

INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

August 04, 2022

TO: BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS  
FROM: JIMMY KIM, Interim 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) Comments regarding Griffith Park Pony Ride	#9054bvg-9054bvj	Referred to General Manager
2) Suzanne Strachan comments regarding Griffith Park Pony Ride	#9054bvh	Referred to General Manager
3) Ava Rose Friedman comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136al	Referred to General Manager
4) Beth Rubenstein comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136am	Referred to General Manager
5) Debra Huston comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136an	Referred to General Manager
6) Lisa Gaines comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136ao	Referred to General Manager
7) Jasmine Dowlatshahi comments regarding PAB meeting Palisades RC	#9160	Referred to General Manager
8) Francisco Sandoval comments regarding Senior Citizen Center for Venice Community	#9161	Referred to General Manager
9) Clara Solis comments regarding Arroyo Secco Park and San Pascual Park	#9162	Referred to General Manager
10) Shelly Morita comments regarding LAEC	#9163	Referred to General Manager

11) Miriam Preissel comments regarding Sepulveda Basin Dog Park	#9164	Referred to General Manager
12) Robert Chernow comments regarding Pan Pacific Park	#9165	Referred to General Manager
13) Vora Pong Nimnual comments regarding Pickleball at Palisades Rec Center	#9166	Referred to General Manager

Prepared by Carolyn Shannon-Joyner, RAP Commission Office



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

## I would like to submit a welfare check for elderly ponies!

1 message

**Ilse Vanden Balck**

>

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 12:34 PM

To: "ani.nocfield@lacity.org" <ani.nocfield@lacity.org>, "oscar.peregrina@lacity.org" <oscar.peregrina@lacity.org>, "mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org" <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>, "annette.ramirez@lacity.org" <annette.ramirez@lacity.org>, "rap.commissioners@lacity.org" <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Hi Lieutenant Peregrina,

On April 17th elderly ponies were being overworked, and a sheep was seen overheated in the petting zoo.

Elderly ponies were hit to provide rides for several hours.

Your investigation provided no violations for California Penal Code 597 overworking elderly ponies, elderly ponies working in extreme temperatures, no water for elderly ponies for almost seven hours on turnstile in 90F, and no water for petting zoo animals.

As a California constituent I want my tax payer dollars allocated to enforcing animal welfare laws, thus I want to submit a welfare check with your agency.

Thank you for everything that you do in the community.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE

VANDEN BALCK ILSE  
TIRLEMONT  
BRABANT  
BELGIUM



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

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## I would like to submit a welfare check for elderly ponies!

1 message

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**Suzanne Strachan**

>

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 12:45 PM

To: ani.nocfield@lacity.org, oscar.peregrina@lacity.org, mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org, annette.ramirez@lacity.org,  
, rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Hi Lieutenant Peregrina,

On April 17th elderly ponies were being overworked, and a sheep was seen overheated in the petting zoo.

Elderly ponies were hit to provide rides for several hours.

Your investigation provided no violations for California Penal Code 597 overworking elderly ponies, elderly ponies working in extreme temperatures, no water for elderly ponies for almost seven hours on turnstile in 90F, and no water for petting zoo animals.

As a California constituent I want my tax payer dollars allocated to enforcing animal welfare laws, thus I want to submit a welfare check with your agency.

Thank you for everything that you do in the community.



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

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## Please ban pony rides!

1 message

**Leslie Just**

&gt;

Fri, Jul 29, 2022 at 3:40 AM

To: councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, paul.koretz@lacity.org, contactcd4@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org, councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org, councilmember.lee@lacity.org, councilmember.bonin@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Dear Honorable City Councilmembers,

On May 22 nd depressed elderly ponies at Griffith Park and Pony Ride and Petting Zoo were hit to go faster, unclean water was provided, and a sheep were seen in distress and overheated.

Workers were seen on their phones while children were riding on the backs of the elderly ponies, and workers were on their phones in the petting zoo while children were hand feeding the animals, which can be a huge liability for the city if a child is bitten or is unsupervised while riding on the back of an elderly pony.

I am no longer heartbroken. I am no longer sad. I am angry. We are Angelenos! We hold child welfare and animal welfare to highest standards. Why has the Council not acted?

Please shut down this park, replace the park with a non-animal model, send the animals to a sanctuary, and please ban pony rides. Thank you.

Leslie Wheeler

Sent from my iPhone



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

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## Please ban pony rides!

1 message

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**Karen Clayton** <

>

Fri, Jul 29, 2022 at 10:48 AM

To: councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, paul.koretz@lacity.org, contactcd4@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, councilmember.krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org, councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org, councilmember.lee@lacity.org, councilmember.bonin@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, rap.commissioners@lacity.org

SHUT THE PONY RIDES DOWN!!!

Sent from my iPhone



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

**Re: Support for Safe Parking Program in Westchester**

1 message

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

Mon, Jul 18, 2022 at 2:10 PM

To: Ava Rose Friedman <

>

Cc: rap.publicinfo@lacity.org, councilmember.bonin@lacity.org, g

Good afternoon,

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

On Fri, Jul 15, 2022 at 5:50 PM Ava Rose Friedman < > wrote:

My name is Ava Friedman, and I am writing to express my support for the Safe parking program located at the Westchester Park Pool Parking Lot. This program provides a vital resource for our unhoused neighbors currently living in their vehicles. By providing a secure place for them to park and sleep in their vehicles overnight, and access the services, this resource has helped people achieve stability and secure housing.

Without this program, these individuals would be forced to park in residential or other nearby areas, or to already overcrowded nearby encampments. The presence of large encampments in the area which are primarily made up of vehicle dwellers, underscores the need for more resources like Safe Parking to be expanded.

Please vote to extend the permit for this important program.

Thank you.

Ava Friedman

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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](http://www.laparks.org)



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Westchester Park- parking lot

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Mon, Jul 18, 2022 at 2:13 PM

To: Beth Rubenstein <...>  
Cc: Tony.Royster@lacity.org,

Good afternoon,

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

On Sun, Jul 17, 2022 at 4:51 PM Beth Rubenstein <...> wrote:

Dear Mr. Royster,

I am a resident of Westchester, 90045. I have lived here since 1991, raised my children here, and now my daughter lives in an apartment here with here two preschoolers. My children grew up at Westchester Park. My grandchildren play there frequently. We have loved the park.

I am now a volunteer at the Senior Center, teaching classes and giving general help when needed.

I don't know if you have ever been to our park. It is beautiful and has been very relevant to our community, hosting daily lunches, art, exercise programs and much more. Before the pandemic we had festivals, a British Tea, Hawaiian day, and our Mobility and Movement Festival. Our center and programs were something to be proud of, serving our neighborhood, those 50 and above. Grandparents day brought the young ones in for lunch and fun also. Our center is run by a creative and dedicated director.

As I am sure you know, our park was inundated with unhoused people during the pandemic. Now that RAP has cleaned it up, almost all of it is beautiful and being used again, except for our Senior Center and our library. The parking lot, over which you have jurisdiction is packed with homeless people, cars, trucks, RV's, tents, and not so nice people.

Our city councilman, Mike Bonin refuses to clean it up. He refuses to comply with 41.18 which allows him to do so. His excuse is that it is your jurisdiction, if he gives any information at all. Might I add that his offices are safely fenced with their own entrance so they do not have to drive by or see the people living there.

We know that he is looking into fencing off the parking lot. Is that to keep the new residents in or out? What about the Seniors? Do we just close our center and tell people it is not safe to come here, send them to El Segundo or Culver City? These are my neighbors, people I care about. Seniors need this center for their well being.

This area is unsafe. We need help here. I don't understand how a city councilman with his own unknown agenda can upset the lives of those who have lived here and worked their whole lives.

Of course we have the issue of no longer having parking for our beautiful library. Users are cut off.

I know you are busy but this is very important. We need your support. I care about this community. Obviously Mike Bonin who is not running for office again, does not. I am hoping that you do. Please respond and let me know what you can do so I can disperse this information.

Sincerely,

Beth Rubenstein

**Beth Rubenstein, MS, PT** Guild Certified Feldenkrais Practitioner

Phone:  
Email:  
Website:  
Address:





Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

## Re: Westchester Park- parking lot

1 message

**Kenneth Stanberry** <kenneth.stanberry@lacity.org>

Mon, Jul 18, 2022 at 2:21 PM

To: Abby Austin <abby.austin@lacity.org>  
Cc: Tony Royster <tony.royster@lacity.org>, rap.commissioners@lacity.org,

Hi Ms. Rubenstein,

Thank you for your correspondence and concerns regarding the parking lot located near Westchester Park. The City shares your compassion for the Westchester community and Council District 11 is prepared to discuss and address your concerns. You may contact Ms. Abby Austin, Deputy District Director for Council District 11, who has been included in this response, for information and to respond to your concerns regarding the parking lot and surrounding area.

Sincerely,  
Ken Stanberry

From: **Beth Rubenstein** < >  
Date: Sun, Jul 17, 2022 at 4:51 PM  
Subject: Westchester Park- parking lot  
To: <Tony.Royster@lacity.org>  
Cc: <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, >

Dear Mr. Royster,

I am a resident of Westchester, 90045. I have lived here since 1991, raised my children here, and now my daughter lives in an apartment here with here two preschoolers. My children grew up at Westchester Park. My grandchildren play there frequently. We have loved the park.

I am now a volunteer at the Senior Center, teaching classes and giving general help when needed.

I don't know if you have ever been to our park. It is beautiful and has been very relevant to our community, hosting daily lunches, art, exercise programs and much more. Before the pandemic we had festivals, a British Tea, Hawaiian day, and our Mobility and Movement Festival. Our center and programs were something to be proud of, serving our neighborhood, those 50 and above. Grandparents day brought the young ones in for lunch and fun also. Our center is run by a creative and dedicated director.

As I am sure you know, our park was inundated with unhoused people during the pandemic. Now that RAP has cleaned it up, almost all of it is beautiful and being used again, except for our Senior Center and our library.

The parking lot, over which you have jurisdiction is packed with homeless people, cars, trucks, RV's, tents, and not so nice people.

Our city councilman, Mike Bonin refuses to clean it up. He refuses to comply with 41.18 which allows him to do so. His excuse is that it is your jurisdiction, if he gives any information at all. Might I add that his offices are safely fenced with their own entrance so they do not have to drive by or see the people living there.

We know that he is looking into fencing off the parking lot. Is that to keep the new residents in or out? What about the Seniors? Do we just close our center and tell people it is not safe to come here, send them to El Segundo or Culver City? These are my neighbors, people I care about. Seniors need this center for their well being.



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

# Re: Permit for municipal lot at Westchester Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 1:32 PM

To: Debra Huston < >  
 Cc: John Szabo < >, tony.royster@lacity.org, Paula Gerez < >, Sue Pascoe < >, Jamie Paige < >, "Klemack, John (NBCUniversal)" < >, Cyndi Hench < >, Alexandra Reynolds < >

Good afternoon,

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

On Mon, Jul 18, 2022 at 6:21 PM Debra Huston < > wrote:

Dear RAP Commissioners and Mr. Szabo,

I am forwarding an email I just sent to Tony Royster, GM of the General Services Division of the City. Our Westchester/Playa del Rey community needs information as to whether Mike Bonin has applied for, or whether GSD has issued, a permit for any type of homeless intervention in the parking lot of Westchester Park that serves the senior center, the city library, and the council office. We began with filing PRA requests with GSD several months ago, and we have also made informal requests. We still do not know. In addition, our Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa del Rey does not know.

We do know that Mr. Bonin's office obtained estimates to fence that entire lot, and we have provided those to you. We obtained emails by PRA showing that Mr. Bonin's office was making inquiries of another city office about funding for using that lot for Safe Parking (see attachment). Last week, there were surveyors at the parking lot, and also lighting contractors doing a job walk. Within the last month, the RV/van count in the park has doubled.

This is the largest parking lot in Westchester Park, and it makes up about half the parking spaces in the entire park. This is the only parking lot that serves the senior center and the city library branch in the park. If this parking lot is not available, people with disabilities and most senior center users will not be able to use the library or the senior center, and parking in the rest of the park would be insufficient. The CAO determined in his August 10, 2021, report that Westchester Park is not feasible for a Safe Parking program.

We believe the implementation of a Safe Parking (24-hour or just at night) for RVs in that lot is imminent, and we need information as to the plans for that lot.

If there is anything you can do to help us get the information we need, we would appreciate it.

Thank you so much.

Debra Huston

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

From: **Debra Huston** < >  
 Date: Mon, Jul 18, 2022 at 6:04 PM  
 Subject: Permit for municipal lot at Westchester Park  
 To: <tony.royster@lacity.org>

Dear Mr. Royster,

We have been making every effort for months to find out from GSD if Mike Bonin has requested a permit for Safe Parking or any other type of homeless intervention in the municipal lot that is contiguous to the senior center, the city library, and Mr. Bonin's field office in Westchester Park.

After months of trying to get this information, both by informal request and by PRA request, we still do not know if Mr. Bonin has requested such a permit, or if GSD has issued one.

We ask you to please ask your staff to provide this information to us right away, along with a copy of the request and the permit, if a permit has been issued.

Thank you so much.

Debra Huston

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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](http://www.laparks.org)



**To:** Allison Wilhite [REDACTED]  
**From:** Sachin Medhekar  
**Sent:** Tue 3/8/2022 7:46:16 PM  
**Subject:** Roadmap Questions  
**Received:** Tue 3/8/2022 7:46:28 PM

Hey Allison,  
Hope all is well! I have a few questions for you:

1. [This CAO report](#) from 1/24 references, in Attachment 1, the Roadmap tracker for Council Districts. For our district, it says we have a 302 "New Interventions Open and In Process as of December 31, 2021" which are broken down as 131 RRH/Shared Housing, 64 Interim, 77 PHK, and 30 Safe Parking.

Can you share how those 64 interim placements are broken down? (e.g. where they are and what type). Also, Safe Parking LA relayed to me that they have a current max capacity of 50 (25 at each site), how does that factor into the 30 listed?

2. Our office is exploring the possibility of expanding our Safe Parking site at the Westchester Municipal Building (separate from our pursuits with the LAWA site), which is currently Roadmap funded. Could an expansion be supported by Roadmap funding? If so, what would be the process for that?

3. We discussed on a previous call the possibility of getting a more in-depth cost breakdown for Safe Camping and Tiny Homes than what can be found on the Council File for Roadmap. Can you share those breakdowns with me or point me in the right direction for those?

Thanks so much for your help! Please let me know if I should clarify anything.

**REPORT FROM**

**OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

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Date: August 10, 2021

CAO File No. 0220-05734-0029

Council File No. 21-0350

Council Districts: 11

To: The City Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer



Subject: **Report Back on Evaluation of Site Feasibility and Identification of Funding for Potential Homeless Interventions in Council District 11**

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**SUMMARY**

On May 26, 2021 the City Council adopted recommendations from the Homelessness and Poverty Committee relative to a Motion (Bonin - Ridley-Thomas, C.F. 21-0350) instructing the City Administrative Officer (CAO) to evaluate site feasibility and identify funding for potential homeless interventions at various locations in Council District 11. These sites include: Will Rogers State Beach at 17000 CA-1; Dockweiler State Beach at Lot 3, 11999 Vista Del Mar; Dockweiler State Beach RV Park at 12001 Vista Del Mar; Marina del Rey at Lot 2, 13477 Fiji Way; a Culver City owned site; privately-owned land near 5000 Beethoven Avenue; Westchester Park; Mar Vista Park; Los Angeles World Airports land; and the West Los Angeles Municipal Building at 1645 Corinth Avenue.

The CAO followed its feasibility process as outlined in C.F. 20-1351 to assess the proposed sites. The CAO worked with the Bureau of Engineering (BOE), the Department of General Services (GSD), and the public and private owners of the sites to determine feasibility. Based on these assessments, the majority of the sites are not feasible for homeless interventions, mainly due to infrastructure constraints. The Marina del Rey and the Dockweiler State Beach RV Park sites are still under assessment, and the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) is communicating with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) about the feasibility of using airport land for homeless interventions. Finally, the City of Culver City has decided to proceed with a homeless intervention on the site it owns in Council District 5, near the border of Council District 11. Discussions regarding partnering on this effort are ongoing.

Council District 11, like Council Districts 1, 5, 7, and 12, lacks City-owned land that can be used for homeless interventions. For these areas, we should continue to identify privately-owned sites that can be leased for homeless interventions and request that the Los Angeles Housing Department pursue properties under the Project Homekey 2 Program. Most of these districts benefited from Round 1 of Project Homekey. In Council District 11, two motels/hotels were purchased, and are now operating as interim housing.

If the sites under assessment are found to be feasible for homeless interventions, the CAO will

include recommendations for the proposed sites' use and funding in upcoming reports.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

That the City Council note and file the report as no further action is required at this time.

## DISCUSSION

The following sites were assessed and found to be infeasible for the reasons outlined below.

### 1. State Owned Beach Sites for Tiny Homes, Safe Parking, or Safe Sleep

Will Rogers State Beach and Dockweiler State Beach are owned by the State of California and managed by the County of Los Angeles. The BOE assessment determined that these sites are cost prohibitive for the following reasons:

- *Lack of Infrastructure Capacity:* The beach sites were not built for 24/7 residential use, and thus, the sewer infrastructure is not suitable for homeless housing.
- *Lack of Utility Capacity:* The power capacity would have to be increased at both beaches, and the nearest transformer is located 1,000 feet from the sites.
- *Fire Safety:* There are no fire hydrants near these two beaches, and new hydrants would need to be installed as a requirement for residential use.

### 2. Privately Owned Site near 5000 Beethoven Avenue for Safe Sleep

The site is a peninsula of vacant land located southeast of 5000 Beethoven Avenue and is enclosed by the I-90 Freeway, the Ballona Creek, and the Centinela Creek Channel. The BOE assessment determined this site as infeasible for the following reasons:

- *No Access to Site:* The site has no pedestrian or vehicle access.
- *Lack of Nearby Utilities:* Utilities are situated far from the site, and capacity is uncertain. The closest sewer connection is 500 feet away, the closest water source is 800 feet away, and there is no apparent source for power within 1,000 feet.
- *Expensive to Develop:* The terrain is rough and substantially contoured, which would require considerable grading and soil removal to level the site for access and placement of pallets for administrative purposes, hygiene trailers, and tent spaces.

### 3. City Owned Westchester and Mar Vista Parks for Safe Sleep

The Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) assessed the proposed sites, and recommended that these parks not be used for the following reasons:

- *Sites Are Not Underutilized:* Prior to the pandemic, both Westchester and Mar Vista Parks experienced varied and robust recreational usage. Data from both parks show that on average more than 6,000 youth participants attend and utilize the parks and facilities. The parking lots are needed for pick up and drop off for programming and aquatics. Both parks returned to normal operations on June 14, 2021, and

programming is planned through the end of the fiscal year. The RAP sites that are being used for homeless interventions are on underutilized park land.

- *Revenue Generating*: These parks generate more than \$500,000 in annual revenue for RAP.

These two parks should be considered for targeted outreach to connect people experiencing homelessness to housing and services through “Encampment to Home” or similar models.

#### **4. City Owned West LA Municipal Building for Temporary Shelter**

The evaluated site at the West LA Municipal Building is an approximately 5,500 square foot vacant office space with 24 enclosed offices on the second floor of the building. The State Emergency Shelter Declaration allows the City to use non-residentially zoned properties for shelter according to alternative health and safety standards. These standards limit shelter sleeping quarters to the ground floor. This standard has also been codified in the Los Angeles Municipal Code § 91.8605.2, 2.E. The Municipal Building is zoned as public facilities, and thus, not feasible for shelter use. Even if the zoning was changed to accommodate shelter, the available space is too small to make an interim housing project viable. An interim housing facility should be a minimum of 13,000 square feet to provide up to 70 beds, administrative offices, hygiene facilities, common space, and storage, to make it financially and programmatically viable.

The following sites are still under assessment.

#### **1. County Owned Marina del Rey Site for Tiny Homes or Safe Sleep**

The proposed Marina del Rey site, located in Lot 2 at 13477 Fiji Way, is an underutilized parking lot owned by the County of Los Angeles adjacent to a boat launch and commercial buildings.

- *Utility Capacity*: BOE’s final assessment and Rough Order of Magnitude is pending a report from the County Department of Public Works on sewer, water, and power capacity.

#### **2. State Owned Dockweiler Beach RV Park for RV Safe Parking**

The proposed site at 12001 Vista Del Mar is still being assessed by BOE.

#### **3. Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) Owned Site for Tiny Homes, Safe Parking, or Safe Sleep**

LAWA has identified possible sites for homeless interventions and requested that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) review for approval. The FAA would have to agree to allow the use of airport land for homeless housing and waive the requirement that land purchased with FAA funds be leased at market rate.

**Culver City Owned Site for Tiny Homes or Safe Sleep**

The proposed site is a parking lot in the City of Los Angeles but owned by the City of Culver City in Council District 5, near Council District 11. Culver City is not interested in leasing the site to the City. Instead, Culver City plans to develop the site as a homeless intervention and is open to collaborating with Council Districts 5 and 11 regarding the utilization of the intervention. BOE has provided sample layouts for Tiny Home and Safe Sleep Villages.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no impact to the General Fund at this time.

**FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT**

The recommendations in this report comply with the City Financial Policies.

*MWS:YC:AW:16220101*



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

**Re: Save Westchester Park**

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 1:32 PM

To: Lisa GAINES < >

Cc: Tony.Royster@lacity.org,

Good afternoon,

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

On Tue, Jul 19, 2022 at 10:33 AM Lisa GAINES < > wrote:

Dear Mr. Royster,

I am writing to you today in sheer frustration over the failed policies that are hurting our youth and our seniors in Westchester and neighboring communities. I will use facts to provide you with compelling reasons why homeless encampments at our park parking lot and the lack of removal is harming the masses.

- 1. The community is grossly under the city's parkland acres minimum for healthy communities

Darryl Ford, Superintendent of Planning, Maintenance and Construction said in a July correspondence: "The Westchester - Playa Del Rey Community Plan Area, within which the project is located, has a parkland acres-to-population ratio of neighborhood and community parks of 2.4 acres per 1,000 residents. The Public Recreation Plan, a portion of the Service Element of the City's General Plan, sets a goal of a parkland acres-to-population ratio of neighborhood and community parks of 4.0 acres per 1,000 residents." This was based upon old 2020 population data not 2022 which lowers the ratio to 2.0 acres per 1,000 people. Therefore, policies that make this space unusable by the community further impacts the parkland available for the population it is supposed to serve not meeting the city's own standards.

[https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2022/22-0574\\_misc\\_13\\_05-10-22.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2022/22-0574_misc_13_05-10-22.pdf)

- 2. Exercise and greenspace has proven benefits for mental health and wellness

Our seniors and children have been forced away from Westchester Park due to the homeless encampments and the continual torment these people inflict on these vulnerable groups. By now you have received reports with the myriad stabbings, fires, sexual assaults, physical assaults and thefts that continue to plague families and seniors trying to use the park by violent homeless people. Last week were two documented assaults that have left the children and their families in fear to go to the park again. The mental wellness of our children are at risk. Exercise is known to help with stress and anxiety and help their wellness. Don't they count? Where can their families park without the fear of being assaulted if these unruly violent homeless take over the sacred few parking spots close to the library and tennis courts? It really is putting the community at a known risk by allowing these homeless people to illegally camp in the parking lot. By allowing homeless to camp in the parking lot, you are complicit in the violence on and mental wellbeing of our youth.

- 3. Seniors and Physically Challenged need handicapped access to the senior center and the library

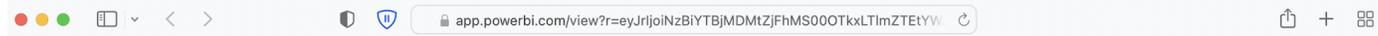
Our seniors need the senior center and the library to keep them from becoming homeless. They get food, legal counseling, exercise programs, supportive services to allow them to remain in their home. They use the library as a life saving cooling center during the hot summer months. They also use the library for the resources including the use of their computers, as most don't own their own computer. Physically challenged people who are unable to use the park facilities seek solace in using the library for mental escape and learning. BUT, they can't get to the front door due to the homeless encampment encompassing all of the handicapped parking spaces (see below). Will seniors die from heat stroke this summer because they cannot park close to the entrance in the handicapped spots? Will they park much further and risk being assaulted? Or will they fall and break a hip because the walk is too far? Don't they matter? By allowing homeless to camp in this parking lot, you are complicit in the violence on and wellbeing of our seniors and physically challenged.



- 4. There are, on average, 370 available Safe Parking spots any given day for campers/cars/vehicles to park in Los Angeles and 20+ excess capacity before LAWA Safe Parking site opens in Westchester

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority tracks the available Safe Parking spots by city and by district. Below shows that in our district since 2020, we have not exceeded 50% capacity for Safe Parking. Before the LAWA lot opens for Safe Parking we already had more spots than "enrolled" (in dark blue) and users (in light blue). The data shows that availability of spaces is not the issue. LAHSA has places to move these homeless people to and these resources have been offered to them. The homeless encamped in the parking lot choose not to use the resources offered to them.

https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrjoiNzBiYTBJMDMTzJFhMS000tkxLTlmZTETyWJmNGNhZjRlNjZhiwidCI



Program Name: All | Council District: 11 | Agency Name: All | Service Planning Area: All | Clear All Filters

## Enrollments and Lot Occupancy

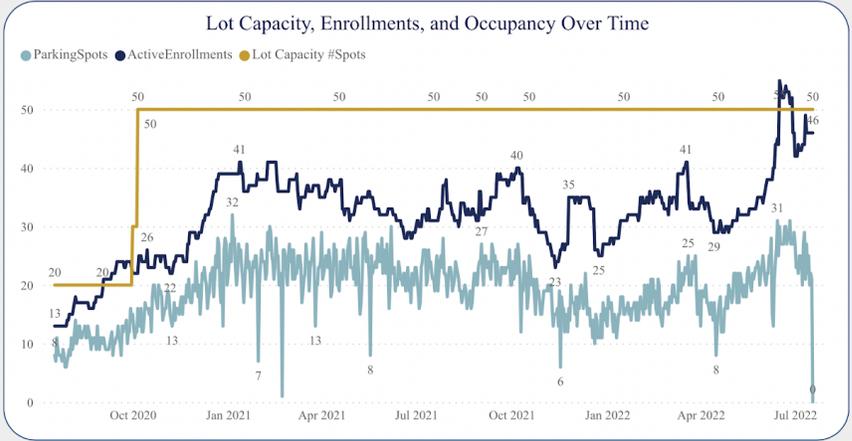
*The below tables and visualizations will be affected by the filters on the top of the page*

**Persons Enrolled in Safe Parking\***

**46**

Total Parking Spots: 50  
07/18/2022

*\* As of the most recent services reporting date.*



Microsoft Power BI

In summary, should all the senior, physically challenged, youth and families have to suffer because no one will enforce the parking ordinance? Do the few homeless that choose not to accept services matter more than our community at large? If I parked in a handicapped parking spot for just a short time, I guarantee you my car would be ticketed and/or towed. Why don't our handicapped get any consideration?

Please, you can make a difference in a large community's wellbeing by preventing these encampments in and around the park. Enforce the law.

Thank you,

Lisa Gaines  
Westchester resident since 1987

City of Los Angeles  
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Agenda for upcoming PAB meeting Palisades RC**

1 message

---

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>  
To: Jasmine Dowlatshahi <jasmine.dowl@lacity.org>

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 7:33 AM

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Jul 19, 2022 at 11:50 AM Jasmine Dowlatshahi &lt;jasmine.dowl@lacity.org&gt; wrote:

Hello All-

Please see the attached.

--

Jasmine N. Dowlatshahi  
Senior Facility Director,  
Pacific Palisades Recreation Center (310) 454-1412

--

City of Los Angeles  
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
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# REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

## Pacific Palisades Recreation Center PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Wednesday, July 20, 2022 7:00pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85023154622>

Meeting ID: 850 2315 4622

One tap mobile

+16694449171,,85023154622# US

+16699006833,,85023154622# US (San Jose)

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IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) AND DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THIS BOARD MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY TELEPHONICALLY.

EVERY PERSON WISHING TO ADDRESS THE PARK ADVISORY BOARD MUST DIAL (669) 900-6833, AND ENTER 886 6287 7583 AND THEN PRESS #. INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO SIGN UP FOR PUBLIC COMMENT WILL BE GIVEN TO LISTENERS AT THE START OF THE MEETING. EACH SPEAKER WILL BE GRANTED A MAXIMUM OF TWO MINUTES.

**NOTICE TO PAID REPRESENTATIVES** - IF YOU ARE COMPENSATED TO MONITOR, ATTEND, OR SPEAK AT THIS MEETING, CITY LAW MAY REQUIRE YOU TO REGISTER AS A LOBBYIST AND REPORT YOUR ACTIVITY. SEE LOS ANGELES MUNICIPAL CODE 48.01 ET SEQ. MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](https://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). FOR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT THE ETHICS COMMISSION AT (213) 978-1960 OR [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org).

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

- Roll Call

### 2. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

- Approval of Special Meeting Minutes June 1, 2022

### 3. **AGENDA ITEMS**

3a. **Park Update - Senior Facility Director – Jasmine Dowlatshahi**

3b. **Veterans Gardens Update**

3c. **Tennis Court Lights Update**

3d. **Park Tree Update – David Card**

3e. **Fundraising Efforts – We need a leader and a grant writer**

3f. **ADA Compliant Playground Update/ Status update on the grant**

### 4. **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**

Members of the Public Who Wish to Comment on Other Matters Not Listed on the Agenda and under the Jurisdiction of the Board

## Meeting Date

### 5. **BOARD BUSINESS**

Requests by Board Members to Schedule Specific Future Agenda Items

### 8. **NEXT MEETING**

The next Regular Meeting of the Palisades Park Advisory Board – July 20, 2022

### 9. **ADJOURNMENT**

#### *PUBLIC COMMENT*

Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Agenda is posted for public review at <https://www.laparks.org/info/volunteer/pab-agendas/2020>.

#### *ADA*

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting Janet Anderson at [sevenandersons@gmail.com](mailto:sevenandersons@gmail.com)



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

**Re: Senior Citizen Center for Venice Community (Oakwood Park)**

1 message

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

Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 11:00 AM

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Jul 20, 2022 at 10:26 AM FRANCISCO SANDOVAL < >  
To whom it may concern:

wrote:

I am writing on behalf of my senior mother and all of the seniors that live in the Venice community. Before the height of the pandemic, a group of over 25 senior citizens met daily at Oakwood Park Recreation Center to lift their spirits sharing time together in conversation, sharing a meal, playing bingo, and a meeting place for a planned periodic bus trip to a Southern California casino.

As the pandemic has eased a bit, my mother has informed me Oakwood Rec Center does not plan on resuming its senior citizen program. What a sad disservice to our seniors. I respectfully request the senior citizen program at Oakwood Rec Center be continued ASAP. My mom's social group of seniors suffer from depression of being isolated and trapped in their homes. Social interaction is fundamental for all of our community seniors' health and well-being.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Hope to get our community senior program reinstated.

Sincerely,

F. Sandoval

Sent from my iPhone

--  
City of Los Angeles  
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
Figueroa Plaza  
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300  
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Website: [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org)



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

---

**Re: Highland Park Park Problems,**

1 message

---

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

Thu, Jul 21, 2022 at 1:31 PM

To:

Good afternoon,

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

On Thu, Jul 21, 2022 at 9:53 AM

> wrote:

| Please see attached.

--

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Clara Solis

July 21, 2022

Department of Recreation and Parks Commission

Arroyo Seco Park and San Pascual Park Problems:

**San Pascual Park**

Trees have been planted within the dripline of a protected species, namely a Coast Live Oak. See attached.

Additionally, too many non-native trees were planted in this park that mainly has natives and is in the Arroyo Seco.

**Arroyo Seco Park**

The park is still closed. The ADA Ramp is completed. Trees have been planted adjacent to the ramp but it is still closed.

Plantings by ramp have died or are dying. See attached.

Trees have been planted and are still alive. We hope they will stay that way, but are concerned that as their roots grow, they will not be able to penetrate the compacted soil.

Trees planted under Santa Fe Arroyo Seco bridge have grass growing at their base and the protective fencing is down for one tree.

**Highland Park Recreation Center**

The pool is in poor shape and needs serious rehabilitation. People go to other parks, because it is in such poor shape.

Our community needs a Park Advisory Board.

Thank you,

Clara Solis



San Pascual Park





Arroyo Seco Park

Historic Sign has not been protected and is tilting.



Newly planted tree not protected. Possible Southern California Black Walnut



Dead planting and possible So Cal Black Walnut



Dead plant and possible So Cal Black Walnuts, one alive one dead





Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

## Re: LAEC

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Mon, Jul 25, 2022 at 9:34 AM

To: SM Mail <

Cc: Rachel Ramos <rachel.ramos@lacity.org>, kathryn@bos.lacounty.gov

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Jul 25, 2022 at 9:02 AM SM Mail <

> wrote:

As I'm sure you are aware, the Recreation and Parks (RAP) board unanimously agreed to terminate it's contract with LAEC Inc. of the management for LA Equestrian Center.

Now, in one if it's final acts as manager, LAEC Inc. has informed all tenants that they will raise our boards 8.5%.

We as a group are greatly disappointed that after supporting and rallying for your proposed changes that RAP, Rachel Ramos and Joe Salaices have allowed LAEC Inc. to strong arm us by raising our board in an attempt for LAEC Inc. to obtain a final money grab on their way out the door.

The property still remains in disrepair, with several code violations and no improvements were done nor are we aware of any planned.

During the discussion regarding the new contract for ASM global, Joe Salaices assured us that there would be no board increase for a minimum of two years. With the economy crashing it is unfathomable that representatives of the city of Los Angeles would go against its word and allow this increase, which will further jeopardize members of the already fragile equestrian community, all while lining the pockets of LAEC Inc.

Per Mr Salaices letter, below, it's puzzling that while on a 90 day notice of termination is in effect, LAEC Inc. would be allowed to change the current financial obligations of its boarders. Especially with less than a months notice, all while LAEC Inc. is technically being removed from controlling and managing the City property.

As a group we believe in the promises given and were excited for the possibilities that new management will bring to the facility. Namely in fixing the conditions of the facilities. Unfortunately our excitement has turned to concern as it appears you are wilfully allowing LAEC Inc. to retaliate against us because we supported your position against LAEC Inc. Such a retaliation cannot stand. We expect RAP to enforce the promise of no board increases and to put a stop to LAEC Inc.'s illicit behavior. In particular we want assurances from RAP that they will not condone nor enforce the retaliatory increase during the transition period.

Sincerely,

Angry Boarders and Trainers at LAEC

FROM JOE SALAICES, Rec & Parks.

Dear Boarders, Trainers and Equestrian Community:

On May 5, 2022, the Recreation and Parks (RAP) Board of Commissioners, in a 5-0 vote, approved Board Report 22-114. The report contains information on the intentions by RAP regarding the future of the Los Angeles Equestrian Center.

Two approved recommendations in the Board Report are to authorize the General Manager of RAP to issue a ninety (90) day notice of termination to the LAEC Inc. and to appoint ASM Global as the interim facility manager of the Los Angeles Equestrian Center.

Soon after the Board Report was approved, LAEC Inc. filed a lawsuit against the City of Los Angeles and RAP, arguing

that RAP does not have the authority to terminate the agreement with LAEC Inc. RAP is defending that lawsuit. RAP will also ensure a qualified operator takes over the Equestrian Center's operations the moment LAEC Inc. leaves the site, regardless of when that occurs. Those plans include the continued operation of all existing boarding facilities and equestrian services.

The Department of Recreation and Parks is fully supportive of the equestrian community and is committed to the future of the Los Angeles Equestrian Center as a public asset that puts the health and safety of the horses and visitors first, that is equitable to the diversity of the region and provides a unique, high-quality recreational experience for the equestrian community.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Joe Salaices at [joe.salaices@lacity.org](mailto:joe.salaices@lacity.org) or at 213-524-9539

Shelly Morita

--

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Website: [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org)



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

## Re: Trees at the Sepulveda Basin Off-Leash Dog Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Jul 27, 2022 at 9:22 AM

To: Miriam Preissel < >

Cc: Jonah Glickman <Jonah.Glickman@lacity.org>, Jim Stein < >, Viana Parra <Viana.Parra@lacity.org>, Brian Yamasaki <brian.yamasaki@lacity.org>, Wayne Neal <Wayne.neal@lacity.org>, Cesar Lomeli <cesar.lomeli@lacity.org>, Muriel Kotin < >, Glenn Bailey < >, Javier Solis <Javier.Solis@lacity.org>, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, ap.diaz@lacity.org, lori.coleman@lacity.org, Ter Lieberstein < >, "Dana (Barney & Tallulah) Bartholomew" < >, "Katie (Mowgli) Serviss" < >  
< >, Trudi Schoolhouse < >, John Genga < >, Linda Gravani < >, "Deborah (Tommy) Davies" < >, Richard Harris < >  
>, Richard Vogel < >, Happy Dog < >, Mark Fuentes < >, John Popoch <John.Popoch@lacity.org>, paul.koretz@lacity.org, Donna 🐶 Soskin < >

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Jul 26, 2022 at 12:39 PM Miriam Preissel < >

> wrote:

To all that SHOULD and CAN help the biggest dog park in LA, serving the surrounding areas and being the only dog park for the west SFV, hosting a diverse patronage of race and income, seniors and disabled.

I am pretty upset and attaching photos of what they did to the trees. These trees became distressed because they STOPPED WATERING when people complained about mud. This didn't happen yesterday. This happened over the last few YEARS. So instead of adjusting or figuring out where that was a problem they stopped watering enough to sustain mature trees.

Ultimately our trees became distressed and need deep watering. Basins or berms, mulch and water. Pretty simple.

Arthur Flores, RAP arborist came out to check the trees and to get rid of branches that were in danger of coming down. I asked about what the trees needed and he said deep watering 30-50 gallons twice a week right now through the heat. I asked if they were going to do that and he said he "had no idea".

So I went in last night and realized they brought in bulldozers and diggers and dug up around the trees to make berms. The roots of these trees are on top of the ground because that's where the water comes from, the sprinklers. But they dug around the trees with heavy machinery and on top of not watering, they dug and ripped up roots that spread out around the trees that were just supposed to get water.

I reached out to Arthur and asked if he ordered this and he replied: "No, not at all, I think they need to cut whatever roots are protruding from the ground with a lopper or a hand saw. Then they need to cover with mulch and give water.

I will reach out to Brian Yamasaki to have them correct the issues ASAP."

I think Cesar Lomeli is the most conscientious maintenance person that I've dealt with on daily issues at the park. He has a lot to learn and I don't think he made this decision, at least I hope not. The arborist was there and this should not have happened, so there had to be someone who over rode the department tree surgeon.

This is a mess. I don't have confidence in the people that are overseeing our park and I have no idea how this gets fixed but there has to be enough concern from everyone to seriously address this lack of oversight the last few years. There is an Army Corp Master Plan that has been totally ignored. I believe they should be brought in to deal with the erosion that has worsened with the lack of watering. We have lost at least an inch of dirt and it's like sand on cement. This is beyond what the supervisors at RAP can deal with and someone has to oversee them so they actually take the expert advice when it is given.

I am not sure who is running RAP now. Michael Shull is retired and his replacement, the "Acting GM" Jimmy Kim is on vacation. I call the permit department and the vm is full. Someone has to get this act together. I am literally exhausted by the years of chasing my tail and never catching it.

Miriam Preissel









--  
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



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

**Re:**

1 message

Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

Wed, Jul 27, 2022 at 9:19 AM

To: r cdila1 &lt; &gt;

Cc: Anita Meacham &lt;anita.meacham@lacity.org&gt;, Sonia Monico &lt;30364@lapd.online&gt;, Editor &lt; &gt;, "vanessa.saldana@lacity.org" &lt;vanessa.saldana@lacity.org&gt;, "jay.greenstein@lacity.org" &lt;jay.greenstein@lacity.org&gt;

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Jul 26, 2022 at 11:41 AM r cdila1 &lt; &gt; wrote:

**TRANSIENT CRIME AT PAN PACIFIC PARK**

Hello Commissioners:

I have attached a picture taken last night at about 7:30 pm just adjacent to Pan Pacific Park, of a transient with his pants open, clearly under the influence of drugs or alcohol, exposing himself, who proceeded to walk into the park which was filled with families. When the police finally arrived over two hours later, I was informed that all they did was drive by the park and didn't even enter the park to find the transient. Even though they made no effort to even enter the park and find the suspect, in their report they claimed that "The suspect is no longer in the area." In fact, the transient in question can regularly be found living in the park. Ironically, I was at the park last night to take pictures of the alleged arson fire that took place at the park on July 12, 2022, between midnight and 1:00 am, when the park is supposed to be closed, which destroyed a children's playground which many of us in the neighborhood worked very hard to get built with private donations (see attached pictures). I had been informed earlier in the day yesterday by a captain at LAFD Arson, that his office had never been informed of the fire which took place two weeks ago, so that an investigator could have been assigned to investigate it for possible arson by the many transients that live in the park. Unfortunately, the park management failed to contact LAFD Arson prior to having all the evidence removed by Recreation and Parks maintenance workers. Rather than park management, I had to arrange to get LAFD Arson to finally investigate the fire. However, since all the evidence was already removed at the instruction of park management, it is probably too late for Arson to be able to find those responsible for the fire!

There is a long history of crimes associated with transients in and around Pan Pacific Park. A few years ago, a transient used his own blood to paint swastikas on one of the other children's playgrounds, as well as splattering his blood all over the adjacent bathroom which is frequented by children. Because of this history with transients, and the recent upsurge of transient living in Pan Pacific Park, I had been begging the LAPD Wiishire Division Captain as well as well as the manager of Pan Pacific Park, Eric Calhoun and his superior Elane Piha to increase the police patrols at the park and start again to close the park at 10:00 pm as use to be done. I had also been begging them to finally remove the transient encampments located all over the park as we had been promised many months ago. Unfortunately, my request fell on deaf ears and now a children's playground in the park has been burned down! I have been told by the Park Rangers

management that they do not have enough officers to patrol all the parks in Los Angeles and only patrol seven. Pan Pacific Park is not one of them. General Services Police use to patrol Pan Pacific Park on a daily basis. They would walk the park every night at closing to remove any one still present. After their department was phased out and the responsibility was turned over to LAPD, there are no longer daily patrols or closure of the park every night. Based on what occurred last night with the transient exposing himself, it appears that even when a citizen advises LAPD of crime taking place in the park, they can't even be bothered to go into the park and the best we get is a drive by of the adjacent streets!

I would very much like the opportunity to discuss this matter further with the Commission by having it placed on the agenda of an upcoming commission public meeting and being informed by staff of the date that this will take place.

Best,

Robert Chernob  
attachments:













**Fwd:**

1 message

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

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

From: **Sonia Monico** <30364@lapd.online>  
Date: Wed, Jul 27, 2022 at 9:09 PM  
Subject: Re:  
To: r cdila1 < >, Anita Meacham <anita.meacham@lacity.org>  
Cc: Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, vanessa.saldana@lacity.org <vanessa.saldana@lacity.org>, jay.greenstein@lacity.org <jay.greenstein@lacity.org>

Mr. Chernov,

I walked a foot beat in the park in the late afternoon today. I did not observe any criminal activity or any dogs off leashes. We will continue to work Parks and Recs to ensure the safety of ev Additionally, I have asked our Senior Lead Officer to work the Park Director to ensure we are addressing any concerns or criminal activity. We will work with our C-PAB Co-Chair to host a con Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Respectfully,

Captain Monico  
(213) 473-0558

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**From:** r cdila1 < >  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 7:34 AM  
**To:** Sonia Monico; Anita Meacham  
**Cc:** Rap Commissioners; [vanessa.saldana@lacity.org](mailto:vanessa.saldana@lacity.org); [jay.greenstein@lacity.org](mailto:jay.greenstein@lacity.org)  
**Subject:** Re: Re:

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Captain Monico:

What good are signs when they are not enforced? There are already signs throughout the park requiring dogs to be on leashes. Yet there are hundreds of dogs at the park off leashes every day

Robert Chernov

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 5:19 PM, Sonia Monico <30364@lapd.online> wrote:

Mr. Chernov,

As we discussed our Senior Lead Officer has been working closely with the Park Director and with Councilmember Koretz' staff to address unhoused individuals in and around the park

I have requested an investigation be conducted addressing our response to the park last night and will provide you with an update.

Respectfully,

Captain Sonia Monico  
Commanding Officer  
Wilshire Area  
(213) 473-0558

**From:** Anita Meacham <anita.meacham@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 3:47 PM  
**To:** r cdila1 < >  
**Cc:** Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>; Sonia Monico <30364@lapd.online>; Editor < >; [vanessa.saldana@lacity.org](mailto:vanessa.saldana@lacity.org); [jay.greenstein@lacity.org](mailto:jay.greenstein@lacity.org)  
**Subject:** Re:

**Fwd: Re:**

1 message

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

From: r cdila1 < >  
Date: Wed, Jul 27, 2022 at 7:34 AM  
Subject: Re: Re:  
To: Sonia Monico <30364@lapd.online>, Anita Meacham <anita.meacham@lacity.org>  
Cc: Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, vanessa.saldana@lacity.org <vanessa.saldana@lacity.org>, jay.greenstein@lacity.org <jay.greenstein@lacity.org>

Captain Monico:

What good are signs when they are not enforced? There are already signs throughout the park requiring dogs to be on leashes. Yet there are hundreds of dogs at the park off leashes every day, especially in the late afternoons early evenings and you senior lead officer does nothing to enforce the leash ordinance. There have been dog attacks in the past at the park including on children and other dogs because dogs are not on leashes and under the control of their owners as required. Signs are meaningless if your senior lead officer fails to do his job!

Robert Chernob

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Tuesday, July 26, 2022, 5:19 PM, Sonia Monico <30364@lapd.online> wrote:

Mr. Chernob,

As we discussed our Senior Lead Officer has been working closely with the Park Director and with Councilmember Koretz' staff to address unhoused individuals in and around the park, to include the posting of 41.18, no camping.

I have requested an investigation be conducted addressing our response to the park last night and will provide you with an update.

Respectfully,

Captain Sonia Monico  
Commanding Officer  
Wilshire Area  
(213) 473-0558

---

**From:** Anita Meacham <anita.meacham@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 3:47 PM  
**To:** r cdila1 < >  
**Cc:** Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>; Sonia Monico <30364@lapd.online>; Editor < >; vanessa.saldana@lacity.org; jay.greenstein@lacity.org  
**Subject:** Re:

ATTENTION: This email originated outside of LAPD. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear r cdila,

Thank you for your email. Department staff will investigate the matter and respond back to you as soon as possible. Indeed it is our goal to maintain a safe environment for all park patrons.

Thanks, Anita

--

Anita D. Meacham, M.B.A.

City of Los Angeles

Superintendent of Recreation & Parks

Metro Region

3900 W. Chevy Chase Drive.

Los Angeles CA. 90039

Phone: (213) 485-5027

(818) 552-3689

E-mail: [anita.meacham@lacity.org](mailto:anita.meacham@lacity.org)



On Tue, Jul 26, 2022 at 11:41 AM r cdila1 < > wrote:

#### TRANSIENT CRIME AT PAN PACIFIC PARK

Hello Commissioners:

I have attached a picture taken last night at about 7:30 pm just adjacent to Pan Pacific Park, of a transient with his pants open, clearly under the influence of drugs or alcohol, exposing himself, who in fact, the transient in question can regularly be found living in the park. Ironically, I was at the park last night to take pictures of the alleged arson fire that took place at the park on July 12, 2022, betw weeks ago, so that an investigator could have been assigned to investigate it for possible arson by the many transients that live in the park. Unfortunately, the park management failed to contact LA

There is a long history of crimes associated with transients in and around Pan Pacific Park. A few years ago, a transient used his own blood to paint swastikas on one of the other children's playgrou patrols at the park and start again to close the park at 10:00 pm as use to be done. I had also been begging them to finally remove the transient encampments located all over the park as we had be Pan Pacific Park on a daily basis. They would walk the park every night at closing to remove any one still present. After their department was phased out and the responsibility was turned over to L

I would very much like the opportunity to discuss this matter further with the Commission by having it placed on the agenda of an upcoming commission public meeting and being informed by staff of



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Fw: Palisades Pickleball - A Letter of Appreciation

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: pong nim < >
Cc: Francisca Castillo <francisca.castillo@lacity.org>

Fri, Jul 29, 2022 at 8:40 AM

Good morning,

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

On Thu, Jul 28, 2022 at 11:08 PM pong nim < > wrote:
FYI

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

From: pong nim
To: jimmy.kim@lacity.org <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>; sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org <sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>; Kortley.norris@lacity.org <kortley.norris@lacity.org>; anthony.gallo@lacity.org <anthony.gallo@lacity.org>; trish.delgado@lacity.org <trish.delgado@lacity.org>; jasmine.dowl@lacity.org <jasmine.dowl@lacity.org>
Sent: Monday, July 18, 2022 at 10:04:17 AM PDT
Subject: Palisades Pickleball - A Letter of Appreciation

To the City of Los Angeles Dept of Recreation & Parks,

Good morning everyone.

First of all, on behalf of the Palisades Pickleball Club, I wanted to express our sincere gratitude for all that you have done for our Pickleball group at the Palisades Rec Center in Pacific Palisades. I know that recent events have caused some friction between us. Please do accept my apology if a few of the people CC'd on this email here may have stepped over the line and may have said something inappropriate to one of you or more. I don't believe that they belong to our Pickleball group but somehow got onto our email list. Believe me when I said this is not what we are all about.

We are more than just a group of people who enjoys playing Pickleball together. Together we came to play and together we have become a Pickleball community. New friends are introduced and long lasting relationships have been made.

Therefore we would like to say "Thank you ALL very much." especially to Jasmine, Anthony, & Sonya who have been the most involved in recent days. We are looking forward to the following progresses made possible by them:

- 1. Sometime next month in August, both tennis court #7 & #8 would have permanent Pickleball courts, 8 of them, lines painted on them to make them hybrid tennis/Pickleball courts where both tennis & Pickleball players can enjoy.
2. In the meantime, these 2 tennis courts are available for play to Pickleballers on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9-12pm. Please put a sign on these 2 courts to notify the tennis players.
3. Also, in the meantime, we are allowed to play in the courtyard open area between the 2 gyms everyday except Saturday.
4. The indoor Pickleball inside the gym will starts again mid-August once the Summer Basketball Camp is over and will continue through out the year. It will be every Monday & Friday from 10 am until 1 pm at \$10 per month. Although we really like for this to start sooner than 10 am since the park office is scheduled to be opens at 9 am everyday of the week.
5. The park office will look into reserving tennis court #7 & 8 and pay for these 2 courts for us to play Pickleball on the weekend from 8 am until 12 pm noon. Hopefully this will happen sooner than later.

Please keep in mind that in the end, we are not just all about Pickleball. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. I prefer email in writing so that we are all in the same page. Thanks again very much for all of your support.

Vora PONG Nimnual
https://usapickleball.org/
USAPA Ambassador - Pacific Palisades

Thanks to everyone who has taken the time to contact the City of LA Dept of Rec & Park concerning the latest set back with our Pickleball community at the Palisades Rec Center.

Now, here are the responses that some of you have gotten so far:

From - Sonya Young-Jimenez <sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>
To:Kane Phelps
Cc:Jimmy Kim,Kortley Norris,Patricia Delgado,pong nim

Thu, Jul 14 at 4:52 PM

Good Afternoon Kane and thank you for reaching out. We have secured funding to get the courts painted and are working out the logistics. Our basketball program is about to start and the courtyard area gets used by parents and kids waiting to enter the gym. I know pickleball has been played there since COVID but we are now starting to bring back basketball. We are going to allow play in the courtyard (2 courts only) until the lines are ready on the tennis courts. There will be no play in the courtyard on Saturday. I know Jasmine, the director has set aside time inside the large gym for play in August and soon there will be lines on the tennis courts. Sorry for the inconvenience and I hope this helps out.

**From Anthony Gallo,**

Fri 7/15/2022 2:10 PM

Hi Pong, can you please reach out to your pickleball friends and have them stop calling and emailing me about the palisades issue? That has nothing to do with me and I'm getting some really aggressive and rude emails and phone calls. I am trying to help facilitate more pickleball courts throughout my pay tennis facilities. I think some misinformation is being spread and unfortunately I am the target. Thank you for your help.

Fri 7/15/2022 3:47 PM

I completely understand people being frustrated. I get frustrated as well!!! I am funding the lines to be added to courts 7 & 8 and I have been an advocate for Pickleball at our pay tennis facilities.

Pong, what I don't think is appropriate is threatening my job and calling me vulgar names. I completely understand the frustration, but I need to also work with other departments. I work for the City of Los Angeles, but I do not supervise every single step of a project. We have many layers of supervision for the many layers of the project. As you can see, one decision can change the lives of many people. I hope you and your pickleball friends can understand that. This is not the private sector where everything goes through ONE person. Again, thank you for understanding and being patient with us. Have a great weekend Pong.

**From Jasmine**

To: You

Cc: Anthony Gallo; Jimmy Kim; Kortley Norris; Leslie Richter; Patricia Delgado; Sonya Young-Jimenez; ernesto.diaz@Lacity.org  
Thu 7/14/2022 3:56 PM

Hello Pong-

I wanted to let you know I spoke with Anthony Gallo this morning he assured me that courts #7 and 8 will be painted so that your group will no longer have to tape anything down. This will happen most likely soon as there are two projects left ours being one of them. Those courts are available for play to Pickleballers on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9-12pm.

Monday and Friday starting again in Sept. the large gym will be open for Pickleball from 10-1pm. The fee is \$10 monthly.

Regarding Saturdays and Sundays, I spoke with Anthony and I will obtain a permit application to have courts 7 and 8 from 8am-12pm and open it up to Pickleball. I will be more than happy to cover the cost of this through the center.

Lastly, I wanted to bring up the land standing Womens Tennis League is beginning again this fall and spring. They play on court 7 and there has been multiple negative encounters with Pickleball players playing on 8. We're asking for Pickleball to refrain from using that court during the fall and spring times months on Wednesday mornings, Anytime Wednesdays after 12pm would be ideal. I know we spoke about this in person and you stated that the players won't play that late in the day but since there are issues between the groups (one as recent as June 29) we'd like to avoid that in the future.

I'm sorry about the sudden notice regarding the courtyard. I truly appreciate your dedication, understanding and professionalism. Please know that I will do anything I can to help out Pickleball. We will surely be in touch.

All my best-

Jasmine Dowlatshahi

Vora **PONG** Nimnual

<https://usapickleball.org/>

USAPA Ambassador - Pacific Palisades

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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  
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Mail Stop: 625/15  
Website: [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org)



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

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**Fw: Pickleball court lines on tennis court #7 & #8 = 8 Pickleball courts**

1 message

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pong nim < > Fri, Jul 29, 2022 at 8:07 AM  
To: Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, Francisca Castillo <francisca.castillo@lacity.org>

FYI

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

**From:** pong nim < >  
**To:** Sonya Young-Jimenez <sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>; Anthony Gallo <anthony.gallo@lacity.org>  
**Cc:** Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>; Kortley Norris <kortley.norris@lacity.org>; Patricia Delgado <trish.delgado@lacity.org>; Jasmine Dowlatshahi <jasmine.dowl@lacity.org>; Leslie Richter <leslie.richter@lacity.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 27, 2022 at 01:33:02 PM PDT  
**Subject:** Re: Pickleball court lines on tennis court #7 & #8 = 8 Pickleball courts

Hi everyone,

Thanks again to everyone here at the City of LA Dept of RAP for helping us to get these 2 tennis courts converted into hybrid tennis/pickleball courts. I just wanted to make sure that we are all on the same page. I understand that the pickleball court lines were just painted on 2 of the tennis court at the Van Nuys/Sherman Oaks tennis court and I hope that we are next. Here is the picture of 1 of the tennis court there with yellow lines, which is the perfect color, for Pickleball court.



However, as you can see here there are ONLY 2 pickleball courts on this 1 tennis court, 1 on each side of the net. This will not be enough for our group of players of 150+. Hopefully, City of LA Dept RAP understands that you can fit up to 4 pickleball courts onto 1 tennis court, 2 on each side of the net, like what we've been doing by taping the lines at the Palisades. See an example here at the Granada Hills Rec Center - Petit Park:



Therefore, we hope to see that tennis court #7 will be convert to 4 hybrid Pickleball courts + tennis court #8 will also be converted to 4 hybrid Pickleball courts. This will result in a TOTAL of 8 hybrid courts for Pickleball which will maximize the use of these 2 tennis courts for Pickleball. Trust me when I say **"If you build it, they will come."**

**Thank you all very much again for your support for what will be the one and only Pickleball venue in this side of FWY 405 that belongs to the City of LA.**

Vora **PONG** Nimnual  
<https://usapickleball.org/>  
 USAPA Ambassador - Pacific Palisades

On Monday, July 18, 2022 at 10:03:57 AM PDT, Sonya Young-Jimenez <[sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org](mailto:sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org)> wrote:

By that time the lines should be drawn and the tennis courts would be available as well as the indoor gym times. The courtyard is only available until then

On Mon, Jul 18, 2022 at 9:22 AM Kane Phelps < > wrote:

Good morning Sonya,

Does that mean that, once the summer programs are completed (and hence, congestion reduced) that Saturday Pickleball can resume? That would seem logical, would it not?

Kane Phelps, MA, LMFT

"I am not what happened to me. I am what I choose to become." Carl Jung

On Jul 15, 2022, at 9:45 AM, Sonya Young-Jimenez <[sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org](mailto:sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org)> wrote:

I understand your concern but this area was not intended for Recreational use. During COVID we were able to utilize this space but now with park programs commencing it is too congested and at times unsafe. Until the lines are painted we will allow pickelball play in this area during the week except on Saturdays. Thank you for your understanding.

On Fri, Jul 15, 2022 at 9:19 AM Kane Phelps < > wrote:

Hi Sonya,

Thanks for your prompt response. However, I am perplexed indeed by the statement " the courtyard area gets used by parents and kids waiting to enter the gym". I'm just not able to conceptualize this. Yes, the courtyard area in a very general way provides access to the gym but the Pickleball area is circumscribed well away from the entrances to both gyms. Folks simply would not be congregating on an uninviting concrete platform. There is a vast bench space and grassy area outside the main gym and our group does utilize perhaps 1/3 of it on weekends. We would welcome sharing the space.

Thanks again for your attention to this matter.

Kane Phelps, MA, LMFT

"I am not what happened to me. I am what I choose to become." Carl Jung

On Jul 14, 2022, at 4:51 PM, Sonya Young-Jimenez <[sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org](mailto:sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org)> wrote:

gets

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**Sonya Young Jimenez**  
*Superintendent of Venice Beach and West Region*  
City of Los Angeles