a temporary solution. Hopefully more services will come from the County. Longer-time solutions take time.”” **Hope and prayers are not a plan! We need to seize this opportunity and use federal dollars to fund job-creation programs, affordable housing, and, most importantly, help people pay their rent.**

This plan is fraught with multiple problems. The local neighborhood HAS NOT BEEN CONSULTED DIRECTLY of this new development and the Community Council is meeting to discuss protests. **Our families, which include children, feel anxious and very concerned that our Mayor/City Council is considering allowing this temporary housing for people with a multitude of emotional, psychological, sexual and potentially drug abuse problems into our community.**

I am confident if this were your neighborhood and your family lived here you would not be in a hurry to rubber stamp this project. Please I am asking with great urgency to rethink this plan, allow proper analysis of data from similar proposals and choose another location where the community will not feel so threatened. Thank you.

Additional insight:

- The community was NOT informed of the shelter nor do we support the Pallet project in Alexandria Park in North Hollywood.

- To building a shelter 130 feet away from the 170 freeway causes a health risk to the people living in the shelter.

- Reduce the risk of COVID-19... revise your plan!

Thank you,

Kevin Jackson – 15 year resident

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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



Re: E-Letter regarding the Homeless Pallet Shelter project in North Hollywood

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Valere Diamond

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 1:35 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Tue, Sep 15, 2020 at 1:26 PM Valere Diamond

> wrote:

Hello Councilmember Krekorian,

I live in North Hollywood near Valley Plaza's Alexandria Park. I'm against the current plan for the two proposed Homeless Pallet Shelters in North Hollywood. After speaking with my neighbors, no one was notified of this project until recently and **most of the community does not support it.**

Concerns

1. The polluted air and noise from the 170 Freeway with vehicle carbon emissions along with a nearby sewage / rain water canal is not a healthy environment for the homeless residents. You're hurting the people you say that you want to help.
2. With residents aged 65 and older in the shelters, you're increasing the chance for them to contract COVID-19 and endangering their lives by placing too many people in such a small area.

Suggestions

1. Move the shelters AWAY from the freeway and find other safer locations.
2. Build no more than 30 pallets per location like the existing ones located in the cities of Riverside and Banning.
3. Find OTHER city-owned properties to locate the pallets. An alternate space that can be investigated is a strip of unused land located along the east side of 7200 Tujunga Av. in North Hollywood on the west side of the street.
4. Don't concentrate Alexandria Park with over 200 people in a small space causing a possible COVID-19 outbreak.

I'm confident you'll create a better solution than the existing plan and locate the Homeless Pallet Shelters in places where it's less populated and they can have more open space to live without risking their lives.

Thank you,

Val Diamond

--

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Re: Homeless shelter

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 1:53 PM

To: mario serban

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Wed, Sep 16, 2020 at 11:56 AM mario serban < > wrote:

I would like to portray a scenario for you and please indulge me for a second here.
Imagine it's a raining day and there's a heavy truck on highway 170. Now this truck is either full with milk or fuel.
Now the driver accidentally loose control of the truck. The truck derails over the under 3 foot highway fence (because some of you thought that putting a proper wall there was futile) and it slides downhill towards the existing homeless shelter and entirely collides with the pallets in place. Because of the heaviness of the truck nothing can stop it.
Now the version when the truck is full of milk it would be crating a lot of damage and casualties from the impact.
However if the truck is transporting fuel then it would be a catastrophe!
Please forgive my harsh words but your lack of logic is astonishing to me!
I don't know what moron would take such a dumb decision to put a homeless shelter under a heavy traffic highway.
Not to mention that the number of the pallets that you want to place there is pure madness.
It is truly sad to see that people like you are taking important decision in our city. And we all voted for you. I voted for you!
Well I will definitely vote different next time.
Please carefully consider everything in place here.
Thank you!
Mario Serban

Sent from my iPhone

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Re: Regarding the proposed construction of the massive homeless shelter

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Dave O

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 1:56 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Wed, Sep 16, 2020 at 2:45 PM Dave O > wrote:

Dear Mr. Krekorian and other governing decision makers,

I am writing to you again regarding this issue. The manner in which this has progressed removes the community from the decision making polices of the behemoth that is our LA City and County government.

Firstly I want to say I am NOT a NIMBY. I want to be part of the solution to our homelessness problem.

Regarding the proposed construction of the massive homeless shelter intended to be built in our park and creating a compound next to the freeway is a poor choice for many reasons.

Can we reduce the number of units to something more reasonable? Perhaps 10- 20 units? We need about cramming people together in this Co-vid world.

If we reduce the number of units, we could still share this land *and* keep the park. We need more, not less Park land and green spaces.

. Perhaps the best point was made by our neighborhood association- Why do we insist on OVER PAYING for these shelters?

- With the proposed budget of 13 million for 270 inhabitants over 3 years the cost is \$1,337.45 per person. With double bed occupancy the amount per 8'x8' double bed pallet structure is \$2,674.90 per month. At that rate the inhabitants would be better served in an apartment.
-

Please consider, and try to be wise in your decisions.

Thank you,
David Oberg

Telephone: (213) 202-2640
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Re: Homelss Palate community at Laurel Plaza

1 message

Dave O

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 2:16 PM

Reply-To: Dave O

To: "mayor.garcetti@lacity.org" <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>, "councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org" <councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org>, "rap.commissioners@lacity.org" <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, "michael.a.shull@lacity.org" <michael.a.shull@lacity.org>, "karo.torossian@lacity.org" <karo.torossian@lacity.org>, "clerk.homelessnessandpovertycommittee@lacity.org" <clerk.homelessnessandpovertycommittee@lacity.org>, "gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org" <gilbert.cedillo@lacity.org>, "councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org" <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>, "david.ryu@lacity.org" <david.ryu@lacity.org>, "paul.koretz@lacity.org" <paul.koretz@lacity.org>, "councilmember.martinez@lacity.org" <councilmember.martinez@lacity.org>, "councilmember.rodriguez@lacity.org" <councilmember.rodriguez@lacity.org>, "councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org" <councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org>, "councilmember.price@lacity.org" <councilmember.price@lacity.org>, "councilmember.wesson@lacity.org" <councilmember.wesson@lacity.org>, "councilmember.bonin@lacity.org" <councilmember.bonin@lacity.org>, "councilmember.lee@lacity.org" <councilmember.lee@lacity.org>, "councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org" <councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org>

Cc:

Mr Mayor, and Mr. Krekorian

Quit being miscreants!

I understand your concerns for your political resumes. You think this will reflect positive change toward a hot button issue, but do some homework and take a close look at this particular section of the Valley.

This area has been jerked around for years and now, when the improvement JUST begins (No Ho West), You crush it! No one will want to develop the adjacent areas now! You've killed the momentum and the value for everything surrounding.

Dumping the homeless in this unprecedentedly huge compound is a bully tactic and an affront to the community!

Spread it around! REDUCE the number of units at this one site!

David Oberg
Valley Village

-----Original Message-----

From: Mayor Garcetti <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>

To: Dave O <

Sent: Wed, Sep 16, 2020 4:19 pm

Subject: Re: Homelss Palate community at Laurel Plaza

Thank you for your email.

The City remains committed bringing our unhoused Angelenos indoors and ensuring everyone has access to safe and appropriate housing and shelter. As part of this work, the City has entered into an agreement with Los Angeles County to stand up at least 6,700 beds over the next 18 months — a critical and unprecedented commitment of resources to help end homelessness in our region. The proposed temporary tiny home village in Alexandria Park is one of the first projects under this agreement.

The tiny home village will provide people experiencing homelessness with a safe and stable sleeping environment. Additionally, the site's hygiene amenities, including restrooms, showers, and laundry facilities, will provide a cleaner and healthier environment for individuals to get back on their feet. The tiny home village will also have 24/7 security on site. The Mayor's Office and Councilmember Krekorian's team have worked closely with City departments to design this project, and have incorporated the perspectives of stakeholders throughout the Council District.

Our unhoused neighbors in Los Angeles are counting on all of us to make projects like this one a success. We must continue doing everything we can to help protect the health and safety of all Angelenos during this unprecedented moment of vulnerability. We appreciate your interest in this project and we hope to continue working with you and your neighbors to address unsheltered homelessness and its impact on your community.

Thank you.

- Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti

On Mon, Aug 17, 2020 at 3:46 PM Dave O < > wrote:
Council, Mayor and City planners and Homeless advocates

Please reconsider the location and the number of shelters in the current plan.

Placing so many units together is a short-sighted way to address the homeless problem. Cramming so many units together- and right under the freeway, is unhealthy for the residents, especially consider the inability for Social distancing during the current health crisis.

The planners should look for more locations, with so many fewer units in each. We shouldn't be giving up greenspace, when we are so short on it.

thank you for your consideration,
David Oberg
N. Hollywood.



Re: Homeless Palette Shelter

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Cynthia Juarez

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 2:05 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Thu, Sep 17, 2020 at 9:17 PM Cynthia Juarez <cjuarez@lacity.org>
wrote:
Good evening,

I'm a resident of Valley Glen. I am writing to you as a concerned resident. I think helping the homeless is a great idea, but it would be better if it was not adjacent to the freeway. Also, placing a maximum of 10-20 unit shelters per locations instead of this large one that has been planned. We need to ensure the safety of our elderly homeless population during COVID-19. I believe that it would be better to look into several city owned properties instead of creating this giant project across our new development across the street Noho West. I hope that you take this email into consideration.

Thank you,

Cynthia Juarez

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Re: Homeless Pallet Shelter project in Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 2:06 PM

To: Igor Spector

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 9:52 AM Igor Spector wrote:
Mayor, councilmember Krikorian and other government representatives,

Please strongly consider the following letter as a response to actions taken regarding installation of the pallet shelter in Valley Plaza Alexandria Park.

While we thank you for your August 26, 2020, letter regarding the Pallet Housing Project proposed for Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park, we do not find that it adequately addresses the many concerns that the community has voiced concerning the impact it promises to have on the surrounding residents and businesses. We have previously been told by your office that you “strive to work with the community and inform the community of all matters” of importance. This hasn’t been the case here and we are sorely disappointed that this matter was dropped on us without due notification and consultation. We find it appalling that your office having received over 100 emails/letters concerning this project failed to notify our Laurel Grove community of the recent September 9, 2020 City Council hearing regarding the proposed Pallet Shelter at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park. Why wasn’t community input sought by your office prior to the August 6, 2020 Recreation and Parks (RAP) Commission meeting and the September 9, 2020 Los Angeles City Council hearing? How convenient for your Chief of Staff Karo Torossian to arrange a presentation before our local Neighborhood Council tomorrow, September 14, 2020 after approval was already obtained by RAP and funding was approved by the City Council. Your office intentionally did not advise our community of the August and September meetings yet you claim community involvement. Requesting support after the hearings, when the hearings are said and done shows your lack of seeking honest community input.

We are perplexed by your letter’s assertion that “The proposed Tiny Home village also responds appropriately to the burdens and limitations applied to the city by federal courts.” Judge Carter’s May 15, 2020, order stipulates that “to protect the homeless individuals camping near freeway overpasses, underpasses, and ramps—and the general public—the Court hereby ORDERS that these individuals be humanely relocated away from such areas.” The planned Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park location is a mere 130 feet from the 170 freeway and along the one stretch of the 170 freeway that does not have a soundwall and is not funded for one. Furthermore, the judge asserted: “All shelters and alternative housing options must be configured with adequate physical space to allow the sheltered individuals to maintain the minimum recommended social distance of six feet to mitigate the transmission of SARS-CoV-2.” With pallet houses measuring 8 feet by 8 feet, recommended COVID-19 social distancing would be impossible between housemates and near equally difficult when 200 or more individuals are fenced into a 75,000 square feet area. The Alexandria Park Pallet Housing Project is whistling by the graveyard by ignoring what the federal court order specifically calls for.

The City is burning through millions of dollars without adhering to the concerns put forward by Judge Carter. The project as it is proposed adjacent to the freeway will be dangerous for its inhabitants. The Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park and Chandler Pallet Housing Projects, both within your district, have a budget of \$13 million. These projects are designed to serve 270 inhabitants over a 3-year period. This breaks down to \$1,337.45 per person, per month. At Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park where 95 of the 8’x8’ shelters are double beds and 10 are single beds it breaks down to \$2,674.90 per month, per 8’x8’ double bed pallet shelter. The inhabitants will be required to share bathrooms, showers

and eating space with 200 inhabitants. This will increase the likelihood of exposing the inhabitants to COVID-19. Based on the cost per person it makes more sense to simply provide housing vouchers for the inhabitants where they would not have to share bathrooms and eating space. Someone is making money off of this when the City is building basically storage sheds for the homeless at over \$2,600 per month, do they not deserve an apartment at that rate? At its current cost for the same or less you could use the funds to put them in real housing. Why put them in storage sheds at a park when you can put them in a real home with their own kitchen and bathroom. At those prices you could house the homeless in apartment buildings. In an attempt to say that you solved the problem you are simply kicking the can down the road for someone else to deal with 3 years from now. You have funding now, and the solution is not to move the homeless from tents to 8'x8' storage sheds when you could provide actual housing in apartments.

Stretched along our neighborhood sidewalks on Laurel Canyon, Oxnard, Victory and Lankershim we daily witness the many faces of the homeless crisis. Your letter claims that when the Pallet Housing Projects are complete "we will have built enough capacity in my district to shelter every person currently living unsheltered in the district." If the plan comes to fruition, with the planned 200 inhabitants at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park our neighborhood will not only house the largest pallet shelter in the state of California but will also be hosting additional homeless off-loaded from other locations in your district. A more equitable solution is called for. Indeed, the great bulk of all homeless-sheltering initiatives planned or in place in your district are east of the 170 freeway.

In addition, we are at a loss to understand your assertion that the Pallet Housing Project "will also leave the rest of the park better than it is now." There is nothing in the project proposal that improves the small portion of Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park that would remain should the project come to be. In fact, that remaining part would see a road constructed right through the middle of it from Laurel Canyon resulting in less grass and the removal of existing trees. Also, troubling is your assertion that "The surrounding neighborhoods will be provided enhanced sanitation services, with regularly scheduled comprehensive cleanings of public areas, and enhanced police patrol." If this is contemplated as necessary, it confirms our own fear that the health and safety of the surrounding neighborhoods will suffer with completion of this project.

The Pallet Housing Project at Valley Plaza (Alexandria) Park is the wrong size and at the wrong place. The City suffers from a lack of neighborhood parks. Please support park improvement and not their diminution. Move this project to a location that would adhere to Judge Carter's recommendation of not placing the homeless near the freeway and protecting them from COVID-19, or preferably use the funding to relocate the homeless into dignified actual housing in apartments with built in treatment and support systems.

Igor and Victoria Spector
Residents of Valley Village

--
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Re: Alexandria Park Homeless Pallet Project

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Carmen Lozada

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 2:09 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 12:23 PM Carmen Lozada
Councilman Krekorian and others,

> wrote:

I'm writing this letter on behalf of our neighborhood to address this gross injustice that your office has been primarily spearheading. Our community is already at a severe risk of demise even before the creation of your pet project which will ultimately plunge our community over the edge into the abyss.

I have lived in this neighborhood for over 50 years and instead of improvements to the area I have only seen the decay and decline of our community. In 2008 your predecessor Wendy Greuel created a hostile environment for our community business owners as her and later your office pressured local businesses to be sold so your office could redevelop the Valley Plaza area of Laurel Canyon Blvd. Despite their compliance, you failed to deliver on your promises as these former stores have stood boarded up waiting for development for the past 12 years and become unofficial housing for the homeless.

Now that we are barely starting to economically recover from 2008 and you and your predecessors past mistakes with the recent completion of the Noho West project. You have decided to place your political aspirations above our community's well-being. You have denied us the right to due process and our ability to exercise our democratic traditions as you have selfishly fast-tracked the project and at every turn and attempted to obfuscate knowledge of its development by failing to inform our community through town halls and newsletters on the matter.

Instead of aiding the community by developing Alexandria park as our local neighborhood has barely any decent parks where our children and grandchildren can be taken to. You have decided to ultimately make it unusable with the development of this homeless shelter as your project will remove the greenery in the park and replace it with concrete and asphalt.

Additionally, your decision threatens the safety of our children as there are approximately 6 schools within half a mile of the proposed project. Our children should not be exposed to the issues stemming from this community, as even now before the development of the project existing illegal homeless camps in our vicinity have already made certain parts of Laurel Canyon Blvd. unwalkable and unusable. They clogged up the sidewalks with their refuse, waste, and equipment and harass passersby driving away business from the community. There used to be a time I remember in which middle-schoolers could walk to the local 7-11 without having to worry about whether or not they would see a drugged-out individual on the street or be harassed by said individuals.

The fact that your office stated that we would have enhanced sanitation and police patrols confirms my fear that this project is ultimately going to destroy the remaining tranquility and safety that our community has.

Although you and your ilk may lambast our neighborhood as divisive and xenophobic towards the homeless community of LA county. We would like to remind you that we are already a diverse community composed of Latinos, African Americans, Armenians, Caucasians, Asians, and other groups and we don't want your "Diversity" to replace ours.

For the safety of our neighborhood and children we will fight this project until it is overturned. We will not become your skid-row.

So Councilman Krekorian and others whose side are you on?

Regards,
Your constituent

--

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Re: Alexandria Park Pallet Project

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 2:10 PM

To: Tony Puente

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 12:44 PM Tony Puente

> wrote:

Councilman Krekorian and others,

I'm writing this letter on behalf of our neighborhood to address this gross injustice that your office has been primarily spearheading. Our community is already at a severe risk of demise even before the creation of your pet project which will ultimately plunge our community over the edge into the abyss.

I have lived in this neighborhood for over 50 years and instead of improvements to the area I have only seen the decay and decline of our community. In 2008 your predecessor Wendy Greuel created a hostile environment for our community business owners as her and later your office pressured local businesses to be sold so your office could redevelop the Valley Plaza area of Laurel Canyon Blvd. Despite their compliance, you failed to deliver on your promises as these former stores have stood boarded up waiting for development for the past 12 years and become unofficial housing for the homeless.

Now that we are barely starting to economically recover from 2008 and you and your predecessors past mistakes with the recent completion of the Noho West project. You have decided to place your political will above our community's right to due process as our ability to exercise our democratic traditions was denied. You selfishly fast-tracked the project and at every turn and attempted to hide knowledge of its development by failing to inform our community through town halls and newsletters on the issue.

Instead of aiding the community by developing Alexandria park you've doomed it with this homeless shelter as your project will destroy the remaining greenery in the park and replace it with concrete, asphalt, empty bottles, and needles.

Additionally, your decision threatens the safety of our children as there are approximately 6 schools within half a mile of the proposed project. Our children should not be exposed to the issues stemming from this community, as even now before the development of the project existing illegal homeless camps in our vicinity have already made certain parts of Laurel Canyon Blvd. unwalkable and unusable. They clogged up the sidewalks with their refuse, waste, and equipment and harassed walkers. The fact that your office stated that we would have enhanced sanitation and police patrols confirms this project is ultimately going to destroy the remaining tranquility and safety that our community has.

Although you and your ilk may lambast our neighborhood as divisive and xenophobic towards the homeless community of LA county we do not want to become the new skid-row which your project will ultimately result in.

Regards,

Your constituent

--

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Re: Homeless Shelter at Valley Plaza Mall

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Stephan Olson

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 3:07 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 2:56 PM Stephan Olson < wrote:

Councilmember Krekorian, Mayor Garcetti, et al.

As a 20 year resident of the Laurel Grove neighborhood of North Hollywood, I strongly object to the planned Pallet Housing homeless shelter in Alexandria Park at the Valley Plaza shopping center. It would be in no way an improvement to this neighborhood, and would bring more crime, more depression, and devaluation to this neighborhood. I am also appalled that we, the residents of this neighborhood, have only heard about this project after it was "approved" by the Department of Recreation and Parks on August 6th. The project claims to have "community support". I guarantee you, it does not.

My wife and I moved to this neighborhood after we were married in 2000, and have raised our children here. They attended Laurel Hall School just down the street at Oxnard and Radford Ave. As residents of this neighborhood, we have participated in Laurel Grove neighborhood activities, invested in and improved our home and property, endorsed support for local park playgrounds, and have eagerly awaited, (for two decades) the construction of a sound wall on the 170, and the redevelopment of the blighted Valley Plaza/Macys empty lots. Finally, after 20 years, we are so very close to seeing the completion of both of these long awaited improvements for this area.

The homeless situation around Valley Plaza and the 170 and in Alexandria Park has been a real problem for this neighborhood for years. We live six blocks from Laurel Hall School, and we have never let our children walk to the school alone. In fact, we have never walked to the school with them. And we now cannot let them walk to the new mall because of the homeless encampments under the freeway overpasses, and the general presence of the mentally ill and aggressive homeless. Our cars get broken into and ransacked. Homeless people use our hose spigots to fill water jugs and to bathe, then walk away leaving the faucets running. People defecate in our gutters. Used hypodermic needles are discarded on our lawns. And homeless RV's are dumping raw sewage onto our streets. For 20 years we have worked hard, paid taxes, invested, and tried to make this neighborhood as family friendly as possible, and now you will destroy all that progress by building a 200 bed homeless shelter in our back yard. No matter how you sugar coat it, building the homeless shelter is NOT an improvement to this park or this neighborhood. It will only bring more homeless to the neighborhood, and will insure that NO development will happen at Valley Plaza Mall at any time in the near future. It will make the area more dangerous for my children, and all residents of this neighborhood, who will NOT be able to walk to the new mall, and will most likely be disastrous for the new Noho West mall.

Please, please, please, reconsider this project, and instead find a way to help this neighborhood continue to improve and redevelop and not destroy it with a homeless shelter.

Respectfully,

Stephan and Nancy Olson
Laurel Grove Residents

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Re: NO shelter @ Laurel Grove

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 12:56 PM

To: real estate

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 21, 2020 at 10:38 AM real estate < > wrote:

1. pick a location near farm fields or Industrial area's just like Sonoma County.
2. Look into placing maximum of 10-20 units shelter per location.
3. We are lacking parkland in the valley we are lacking green space do not destroy out play areas for shelters..look into the many other city owned properties instead.

--

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Re: Valley Plaza Pallet Shelters

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: "Cristina M. Molina"

Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 1:08 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Mon, Sep 21, 2020 at 3:41 PM Cristina M. Molina

wrote:

Good afternoon,

I am a lifelong resident of North Hollywood, CA. I have been here longer than many of you have worked in city govt or even lived in our state.

While you enjoy your comfortable homes, your constituents have to drive the streets and live near the homeless encampments that have popped up all over our city streets.

The location for this proposed pallet shelter off Laurel Cyn and next to NoHo West is a terrible idea. It's next to a freeway which is the first problem. The homeless tend to also like the bushy areas adjacent to the freeway. This will just increase the traffic in the area and pose a threat to commuters.

Second, why are we taking away from a park area? The people who reside in NoHo west will lose the green space directly across the street. We already have few green spaces, why take that away?

Finally, 90 units? Why so many in one spot? That's a danger, especially in the time of covid-19. More people to track means more safety issues. More people means more exposure to covid-19.

There are so many other city-owned properties and areas that are not smack in the middle of an area that has been undergoing a total rehabilitation. That's just a terrible idea for the community.

Please, please find a different location to build these homeless shelters. Somewhere that will keep the citizens and the homeless population equally safe.

Lastly, I want to propose that the people who will be allowed to live in these shelters be made to work for their shelter. Just handing them a place to live with no responsibility will only encourage them to stay in the delta dip of homelessness. Require at the very least that they clean surrounding streets in order to live there. Make them earn their keep. Provide job training and counseling for them so they can become self-sufficient. Handing them a place to live with no effort from their part is like handing a heroine needle to an addict. Encourage success, not laziness!

Sincerely,

Cristina Molina

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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



Re: Alexandria Park Homeless Shelter

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: "Adam X. Medina"

Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 1:13 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 11:09 AM Adam X. Medina

wrote:

Hello,

In regards to the planned 96 pallet homeless shelter being built in Alexandria Park, I ask that you please look elsewhere. Please instead use a non-park area away from the freeway and residences and businesses. It will be the largest pallet homeless shelter in California and to place it so near homes with children and the elderly is simply unsafe. Surely a better location or multiple smaller locations can be found that would better suit the needs of the homeless.

Adam Medina
a Valley Glen Resident

--
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Re: 96 pallets in Alexandria Park

1 message

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

Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 1:20 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 11:45 AM Eric LeVeque <

> wrote:

I am 100% against putting these homeless pallets in our park. You are destroying our neighborhoods. This is not popular. Please find a better location. It is unreasonable for you to force this on the neighborhood.

I will obviously do my best to protest with my vote as well as the surrounding neighbors if this project isn't scrapped.

Eric

--

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Re: City Officials- Homeless Pallet Shelters NOHO

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Deanna Martirosyan

Thu, Sep 24, 2020 at 9:54 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Tue, Sep 22, 2020 at 4:12 PM Deanna Martirosyan <deanna.martirosyan@lacity.org>
wrote:
Dear City Officials,

I was informed today that the biggest Homeless Shelter was going to be built across my home in North Hollywood, CA. I am extremely frustrated and upset at the thought of having more homeless people around my neighborhood where children play. Why does this shelter need to be in a residential area where we pay high taxes? This will make all residents in the area feel unsafe.

California Environmental Quality Act, has found that living near freeways can "shorten a homeless person's life expectancy by decades." Why would you build a shelter next to the freeway knowing this fact! Due to Covid 19 and how fast it is spreading, it is inhuman to build a shelter with 175 beds. The larger the group the faster this virus will spread. I do not want or need that in my neighborhood. I understand that homelessness is a problem in our community, but building the biggest shelter home in a residential area next to the freeway is not the answer.

City Officials, please look into building homeless shelters that are maximum of 10-20 units per location, which is a lot safer for the elder homeless population. Do not use up our parkland where our children play and look into City owned properties.

Deanna Martirosyan

--

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: 170 fwy north bound at Oxnard Ave...

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Sep 24, 2020 at 2:47 PM

To: jjwilkinsdp

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Wed, Sep 23, 2020 at 7:56 PM jjwilkinsdp

wrote:

Dear Officials.

Would it possible to find out what the delay is regarding the construction on the off ramp (170 Hwy north bound, Oxnard Ave exit) that has been going on for over two years? The Laurel Grove Community would like to know.

Thank You.

Jeffrey Wilkins

--

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MOTION

Despite significant actions taken by the City and County in recent years, including helping to pass the \$1.2B Proposition HHH homeless housing bond, and the Measure H Sales Tax to fund homeless services, homelessness has continued to rise in the City and County. The 2020 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Point-in-Time Count showed that the City experienced a 16 percent increase in its homeless population from 2019, to a new total of more than 41,000 individuals.

Since the 2020 Homeless Count was conducted in January, substantial efforts have been taken to protect persons experiencing homelessness from the Coronavirus, however many of these efforts involve providing temporary housing in hotel rooms through the State's Project Roomkey program. The process to responsibly dismantle Project Roomkey has now begun, and the City, County, and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority are partnering to implement the Homeless Roadmap Recovery Program (CF# 20-0687) to identify the necessary interventions to more permanently house individuals.

It is imperative that the City continues to do all it can to help develop housing - from temporary to permanent- for our homeless residents. The Hollywood Recreation Center facility at 1122 Cole Avenue may be a location to explore interim housing. Given that Council District 13 experienced more than a 20 percent increase in homelessness in 2020, staff should be instructed to determine the feasibility of utilizing this site as temporary housing for people experiencing homelessness in Council District 13.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and Bureau of Engineering, with assistance from the Department of Recreation and Parks be instructed to evaluate the feasibility of using the Hollywood Recreation Center facility at 1122 Cole Avenue as interim housing for persons experiencing homelessness in Council District 13.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Board of Recreation & Park Commissioners be requested to hear this matter within 30 days for consideration of approval of the usage of the Hollywood Recreation Center for temporary interim housing for people experiencing homelessness.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority be requested to work with staff from Council District 13 and the CAO to identify a service provider and execute a service agreement for the operation of this site as an interim housing facility.

PRESENTED BY: 

MITCH O'FARRELL

Councilmember, 13th DistrictSECONDED BY: 

SEP 16 2020



ORIGINAL



Re: Oppose concept of the proposed aerial tram with a viewing platform

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Hollywoodland Homeowners Association

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 1:09 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Tue, Sep 15, 2020 at 9:07 AM Hollywoodland Homeowners Association

> wrote:

RE: Oppose concept of the proposed aerial tram with a viewing platform 9/15/2020

Dear Councilman Ryu, Mr. Shull and RAP Commissioners:

Hollywoodland Homeowners Association represents 580 single family homes surrounded by three sides of (444 acres) of open-space all located in tract 6450. Safety, protecting and preserving our open-space, environment and residential community is our primary concern and purpose. We attended Consensus two scoping meetings and have a thorough understanding of tract 6450's physical limitations and our charge as an HOA.

Hollywoodland Homeowners Association has taken the position to **opposed the concept of the proposed aerial tram.**

The safety aspects of an eco-sensitive residential community and park land (SEA Significant Ecological Area, VSHFZ Very Severe Hazard Fire Zone) with an important communication tower should be a clue that safety and environment can not be compromised. In the past there has been a disregard for the eco-sensitive canyon with an association/ influence of politics and associated non-profits, poor stats and unsubstantiated blessings through the CAO (City Administrative Officer) decisions and encouragement. The simple action such as obtaining a concessionaire's agreement for the sign use has been ignored. Safety elements have been ignored as well as process and environment.

Specifically, the Tyrolean Plateau /vista is an inappropriate viewing location. Safety concerns include the proximity to our gravity feed water delivery system located a mere few feet from the site. Our water quality/delivery as well as the LAFD's access to water for the heliport is a safety concern.

There is no data or development criteria indicating this plateau/vista is a properly sanctioned view spot. It evolved through lack of leadership and improper administration. A city ordinance prohibits use of the road leading to this section of the park.

The plateau/vista is approximately 40 feet higher in elevation than the residences approximately 50 feet away. This creates a noise/pollution, putting the city in a position of "taking" by overreaching and compromising private property and zoning.

An aerial tram proposal needs to demonstrate quantitatively how it can relieve 95% of the traffic caused by the promotion of the sign to our neighborhood. We also oppose all electric bus/shuttle trams through our residential community. We support owners private property rights relating to "no trespassing", ingress/egress easements and do not support government overreach on "taking". We are not interested in anyone making a profit. Our concerns are our properties, safety and the environmental issues in the park. Removing the Tyrolean plateau as a viewing spot and gating Hollywoodland residential would be the only solution if an aerial tram was developed.

Sincerely,

Christine Mills O'Brien

HHA President

--

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Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK SERVICE REQUEST CD1 LA 90065

1 message

Yovonte Robinson <yovonte.robinson@lacity.org>

Thu, Sep 17, 2020 at 6:38 AM

To: Bill Cody <bill.cody@lacity.org>

Cc: Garcia Incareal

Council Member Krekorian

<councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org>, Council Member Huizar <councilmember.huizar@lacity.org>, Councilmember Buscaino <councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org>, Councilmember Blumenfield <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>, Council Member Koretz <councilmember.koretz@lacity.org>, Curren Price <councilmember.price@lacity.org>, Councilmember Wesson <councilmember.wesson@lacity.org>, Councilmember Bonin <councilmember.bonin@lacity.org>, Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>, Mayor Garcetti <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>, Edna Degollado <edna.degollado@lacity.org>, commission@empowerla.org, Mike Fong <mike.fong@lacity.org>, Rick

Conrado TerrazasCross <conrado.terrazas@lacity.org>, Mel Iloimin

<mel.ilomin@lacity.org>, Ricardo Flores <ricardo.x.flores@lacity.org>, Silvio Nunez <silvio.nunez@lacity.org>, daniel marlos

sonia.robinson@lacity.org, Bertha Calderon <bertha.calderon@lacity.org>, Annamaria Galbraith <annamaria.Galbraith@lacity.org>, Laura Island <laura.island@lacity.org>, Art Gomez <art.gomez@lacity.org>, Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, Iris Davis <iris.davis@lacity.org>, Valentine Brown <valentine.brown@lacity.org>, charlene.henry@lacity.org

Good morning,

Several job orders have been submitted in regards to this situation. I'll resubmit another one.

Thank you!

On Wed, Sep 16, 2020 at 4:39 PM Bill Cody <bill.cody@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Mauro,

We'll let RAP know.

Bill

On Wed, Sep 16, 2020 at 4:05 PM Garcia Incareal

wrote:

SEPTEMBER 16

Council member Gill Cedillo

The stucco wall in the rear of the stage at the Sycamore Grove Park is crumbling.

Can you get someone to repair and clean it.

Attach is a picture.

No on prop 15 no more taxes

| Mauro Garcia

--

Bill Cody

Field Deputy Office of Gil Cedillo - CD1

Highland Park, Mt. Washington, Montecito Heights, Glassell Park

bill.cody@lacity.org

323-550-1538 (o)

*"Some might say,
We will find a brighter day"*





Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK SERVICE REQUEST CD1 LA 90065

1 message

Garcia Incareal

Thu, Sep 17, 2020 at 9:50 AM

To: bill.cody@lacity.org,

councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org,
councilmember.huizar@lacity.org, councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org,
councilmember.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, councilmember.wesson@lacity.org,
councilmember.bonin@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, mayor.garcetti@lacity.org, edna.degollado@lacity.org,

esainburg1016@gmail.com, gilcedillo45@gmail.com, conrado.terrazas@lacity.org, mel.ilomin@lacity.org,
ricardo.x.flores@lacity.org, silvio.nunez@lacity.org,

rick.swanson@lacity.org, southwestmuseumcoalition@gmail.com, sonia.robinson@lacity.org,
bertha.calderon@lacity.org, annamaria.Galbraith@lacity.org, laura.island@lacity.org, art.gomez@lacity.org,
rap.commissioners@lacity.org, iris.davis@lacity.org, valentine.brown@lacity.org, charlene.henry@lacity.org,
yovonte.robinson@lacity.org

Bill that is what you told me about the homeless issue the Marmion Way trash and nothing has been done.
Mauro



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK SERVICE REQUEST CD1 LA 90065

1 message

Yovonte Robinson <yovonte.robinson@lacity.org>

Thu, Sep 17, 2020 at 10:30 AM

To: Garcia Incareal

Cc: Bill Cody <bill.cody@lacity.org>,

mmpick@yahoo.com, Council Member Krekorian <councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org>, Council Member Huizar <councilmember.huizar@lacity.org>, Councilmember Buscaino <councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org>, Councilmember Blumenfield <councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org>, Council Member Koretz <councilmember.koretz@lacity.org>, Curren Price <councilmember.price@lacity.org>, Councilmember Wesson <councilmember.wesson@lacity.org>, Councilmember Bonin <councilmember.bonin@lacity.org>, Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>, Mayor Garcetti <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>, Edna Degollado <edna.degollado@lacity.org>,

Gilbert Cedillo

Conrado TerrazasCross <conrado.terrazas@lacity.org>, Mel Ilomin <mel.ilomin@lacity.org>, Ricardo Flores <ricardo.x.flores@lacity.org>, Silvio Nunez <silvio.nunez@lacity.org>, boarddistrict5@lausd.net,

Rick Swanson <rick.swanson@lacity.org>, ssonia.robinson@lacity.org, Bertha Calderon <bertha.calderon@lacity.org>, Annamaria Galbraith <annamaria.galbraith@lacity.org>, Laura Island <laura.island@lacity.org>, Art Gomez <art.gomez@lacity.org>, Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, Iris Davis <iris.davis@lacity.org>, Valentine Brown <valentine.brown@lacity.org>, charlene.henry@lacity.org

No, problem.

On Thu, Sep 17, 2020 at 9:51 AM Garcia Incareal <incareal@juno.com> wrote:

Bill that is what you told me about the homeless issue the Marmion Way trash and nothing has been done.
Mauro



Re: Letter to Office of Board of Commissioners from Los Angeles Equestrian Center

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: George Chatigny

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 2:03 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Thu, Sep 17, 2020 at 4:59 PM George Chatigny

> wrote:

Hello Board of Commissioners,
Please see the attached letter from the Los Angeles Equestrian Center.
If you have any trouble opening it or have any questions, please let me know.
Thank you,
George

--

George Chatigny
General Manager



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

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LOS ANGELES
Equestrian
Center

September 17, 2020

Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department
Office of Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 86328
Los Angeles, CA 90086-0328

Dear Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners:

We thank you for the opportunity to address the Board earlier today during the Public Comment portion of the Regular Meeting Agenda.

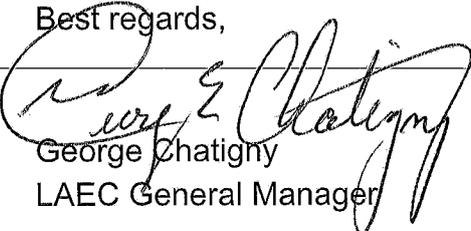
As Glen Gerson - Calamigos owner expressed, within the two minute time allowance, it is challenging to convey a complete topic and discussion that might be needed to fully comprehend the Los Angeles Equestrian Center's commitment to the equine operation and property. Also, to be able to fully understand a concern expressed by the boarders and how for 30 years these matters have been addressed without issue.

We hope there is a desire and method available to have the Board or a portion of the Board Members to visit the equestrian center and/or arrange for a healthy conversation regarding LAEC, our agreement with the City through 2025 and the history of the previous and current concessionaires.

Preferable would be a safely arranged in-person meeting at the equestrian center. If this is not possible, then a phone or Zoom call.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,


George Chatigny

LAEC General Manager



Re: RAP meeting

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Chelsea Catalanotto

Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 2:08 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 12:09 PM Chelsea Catalanotto <
Hi,

> wrote:

I tried to call in to speak at the RAP meeting yesterday morning, but unfortunately could not get through.

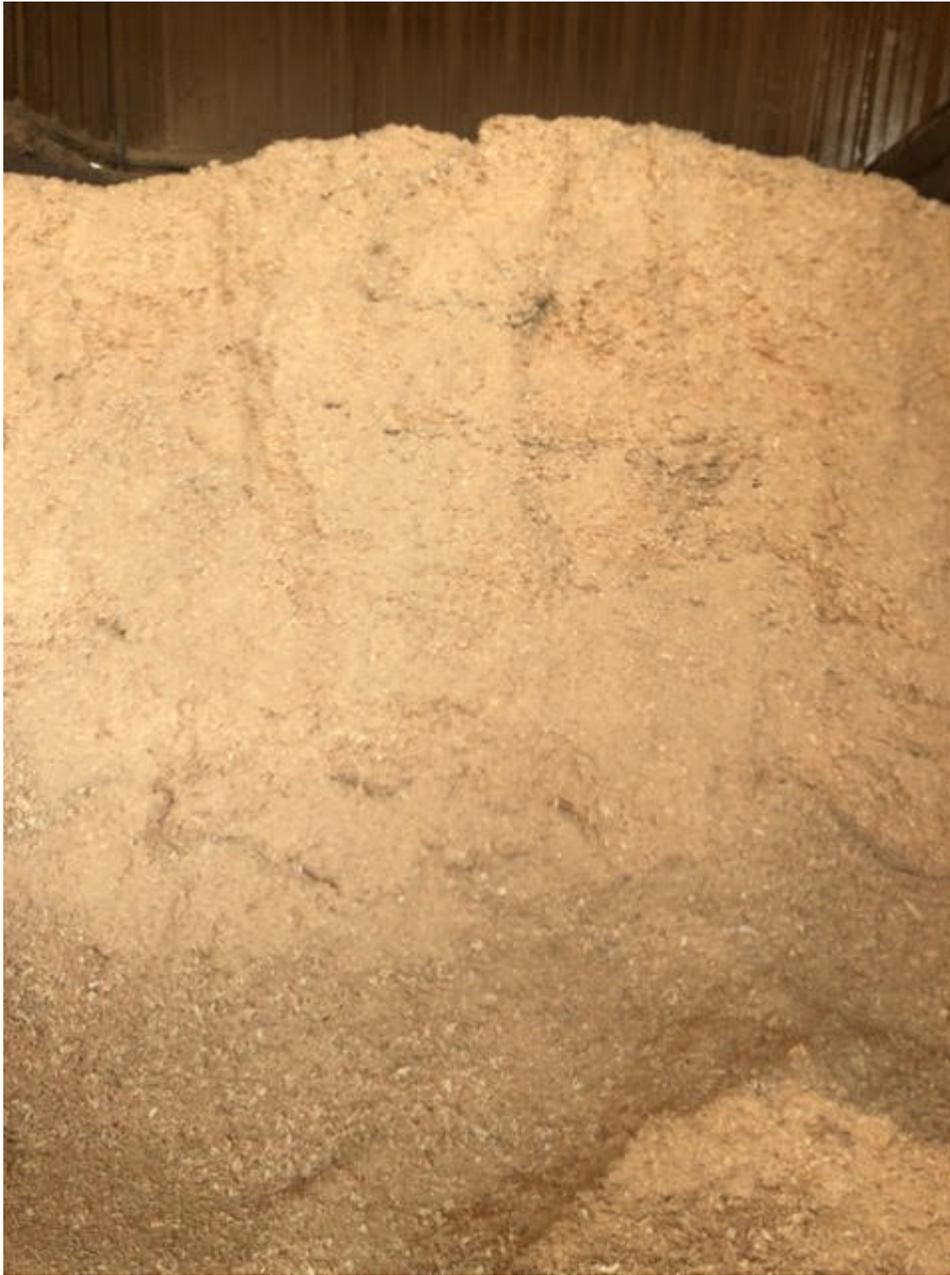
I'm a TV writer who has been a member of LAEC for the last four years. I currently board my horse in B Barn, where I pay \$719 a month. While I love the convenience of LAEC, I'm writing because of a serious health concern to the horses. The amount of dust in the most expensive barns on the property is appalling. Every single day, a blanket of dust settles on the horses - you literally have to brush it off like a heavy dusting of snow, and it settles in their eyes, in their noses and in their lungs. Before my horse came to LAEC, he never coughed — now he coughs constantly. A quick Google search will show you the hazards of dust — it leads to a wide range of respiratory and inflammatory diseases in horses and people.

There are two reasons for this problem. I was told that a few years ago, there was a routine cleaning of A, B, and C barns in order to mitigate this issue. However, in the last few years, that routine cleaning has ceased in order for management to save a buck. I cannot stress enough that for the amount of money we pay as boarders, this is not fair to us.

The second reason is the quality of the shavings. LAEC chooses to use a cheap bedding for their stalls, and a large portion of the bedding is made of sawdust. If you look at the enclosed photo, you'll see that the bedding is basically all sawdust, and very little actual shavings.

Boarders are leaving LAEC in droves. When I walk down the aisles, stalls that were filled four years ago are now vacant, and it's because of the neglect to the horses and the facility. There are a few other issues, but this is by far the most pressing. I love LAEC and want to stay, I don't want to have to move my horse to Sun Valley or to the Paddock, where the board is less expensive. For the health of the horses, please help us fix this problem.

Thank you,
Chelsea



--
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Re: Pershing Square

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Sep 24, 2020 at 5:59 PM

To: JwG

>

Good Afternoon,

Please see the link below for Project information. You may respond to this email if you have further questions regarding this matter.

<https://boe.lacity.org/uprs/report/ProjectInfoReport.cfm?k=6749&dmy=55051>

On Fri, Sep 18, 2020 at 1:37 AM JwG

> wrote:

When is the Pershing Square renovation to begin

Thanks

Joe Gedeon

--

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MOTION

At over 2,000 acres, the Sepulveda Basin is the largest open space in the San Fernando Valley and the second largest in the City of Los Angeles. The basin is an important hub for outdoor recreation, containing many important community facilities including Lake Balboa and the Japanese Garden. It is also provides critical habitat for plants and wildlife.

However, the Sepulveda Basin is not living up to its full potential. Los Angeles is one of the most park poor large cities in the United States according to the Trust for Public Land. The basin is directly adjacent to two communities defined as being high, or very high need in the Los Angeles County Parks Needs Assessment.

Yet much of basin remains undeveloped and underutilized. This includes approximately 325 acres of land designated as Inactive and/or Future Recreation in the "Sepulveda Dam Basin: Master Plan and Environmental Assessment" produced by the Army Corp of Engineers. In addition, 250 acres of land is designated as being either Environmentally Sensitive or Vegetative Management. These underutilized spaces within the basin have become locusts of negative activity resulting in several large fires that have broken out over the past several years.

However, under the Army Corp plan these underutilized spaces can be turned into amenities with new recreational facilities as well as trails, restrooms, benches and signage. Funding is available to add these amenities through local and state measures including Prop 68, Measure A, and Measure W. This would further bolster the basins appeal as a regional park which would be one of the most accessible in the city with two Orange Line stations.

The Sepulveda Basin is also the focus of several important initiatives. It will serve as the Valley Sports Park for the 2028 Olympics and is bisected by the Los Angeles River in a critical location for its restoration. These efforts should be coordinated so they further enhance the basin and leave a lasting legacy for residents of the San Fernando Valley.

Now is a critical moment to reimagine the Sepulveda Basin as the crown jewel of the San Fernando Valley through the creation of a master plan in coordination with the Army Corp and the County. This will follow recent master plans that have been developed for the Silver Lake Reservoir and Exposition Park and provide a path for the basin to be turned into a world class open space for the entire city.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the department of Recreation and Parks in coordination with the Army Corp of Engineers and Los Angeles County report back in 30 days on developing a master plan for the Sepulveda Basin, including a budget, and potential funding sources.

This master plan should:



SEP 2 2 2020

- Audit existing land uses within the basin and identify areas that can be enhanced.
- Provide a framework for how future investments, such as the Olympics and LA River restoration, can tie into the overall vision for the basin.
- Provide a framework for improving mobility and way finding around and within the basin for cars, pedestrians, and cyclists.
- Outline a decision making framework between the different government agencies with purview over the basin including the Army Corp, County, and City.
- Be created through a robust community engagement process.

PRESENTED BY: 

NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT
REGULAR COUNCIL AGENDA
TO BE POSTED

MOTION

I MOVE that the Council Action of August 19, 2020 relative to the Real Property Acquisition / Development Expansion / Reseda Skate Facility Project at 18220 and 18238 West Sherman Way in Council District 3 (CF 20-0856), ~~BE AMENDED~~ to transfer / appropriate \$1,000,000 in the AB1290 Fund No. 53P, Account No. 281203 (CD 3 Redevelopment Projects - Services) to a new Account in the Recreation and Parks Fund No. 205-88 entitled "Reseda SkatePark Acquisitions," with the understanding that any portion of this amount not used for the stated purposes shall be returned to their source; and that the Recreation and Parks Department be authorized to make any technical corrections or clarifications to the above instructions in order to effectuate the intent of this Motion.

PRESENTED BY: _____
BOB BLUMENFIELD (verbal)
Councilman, 3rd District

SECONDED BY: _____
GILBERT A. CEDILLO (verbal)
Councilmember, 1st District

nk

PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Los Angeles has taken significant steps to improve its environmental footprint. There is, however, a powerful, multi-beneficial opportunity that is literally right under our feet. As devastating fires burn across the West, efforts to curb climate change, mitigate associated increased risks, and achieve climate drawdown -- the point at which greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere level off and begin to decline -- have never been more urgent.

LA's Green New Deal commits to piloting healthy soil projects by 2021 that will support carbon sequestration and increase water capture (absorption and storage), as well as amplify education campaigns on the benefits of healthy soils, biodiversity, and regenerative practices. Rebuilding healthy soil means increased carbon sequestration, water holding capacity, biodiversity, and many additional benefits. The 469 mi² of land in the City provides opportunities to build healthy soil, including in our parks, playing fields, medians, and other bare or landscaped City property.

LA's Green New Deal also commits to developing an overall Healthy Soils Strategy for the City. LA Sanitation, in conjunction with relevant City departments, is soliciting input from a Healthy Soils Advisory Panel, composed of representatives from local universities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and relevant governmental agencies, to develop a healthy soil strategy that will support urban agriculture, address carbon sequestration, and increase water capture, amongst other things.

There is opportunity to align current City legislation in order to improve and protect biodiversity (CF#15-0499), to establish organic regenerative park management (CF#18-0788), to reduce maintenance of landscaped medians (CF#20-1071), and existing efforts under state Senate Bill 1383 to convert organic waste into compost, as well as ongoing projects, including anaerobic digestion, that facilitate compost production for use on public lands.

LA Compost's existing decentralized network of compost infrastructure serves as a model for how to increase soil health and biodiversity across the City, including on urban farms. The park model, which currently serves Debs Park, allows for compost to be made onsite where it can be used to buffer against drought, restore soil health in parks and build new community green spaces and gardens in conjunction with community composters. Like other cities across the State where park services have transitioned to organic management, City parks managers could be trained to make this transition and experience significant cost savings for water and input costs (fertilizer and pesticides) as well as reduce health risks to City staff and park goers, including children and animals. Also, the City's food waste that is processed through anaerobic digestion is separated from the liquid to make a dewatered "cake," which is about 70% moisture and consists of the organic matter rich for soil.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council direct LA Sanitation, in conjunction with relevant City departments, to develop a healthy soil strategy for the City to support urban agriculture, address carbon sequestration, and increase water capture, and to solicit input on these issues from local universities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and relevant governmental agencies.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council direct LA Sanitation to work with the Department of Transportation, the Department of Recreation and Parks, StreetsLA, and other relevant departments to report back on opportunities for unpaving underutilized spaces and using them for composting/mulching operations and/or to create healthy soil.

SEP 23 2020

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Council direct LA Sanitation and Environment to work with the Department of Recreation and Parks, StreetsLA, the Library Department, General Services Department, and other relevant departments, and request the Department of Water and Power and the other proprietaries, where relevant, to report back on:

- Opportunities to develop small- and mid-scale compost operations on public lands;
- Opportunities to reduce chemical and water use in parks through compost and mulch use and other regenerative land and tree management in public green spaces;
- The current use and any excess availability of mulch from City forestry and landscaping operations across all departments, including proprietaries, and green-bin collection to support healthy soil in the City;
- Current and future availability of anaerobic digested "cake" that can be used to support healthy soil;
- Opportunities for increased soil carbon and risk mitigation (flooding/drought) by increased water infiltration/holding capacity on managed lands;
- Opportunities with the Departmental Chief Sustainability Officers to educate new and existing staff and other relevant managers on soil health, regenerative land management and integrated pest management.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council direct LA Sanitation to report back on public/private funding sources, including grants, for projects that will help the City expand its healthy soils efforts.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council direct LA Sanitation to work with the Economic and Workforce Development Department, the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization and local trade schools, like Los Angeles Trade Tech, or job development organizations, like LA Conservation Corps or Homeboy Industries, to report back on opportunities for the creation and improvement of local, 'green' employment opportunities linked to healthy soil and compost projects and programs.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council direct the Fire Department to report back on best practices to protect soil health during necessary brush clearance activities.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council direct LA Sanitation to work with the Office of Climate Emergency Mobilization, the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance and other relevant community organizations on opportunities for public-awareness efforts on the importance of healthy soil and regenerative land management for LA communities.

PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

MIKE BONIN (verbal)
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:

DAVID E. RYU (verbal)
Councilmember, 4th District



Re: No Tram in Our Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Diane Lea Weiss

Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 10:18 AM

Good Morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Thu, Sep 24, 2020 at 3:10 PM Diane Lea Weiss <

> wrote:

Dear City Officials and Aerial Tram Consultants,

DO NOT BUILD AN ARIEL TRAM IN GRIFFITH PARK.

Do not ruin one of the most wonderful parks in the country with your idiotic plan for an amusement park.

Do not disrupt the wildlife that thrives there or the humans who value the open space.

Do not carve horrific scars into it.

Do not dishonor the conditions under which Colonel Griffith gave the park to all Angelinos; for it to be used as "a place of recreation and rest for the masses."

Do not allow Warner Bros. to use our park as their money-maker.

Do not ignore The *Vision for Griffith Park* signed by Mayor Garcetti in 2014, which clearly calls for preservation of wildlife, wildlife corridors, native species and park biodiversity, where on page 70, it unequivocally states, "At this time, there is no clearly identified need for new recreational rides, such as railroads, aerial tramways or funiculars."

Do not allow ANY development in the park at all.

Do not allow this horrific plan to gain any traction.

Do not sell the beauty of our park to satisfy your bottomless greed.

Do not take advantage of this era when people are distracted by other national issues to slide this past Angelinos like criminals.

DO NOT TOUCH OUR PARK!

--
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



Real Change

1 message

David Ryu <david.ryu@lacity.org>

Thu, Sep 24, 2020 at 8:21 PM

To: Sylvia Patsouras <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>



Hi Sylvia -

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg changed the course of history. From her first case fighting gender discrimination in 1972 to her legacy of justice on the Supreme Court, Justice Ginsburg helped the ideals of liberty and justice ring true for all. Her passing is an incredible loss for our nation, but we can continue to draw inspiration from her words and her legacy.

Justice Ginsburg said that "real change, enduring change, happens one step at a time." I couldn't agree more. That's why I've been working to make long-lasting change for decades to the way that housing is built in our City, how we help people out of homelessness, and how the government fairly represents the people. This week, I introduced legislation with my colleagues to build a statue honoring Justice Ginsburg, in the hope that her legacy will continue to inspire future generations of Angelenos to carry the torch forward.

Take care,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Ryu".

David Ryu

Team Ryu Updates

The City Council's Rules Committee voted to raise recusal standards after advancing a motion I co-introduced to expand the type of conflicts requiring City officials to recuse themselves from taking action or casting votes. The motion, which highlights the recusal standard used by the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro), is one of many anti-corruption motions I have put forth. [Learn more here.](#)



Thank you to everyone who joined my Emerge into Equity: Women in the Time of COVID-19 series! We had three fantastic discussions covering a range of issues, including Health, Mental Health, Domestic Violence, Homelessness, Employment, and Childcare. I am so grateful to all our panelists for joining us, and for sharing their expertise and wisdom. If you missed any of the sessions, you can view the recordings [online here](#).

News Updates

LA Mag: [L.A. City Council Wants to Honor Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg with a Statue](#)

My News LA: [LA Council Takes Steps to Increase Accountability of Development Process](#)

KFI AM: [LA City Council Approves Funding for Renter Legal Defense Program](#)

Updates from the City

City Council created an Eviction Defense Program this week with \$10.4 million mean to protect Los Angeles renters from eviction. This program seeks to contract with the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles to assist the city's COVID Response Emergency Defense program. [Click here](#) to learn more about renter protections in the City of Los Angeles.



City Council also committed \$6 million to help street vendors after voting to pay for supplies and permits needed to operate within Los Angeles. The funds will be distributed through the Los Angeles Regional COVID Fund. Learn more about the street vendor permit process [here](#).

Updates from the State



Governor Newsom is banning non-electric cars after 2035. Governor Newsom [issued an executive order](#) requiring sales of all new passenger vehicles to be zero-emission by 2035. This order seeks to phase out gasoline-powered cars, and reduce California's dependence on fossil fuels. Of California's total greenhouse gas emissions, the transportation sector currently accounts for more than 50 percent.

Featuring CD4 Local Businesses

Small businesses are truly the backbone of the Los Angeles economy, and I'm here to help support you. Although many retail establishments and restaurants are closed or scaled back, we can still support our local economy by ordering online or picking up takeout. **If you know of a CD4 business that would like to be featured here, [fill out this form](#) or contact us at cd4.issues@lacity.org.**

Today's Featured CD4 Business:



[Papilles](#) on Franklin Avenue is a classic French bistro emphasizing balance, texture, nuance, and seasonality. Check out the For the Win burgers available daily for takeout from 12pm - 9pm. They have a special Bistro menu for Al Fresco dining nightly. To place a pick-up order, give them a call at 323-871-2026.

We are here and working for you, please don't hesitate to reach out to me and my team at cd4.issues@lacity.org or 213-473-7004.

<http://davidryu.lacity.org/>

Keep up with Councilmember Ryu on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#):



This email was sent to rap.commissioners@lacity.org by the office of :

Councilmember David Ryu

Los Angeles City Hall | 200 N. Spring Street, Rm 425 | Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Re: Art Event Special Permit

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Marianna Varviani

Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 12:28 PM

Good Afternoon,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office, your email will be forwarded to the Commissioners. If you have any further questions or comments please respond to this email.

On Fri, Sep 25, 2020 at 10:05 AM Marianna Varviani

wrote:



Hello,

My name is Marianna Varviani and I am an LA-based dance theater practitioner, a UCLA fellow and the Artistic Director of Selcouth.

In response to the current situation, Selcouth has created the project: ART TRUCK LA. This is a mobile stage on top of a flatbed truck that will host dance, theater and music performances and workshops. We wish to share these works, for free, to LA residents!

As a solution to Covid related risks we have considered safety precautions while creating this in-person experience. Our audiences are going to view the performances from the comfort and safety of their homes, windows and porches. Thus, socially distanced and safe. All the members of the cast and crew are going to be tested prior to the event. Everyone in the production team will wear masks while on site. The artists while waiting to perform are going to be in their cars wearing masks, and having their seat belts on. The flatbed truck is completely open so that air can pass through.

This project aims to bring art to the people of Los Angeles for free. In this way, we believe that we can maintain high morale, empower and inspire people through these challenging times. We wish to support local artists by providing them with a safe platform to share their works. Through crowdfunding and grants, we aim to support the artists by compensating them for their work. In the same time, by sharing these works we hope to start a creative dialogue in between artists and audiences of different neighborhoods. We hope to reach a diverse audience that might not had the chance of viewing such works otherwise.

What we ask of you is a special permit for this event. This project has been designed specifically for this period of time, where safety is a priority!

We believe that art plays a vital role in the moral of the community. Through performances, people can get entertained, open themselves to new possibilities of expression and take a break from their everyday life. We believe that this is particularly useful in times of crisis!

We would really appreciate your help and support for this project. Please let us know when we could organize an online meeting or what are the next steps towards acquiring a special event permit.

Please contact us at:

For more information please visit: <https://www.selcouth.info/arttruckla>

On behalf of Selcouth,
Marianna Varviani



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