

INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

September 01, 2022

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

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

<u>From</u>		<u>Action Taken</u>
1) Chip Mallek comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136as	Referred to General Manager
2) Debra Huston comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136at	Referred to General Manager
3) Lisa Gaines comments on regarding Westchester Park	#9136au	Referred to General Manager
4) Chip Mallek comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136av	Referred to General Manager
5) Debra Huston comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136aw	Referred to General Manager
6) Debra Huston comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136ax	Referred to General Manager
7) Tim Campbell comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136ay	Referred to General Manager
8) Chip Mallek comments regarding Westchester Park	#9136az	Referred to General Manager
9) Laura Ceballos comments regarding Oakwood Park	#9150b	Referred to General Manager
10) Hector Garcia comments regarding Oakwood Park	#9150c	Referred to General Manager
11) Mark Soslow comments regarding Oakwood Park	#9150d	Referred to General Manager

12) Bethy Greenwald comments regarding Oakwood Park	#9150e	Referred to General Manager
13) Wayne Neal comments regarding Sepulveda Dog Park	#9164d	Referred to General Manager
14) Vora Pong Nimnual comments regarding Pickleball Courts	#9166a	Referred to General Manager
15) Ariella Kirschbaum comments regarding Mural in South Park	#9175	Referred to General Manager
16) Isabelle Duvivier comments regarding Centennial Park Sycamore trees	#9176	Referred to General Manager
17) Jamie York of behalf of Reseda Neighborhood Council	#9177	Referred to General Manager
18) Jamie York of behalf of Reseda Neighborhood Council	#9177a	Referred to General Manager
19) John Given comments regarding Rancho Park Golf Clubhouse	#9178	Referred to General Manager
20) Glenn Bailey on behalf of Northridge East Neighborhood Council	#9179	Referred to General Manager
21) Glenn Bailey on behalf of Northridge East Neighborhood Council	#9179a	Referred to General Manager
22) Martin Gutierrez comments regarding Baldwin Hills Rec Center-Filiming	#9180	Referred to General Manager
23) Pamela Bean comments regarding Fire Crisis	#9181	Referred to General Manager
24) James Bean comments regarding Fire Crisis	#9181a	Referred to General Manager
25) James Bean comments regarding Fire Crisis	#9181b	Referred to General Manager
26) Sweet P Vaughn comments regarding Fire Crisis	#9181c	Referred to General Manager

27) Sandy Huse comments regarding Fire Crisis	#9181d	Referred to General Manager
28) James Murez oh behalf of Venice Neighborhood Council	#9182	Referred to General Manager
29) Nathan Dickens comments regarding Revision of Volunteers Proof of Vaccination	#9183	Referred to General Manager
30) Zach Fishbain comments regarding Queen Anne Tennis Program	#9184	Referred to General Manager
31) Mauro Garcia comments regarding Sycamore Grove Park	#9185	Referred to General Manager
32) Alex Garay on behalf of Encino Neighborhood Council	#9186	Referred to General Manager

Prepared by Carolyn Shannon-Joyner, RAP Commission Office



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

## Re: Please vote "no" to the request for permit for Safe Parking in Westchester Park, 7/7 meeting

1 message

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

Wed, Aug 17, 2022 at 10:26 AM

To: Chip Mallek &lt;

&gt;

Cc: Debra Huston &lt;

&gt;, Garrett Smith &lt;

&gt;, John Logsdon

&lt;

&gt;, Lucy Han &lt;

&gt;, Paula Gerez &lt;

&gt;, Theresa Torrance

&lt;

&gt;, Tom Brewster

&gt;

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Aug 17, 2022 at 7:48 AM Chip Mallek <

&gt; wrote:

RAP Commissioners,

I believe this was forwarded on to you, but it has been a month and I have had no response from any of you.

There is much concern as to the covert actions being submitted by Mr. Bonin regarding the municipal parking lot associated with park and other critical entities (library and senior center). If you do approve his request AND he gets his way with the other lot, park goers could lose a significant amount of parking!

Please do diligence and make sure you don't get trapped into a contract that will exhaust much of the ONLY park parking you control.

I would like a response so I know you are aware of this and not just a general email acknowledgment.

Thanks,

Chip Mallek

On Fri, Jul 8, 2022 at 3:14 PM Chip Mallek <

&gt; wrote:

Dear RAP Commissioners,

I was on the call yesterday, but didn't get the chance to formally respond on the call. That being said, I wanted to voice my opinion/concerns to you.

When I review your mission statement, it appears you desire to provide a "...attractive, safe and well-maintained parks with diverse opportunities to serve and enrich every community." That is an excellent goal.

However, my concerns are with the potential approval of the "safe parking" effort in Westchester Park. While I support the concept, I have the following concerns as related to Westchester Park:

1. Westchester Park is exactly that, a park for all to enjoy, both for the resource and the "availability to access it". Its original design was only that and the limited associated parking was to allow that. When the "safe parking" was first approved by the Neighborhood Council Westchester/Playa (NCWP) it was contained in the councilman's lot and had no impact to the parking lot footprint approved for the operation.

2. At some point in time, that was expanded to include "park managed property", with park users losing 50 spots for usage during the daytime (lot secured during the day) Understanding this came at the onset of Covid19, some latitude was applied to assist with the pandemic.

3. Since that time, the park has been cleared of all the homeless encampment and major renovations have occurred (pool upgraded and opened and ball fields redone for multiple usages - baseball, soccer and football to name a few). With those improvements, it is highly anticipated the utilization of "our" park will dramatically increase and return to the vibrant recreational area we so desperately need.

So why is there so much apprehension to a effort such as "safe parking"?

Simply put: it is an excellent concept, BUT is not conducive to a "park environment". We have so little space for people to enjoy recreational activities, so why take that away for a process that can be accomplished in many other locations than that of a park's parking lot.

Couple that with the fact that the assigned location has been highly underutilized since its migration to the park managed lot AND that there is LAWA approved 50 slots on property outside of a park, why would the RAP Commissioners see this as "in line" with their Mission Statement?

Finally, the only other parking opportunity, available to park goes, is a "municipal lot", NOT controlled by RAP, and as you can see is completely mismanaged by CD11 and the city of Los Angeles and if CD11 leadership (Mr. Bonin) gets his way, he will acquire 50 more slots there for more "safe parking" and you will be committed to a lease that takes away critical parking for the park with no recourse.

I hope this does not fall on deaf or prior committed ears and you truly weigh all the factors here and the potential impact to Westchester Park, that you are spending tons on money for our community.

I am on the NCWP, but this represents ONLY my personal viewpoint, however, I do believe it represents much of the community as a whole. I have live and raised my my family here for over 34 years and have utilized the park extensively and would love to see that to continue for young families for years to come!

Thanks,

Chip Mallek

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

From: **Debra Huston** < >  
 Date: Wed, Jul 6, 2022 at 7:35 PM  
 Subject: Fwd: Please vote "no" to the request for permit for Safe Parking in Westchester Park, 7/7 meeting  
 To: Chip Mallek < >, Lisa Gaines < >, Tom Brewster < >  
 < >, William Manahan < >

Just sent this email to the RAP commissioners. Please, call in to the meeting tomorrow if at all possible.

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

From: **Debra Huston** < >  
 Date: Wed, Jul 6, 2022 at 7:30 PM  
 Subject: Please vote "no" to the request for permit for Safe Parking in Westchester Park, 7/7 meeting  
 To: Rap Commissioners <[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)>, Paula Gerez < >

Honorable RAP Commissioners:

Last Friday, we learned from RAP that Council Member Mike Bonin requested another permit for Safe Parking in the parking lot of Westchester Park that serves the recreation pool and the four lighted multi-plex fields. This lot includes 50 spaces, and 25 spaces are fenced off for the Safe Parking program.

Our recreation pool is open, and the ballfields will be open within three months after undergoing renovation. People line up in front of the recreation pool beginning early in the morning to sign up for swim lessons. Our ballfields serve thousands of children. The park serves children from Westchester and surrounding communities, including Inglewood. The users of the park are racially mixed, split equally among Latino, African-American, and Caucasian. It is a park of equity and inclusion.

Our youth need all 50 parking spaces in this lot. There is a shortage of parking in the park in general, with a couple hundred parking spaces serving the entire park and all the amenities a recreation center park offers. Our youth and their families cannot safely park across Lincoln (Hwy 1) or Manchester (a main artery) to access the park.

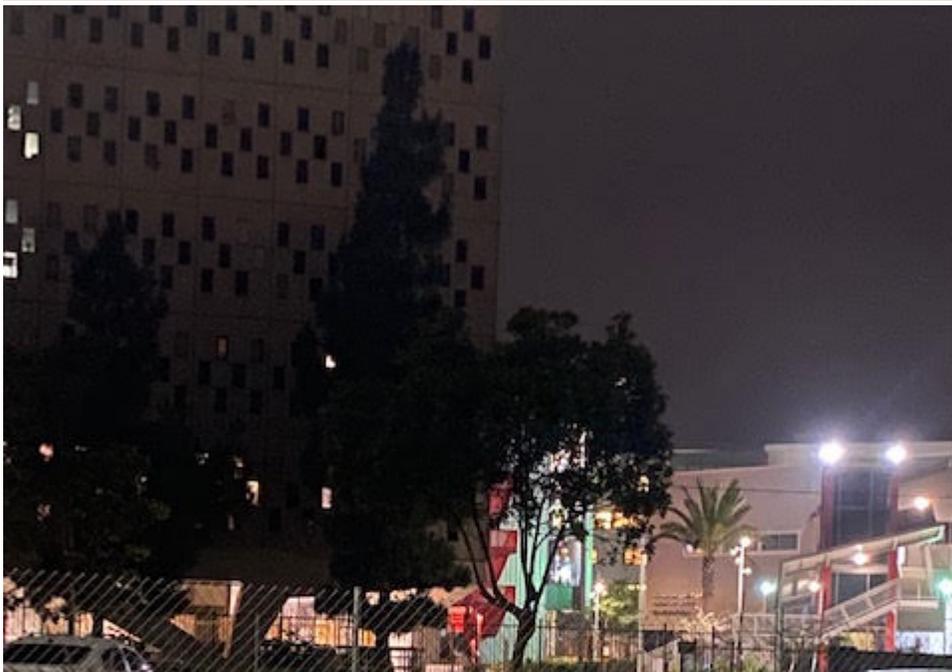
I include the photos below which I took over the past several months showing that the Safe Parking program in Westchester Park is not well used. Most nights, only a fraction of the spaces are used. I took these photos because I was informed by Sonya Young-Jimenez that Safe Park LA told me that the Safe Parking program in the park was successful and well used. That was not consistent with the observations of our community members who drive by the park at all hours while driving people to the airport, etc.

I would not dispute that people are enrolled in that program and that the City is paying for their use of the program, but they are not using it. The program is inefficient and it uses the much needed parking of park users. Those 25 parking spots are fenced all day, and no one else can use them.

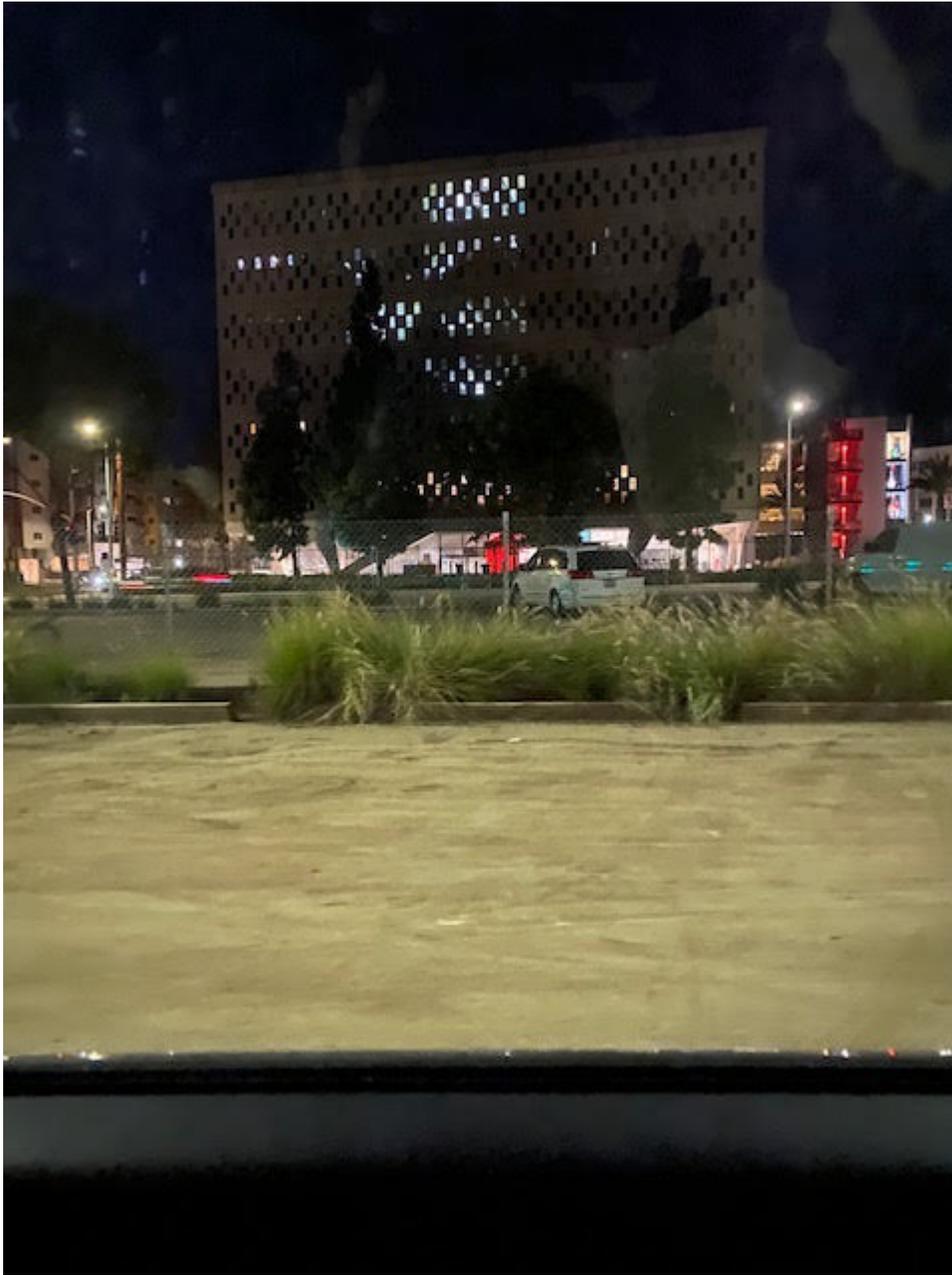
We have a 50-space Safe Parking program opening at LAX this summer, just a mile or two away from the Westchester Park site.

Please do not allow the City to take parking from park users who need it. The safety of our youth, from all communities, using the ballfields and the recreation pool depends on the availability of these parking spaces.

Debra Huston



















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Chip

!!This email reflects ONLY my opinion!!!

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Chip

!!This email reflects ONLY my opinion!!!

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

# Re: Another incident involving homeless person at Westchester Park today/Request of Mr. Royster

1 message

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org> Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 8:48 AM  
 To: Debra Huston < >  
 Cc: tony.royster@lacity.org, John Szabo <jszabo@lapl.org>, "cris b. liban" < >, "  
 < >, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, Sonya Young-Jimenez <Sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>, Brenda  
 Aguirre <brenda.aguirre@lacity.org>, Sue Pascoe >, Jamie Paige  
 < >, "Klemack, John (NBCUniversal)" < >, DeAndre Parks  
 < >, Beth Rubenstein < >, Jose Ramirez  
 <jose.m.ramirez@lacity.org>, Lisa Gaines >, "Villegas, Catalina" >, Chip  
 Mallek < >, Alexandra Reynolds >, Paula Gerez >, >  
 connie.llanos@lacity.org, Brian Hale <brian.hale@lacity.org>, brian.gallagher@lacity.org, Sophia Castaneda  
 <35080@lapd.online>, Steven Embrich <30993@lapd.online>, joe.losorelli@lacity.org, Beth O'Rourke  
 >, Dan Mohler Mohler >, "Cloud, Hamilton"  
 <h >, Jessica Froehlinger >, kristin ziebarth  
 < >, Tom Brewster <

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Aug 17, 2022 at 12:42 PM Debra Huston < > wrote:  
 Good afternoon,

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

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

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

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

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

We ask that the City find another location for these vehicle dwellers so users of the park can be safe and have adequate parking available for users of the park for purposes for which it was intended.

Mr. Royster, we have repeatedly asked you and your office, the General Services Division, for information as to CM Bonin's plans for the lot that is bounded by the senior center, the city library, and CM Bonin's field office. Your department has jurisdiction over that lot.

While your office has provided estimates CM Bonin obtained in January to fence that entire lot, you have provided no further information in response to our questions as to why Mr. Bonin obtained these estimates. We are aware that CM Bonin's office inquired of the CAO in March regarding funding to use that lot for "Safe Parking."

We strongly oppose this, as it is not an appropriate use for a city parking lot that is basically in a park and needed by park, senior center, and library users. That parking lot has been used by park users for 75 years.

We ask you to provide information we have requested by filing Public Records Act requests months ago. We have been excluded from this public process.

Once again, we request a meeting with you, Mr. Royster. Please provide, at your earliest convenience, times you will be available to meet in person or by Zoom.

Debra







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



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

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

1 message

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

Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 11:29 AM

To: Lisa GAINES &lt;

&gt;

Cc: councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfield@lacity.org, contactCD4@lacity.org, paul.koretz@lacity.org, councilmember.martinez@lacity.org, councilmember.rodriquez@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, councilmember.Lee@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org, councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org, Geoffrey.Straniere@lacity.org, connie.llanos@lacity.org, brian.hale@lacity.org, brian.gallagher@lacity.org, Debra Huston <debra.huston@gmail.com>, mike.bonin@lacity.org

Good morning,

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

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

&gt; wrote:

Dear Council Members and City Officials,

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

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

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

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

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





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

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

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

[https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/outcry-at-westchester-senior-center-seniors-do-not-feel-safe-to-vote/article\\_242222ae-e600-11ec-9c83-937bc7dd151e.html](https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/outcry-at-westchester-senior-center-seniors-do-not-feel-safe-to-vote/article_242222ae-e600-11ec-9c83-937bc7dd151e.html)

[https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/neighborhood-council-of-westchester-playa-asking-for-safe-access-to-senior-center/article\\_ecaa9978-f0fe-11ec-9757-8f3e959954e6.html](https://www.westsidecurrent.com/news/neighborhood-council-of-westchester-playa-asking-for-safe-access-to-senior-center/article_ecaa9978-f0fe-11ec-9757-8f3e959954e6.html)

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

The Senior Center has been a place for legal assistance, rent assistance, nutrition to help seniors from becoming homeless, too! But due to the homeless encampment, the Senior Center was closed for quite a long time. It is supposed to have opened by now, but looking at the pictures above from 1 days ago, I can assure you that seniors will

not feel safe going there. How many seniors will lose their homes because they didn't get valuable legal and financial assistance from the free services provided at the Senior Center? How many seniors will be undernourished and lonely because they were unable to go to the Senior Center? How many seniors have fell victim to crimes that they won't have resources for because they feel unsafe going to the Senior Center or because they can't park close to the entrance? The City has caused this problem by not enforcing laws on the books for handicapped parking and camping but has chosen not to enforce these laws. *Do the 20 or so homeless encamped here illegally matter more than the thousands of seniors and handicapped residents?*

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

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

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

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

[https://nextdoor.com/p/8Fd8G\\_Whdy6N?view=detail&init\\_source=search&query=Bonin%20security%20fence](https://nextdoor.com/p/8Fd8G_Whdy6N?view=detail&init_source=search&query=Bonin%20security%20fence)



[https://nextdoor.com/p/8Fd8G\\_Whdy6N?utm\\_source=share&extras=MTg1OTczNQ%3D%3D](https://nextdoor.com/p/8Fd8G_Whdy6N?utm_source=share&extras=MTg1OTczNQ%3D%3D)



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

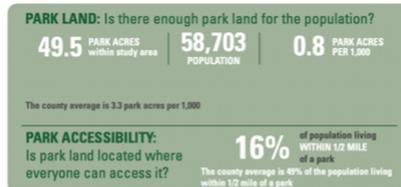
The mayor mandated a 4.0 acre park/1000 person plan for the city. This community park space as shown below from the Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park & Recreation Needs Assessment Study below is critically below the Mayor's park equity goal. It shows that at present the park acres/1000 is terribly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

#### STUDY AREA BASE MAP



City of LA Westchester - Playa del Rey - Los Angeles International Airport  
Existing Park Existing Park Outside Study Area  
Existing School Other Open Space  
Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Park & Recreation Needs Assessment APPENDIX A

#### PARK METRICS



#### PARK PRESSURE

How much park land is available to residents in the area around each park?

- Carl E. Nielson Youth Park (9.91 Acres)  
0.93 park acres per 1,000
- Del Rey Lagoon Park (11 Acres)  
3.29 park acres per 1,000
- Titmouse Park (0.29 Acres)  
0.03 park acres per 1,000
- Vista Del Mar Park (0.84 Acres)  
1.52 park acres per 1,000
- Westchester Rec. Center (27.51 Acres)  
1.45 park acres per 1,000

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

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

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

fence onto a court on which a tennis pro was giving lessons to five-year-old girls. He spoke lewdly again. These incidents were frightening to children and tennis pros.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Lisa Gaines  
Resident of Westchester, 32 years

--  
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Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
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Mail Stop: 625/15  
Website: [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org)



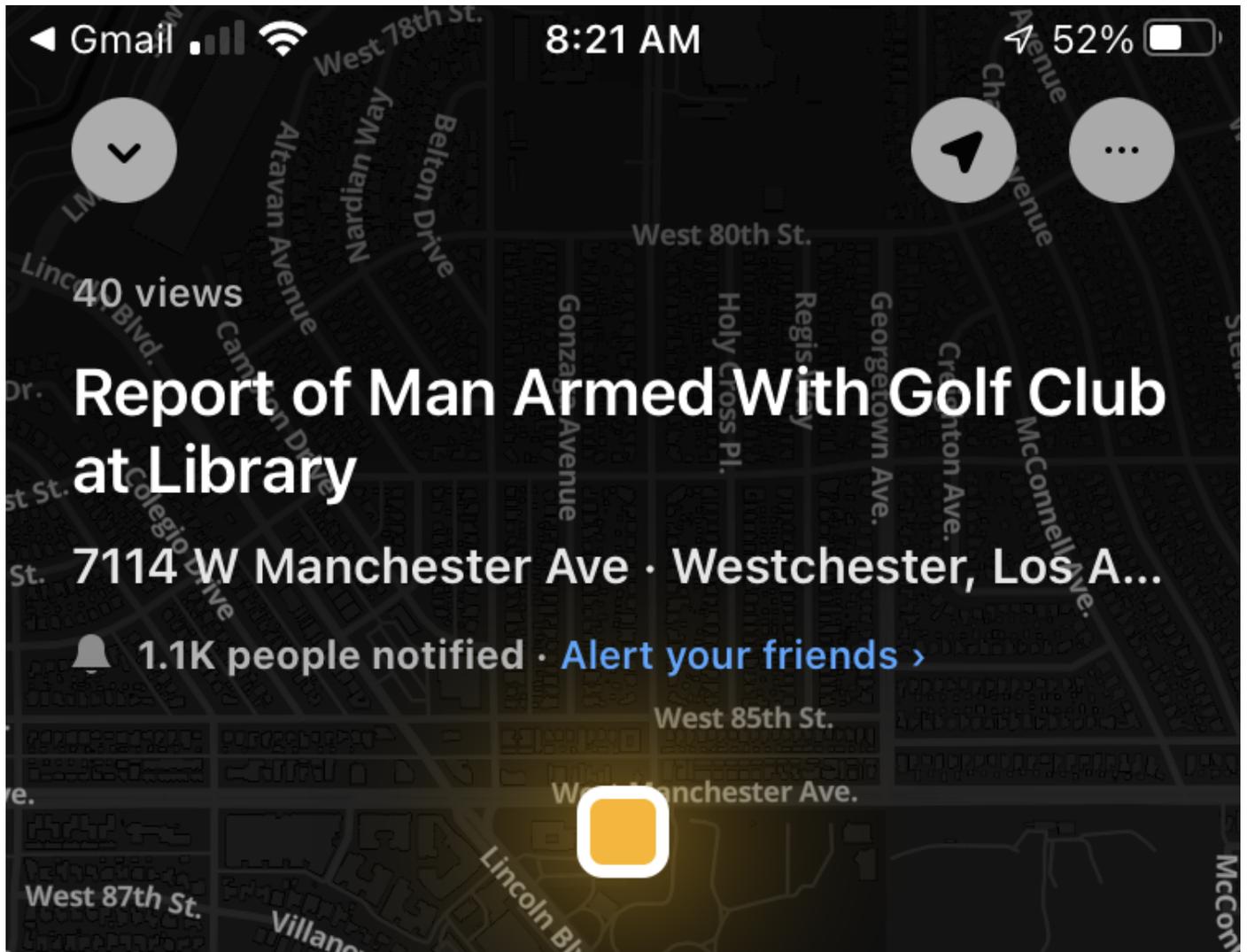
Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

# Re: Another incident involving homeless person at Westchester Park today/Request of Mr. Royster

1 message

Chip Mallek < > Wed, Aug 24, 2022 at 8:38 AM  
 To: Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>  
 Cc: Alexandra Reynolds < >, Beth O'Rourke < >, Beth Rubenstein < >  
 < >, Brenda Aguirre <brenda.aguirre@lacity.org>, Brian Hale <brian.hale@lacity.org>, "Cloud, Hamilton" < >, Dan Mohler Mohler < >, DeAndre Parks < >  
 < >, Debra Huston < >, Jamie Paige < >  
 < >, Jessica Froehlinger < >, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, John Szabo <jszabo@lapl.org>, Jose Ramirez <jose.m.ramirez@lacity.org>, "Klemack, John (NBCUniversal)" < >  
 < >, Lisa Gaines < >, Paula Gerez < >, Sonya Young-Jimenez <Sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>, Sophia Castaneda <35080@lapd.online>, Steven Embrich <30993@lapd.online>, Sue Pascoe < >, Tom Brewster < >, "Villegas, Catalina" < >  
 < >, " >, brian.gallagher@lacity.org, connie.llanos@lacity.org, "cris b. liban" <erik@laykin.com>, joe.losorelli@lacity.org, kristin ziebarth < >  
 < >, tony.royster@lacity.org

Dear RAP Commissioners,



Yet again the poor decisions by powers to be, with respect to park parking, has surfaced.

Allowing homeless and "safe parking" near parks, libraries and schools is a recipe for disaster.

PLEASE exercise due diligence in allowing parking associated with this at our park. Mr. Bonin is trying to take over this resource for 24/7 safe parking will kill the park and open all parties for a major lawsuit.

I pray this doesn't fall on deaf ears..

Chip Mallek  
34 year Westchester resident

On Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 8:48 AM Rap Commissioners <[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)> wrote:

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Aug 17, 2022 at 12:42 PM Debra Huston < > wrote:

Good afternoon,

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

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

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

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

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

We ask that the City find another location for these vehicle dwellers so users of the park can be safe and have adequate parking available for users of the park for purposes for which it was intended.

Mr. Royster, we have repeatedly asked you and your office, the General Services Division, for information as to CM Bonin's plans for the lot that is bounded by the senior center, the city library, and CM Bonin's field office. Your department has jurisdiction over that lot.

While your office has provided estimates CM Bonin obtained in January to fence that entire lot, you have provided no further information in response to our questions as to why Mr. Bonin obtained these estimates. We are aware that CM Bonin's office inquired of the CAO in March regarding funding to use that lot for "Safe Parking."

We strongly oppose this, as it is not an appropriate use for a city parking lot that is basically in a park and needed by park, senior center, and library users. That parking lot has been used by park users for 75 years.

We ask you to provide information we have requested by filing Public Records Act requests months ago. We have been excluded from this public process.

Once again, we request a meeting with you, Mr. Royster. Please provide, at your earliest convenience, times you will be available to meet in person or by Zoom.

Debra











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

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

--  
Chip

!!This email reflects ONLY my opinion!!!



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

**Re: Man urinating on tennis court at Westchester Park, and he returns daily**

1 message

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

Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 11:56 AM

To: Debra Huston &lt;

&gt;

Cc: joe.losorelli@lacity.org, Sophia Castaneda &lt;35080@lapd.online&gt;, Jimmy Kim &lt;jimmy.kim@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 Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 7:01 AM Debra Huston &lt;

&gt; wrote:

Good morning, all.

Wanted t let you know that I received a call from someone from the tennis courts telling me that on Sunday, 8/21, a man walked on to court 7 while people were playing on that court and urinated, exposing himself. He spent the entire day pacing and lurking around the tennis courts. He has returned two days since, walking on the walkway between the courts, sometimes carrying a beer. It appears he may be mentally ill because of all the pacing he does, aside from the act of urinating on the court. He has shown other forms of aggression by knocking down a sign at the courts. He has been seen walking between the courts with a can of beer.

The man was described to me as follows:

Caucasian, 5' 10" or so. All three days he was at the court he was wearing the same grey or black bermuda shorts. The first day he wore no shirt and the next two days he wore a black t-shirt. He was wearing slippers on his feet most of the time. He is in his late 20s or early 30s. Light brown straight hair that is short. Caucasian but maybe "in between" because his complexion is darker than that of most caucasians.

People using the courts are afraid of him and of what he might do. LAPD was called.

The people at the courts would feel safer if officers, rangers, or private security could be there to keep a watch for this man, as they fear he will be returning and may escalate in his behavior.

Thank you so much.

Debra

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

## Re: Crime in Westchester Park muni lot yesterday and vicious dog on the loose/need other placement for vehicle dwellers

1 message

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

Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 11:56 AM

To: Debra Huston <debra.huston@gmail.com>

Cc: joe.losorelli@lacity.org, Sophia Castaneda <35080@lapd.online>, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, connie.llanos@lacity.org, barbara.romero@lacity.org, "cris b. liban" <cliban@hotmail.com>, Howard Wong <howard.wong@lacity.org>, Brian Hale <brian.hale@lacity.org>, brian.gallagher@lacity.org, tony.royster@lacity.org, John Szabo <jszabo@lapl.org>, Beth Rubenstein <hello@bethrubenstein.com>, Lisa Gaines <luckynla@me.com>, Tim Campbell <mstmc60@gmail.com>, Alexandra Reynolds <1alexo@gmail.com>, kristin.ziebarth <kristin.barry@gmail.com>

Good morning,

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

On Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 7:40 AM Debra Huston <debra.huston@gmail.com> wrote:

Good morning,

Yesterday morning at approximately 8 a.m., two homeless men squared off with one of them wielding a golf club. This occurred in the parking lot between the senior center and the library and the vehicle dwellings. LAPD responded. There is also a vicious dog on the loose in that parking lot who has gone after several seniors. LAPD responded.

These types of incidents, of course, have a terrifying effect on seniors who use the library and the senior center, and people who use the parking lot. The homeless vehicle dwellers in the parking lot are frightening to seniors, children, and others. The lot also poses a public health threat because of the rotting food and containers of human waste and trash near some of the dwellings. At least one RV is leaking what appears to be human waste on the parking lot below the RV.

We have noticed a dramatic increase in the number of RVs, fifth wheel trailers, and other vehicles used as dwellings in this parking lot in the last month. It is almost as if someone is asking people to move there, and is even providing assistance in moving people and their vehicles there. For example, someone has driven three fifth wheel trailers into the lot within the last few weeks, and they are now used as dwellings.

Some of the homeless vehicle dwellers in the parking lot are very open about saying people from Mike Bonin's office have told them that they can stay at the lot, and no one can make them leave. They are also open about saying they have received many offers of housing and other places to park their vehicles, but they don't have to leave so they are staying. One of these people has an apartment provided by the City, but he really doesn't like the location so he keeps his van, with tent attached, in the park because he "wants the best of both worlds."

Mike Bonin has obtained estimates to fence this entire lot, and a member of his staff has inquired of the CAO about funding sources to use this lot for Safe Parking. Park users need the parking used by the 20 or so homeless vehicle dwellers in the park, most of whom use more than one parking space and some of whom use up to five parking spaces.

I am attaching a photo included in the estimates Mike Bonin obtained showing the level of usage of this parking lot. This photo was taken when there were only a few vehicle dwellers in the lot, as the estimates were dated January 2022. Now park users and library users are afraid to park there. There is no question the parking is needed for the thousands of park-goers who use this park for park purposes.

We believe that Mike Bonin has every intention of using this parking lot for Safe Parking, and is setting the situation so he can say there is "need" for Safe Parking in the park. And we suspect he plans to move vehicle dwellers from the Wetlands to the park as he tries to find other places for those vehicle dwellers to move. Bonin is trying to get approval to move 25 RVs to Northside Parkway, basically adjacent to the north runway of LAX. It is expected the FAA will deny this request for safety reasons. So we have every reason to believe Bonin is looking for locations to move vehicle

dwellers from the Wetlands, and he is fixated on Westchester Park as that location. This would destroy the park, and we believe Bonin knows that and intends that. This is consistent with the method of operation he has used previously. He sets up the "need" and then claims he's just making official what is already happening.

I look forward to meeting with many of you in that parking lot. For those of you who were not on the list of invitees in the email I sent yesterday, please let me know if you would like to attend and I will include you when the meeting date and time is set.

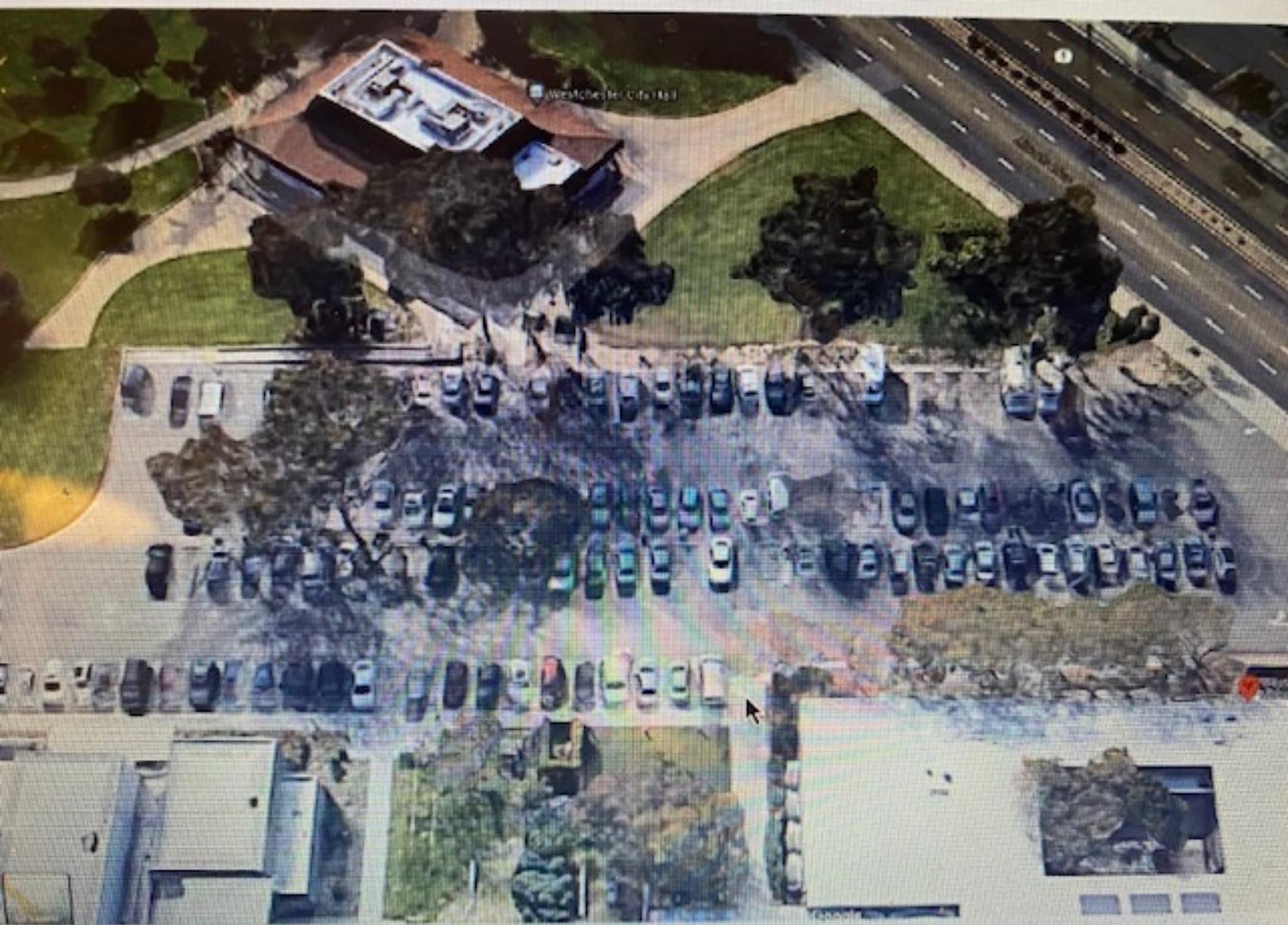
Thank you.

Debra Huston

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Westchester City Hall



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

## Re: Crime in Westchester Park muni lot yesterday and vicious dog on the loose/need other placement for vehicle dwellers

1 message

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

Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 11:57 AM

To: Tim Campbell <>>  
 Cc: Debra Huston <>>, joe.losorelli@lacity.org, Sophia Castaneda <35080@lapd.online>, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, connie.llanos@lacity.org, barbara.romero@lacity.org, "cris b. liban" <>>, Howard Wong <howard.wong@lacity.org>, Brian Hale <brian.hale@lacity.org>, brian.gallagher@lacity.org, tony.royster@lacity.org, John Szabo <jszabo@lapl.org>, Beth Rubenstein <>>, Lisa Gaines <>>  
 Alexandra Reynolds <>> kristin ziebarth <>>

Good morning,

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

On Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 8:21 AM Tim Campbell <>> wrote:

Good Morning

I see Debra shared this email with several city staff and officials. I am a semi-retired public sector manager who had to deal with the impact of homelessness in my city. I have little to add to Debra's excellent message except this:

We are public servants, duty-bound to use the city's resources to their best and highest use. Westchester Park was designed to be used by the entire community: for seniors, library patrons, and youth sports leagues. It was neither intended nor designed to be used as a campground. As Debra pointed out, it doesn't have the physical facilities to properly service a 24 hour a day population, regardless of who they are. I urge you to take seriously Debra's (and the community's) concerns, and to consider your duty as servants to the entire community, and restore Westchester Park to its best and highest use.

Thank you

On Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 7:40 AM Debra Huston <>> wrote:

Good morning,

Yesterday morning at approximately 8 a.m., two homeless men squared off with one of them wielding a golf club. This occurred in the parking lot between the senior center and the library and the vehicle dwellings. LAPD responded. There is also a vicious dog on the loose in that parking lot who has gone after several seniors. LAPD responded.

These types of incidents, of course, have a terrifying effect on seniors who use the library and the senior center, and people who use the parking lot. The homeless vehicle dwellers in the parking lot are frightening to seniors, children, and others. The lot also poses a public health threat because of the rotting food and containers of human waste and trash near some of the dwellings. At least one RV is leaking what appears to be human waste on the parking lot below the RV.

We have noticed a dramatic increase in the number of RVs, fifth wheel trailers, and other vehicles used as dwellings in this parking lot in the last month. It is almost as if someone is asking people to move there, and is even providing assistance in moving people and their vehicles there. For example, someone has driven three fifth wheel trailers into the lot within the last few weeks, and they are now used as dwellings.

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staying. One of these people has an apartment provided by the City, but he really doesn't like the location so he keeps his van, with tent attached, in the park because he "wants the best of both worlds."

Mike Bonin has obtained estimates to fence this entire lot, and a member of his staff has inquired of the CAO about funding sources to use this lot for Safe Parking. Park users need the parking used by the 20 or so homeless vehicle dwellers in the park, most of whom use more than one parking space and some of whom use up to five parking spaces.

I am attaching a photo included in the estimates Mike Bonin obtained showing the level of usage of this parking lot. This photo was taken when there were only a few vehicle dwellers in the lot, as the estimates were dated January 2022. Now park users and library users are afraid to park there. There is no question the parking is needed for the thousands of park-goers who use this park for park purposes.

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I look forward to meeting with many of you in that parking lot. For those of you who were not on the list of invitees in the email I sent yesterday, please let me know if you would like to attend and I will include you when the meeting date and time is set.

Thank you.

Debra Huston

--  
Tim C

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

## Re: Vicious dog attacks LAPD officer and homeless accost CBS News Team in Westchester Park Muni Lot

1 message

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

Fri, Aug 26, 2022 at 7:48 AM

To: Chip Mallek <c >  
 Cc: Tim Campbell <c >, Alexandra Reynolds <c >, Beth O'Rourke <c >, Beth Rubenstein <c >, Brenda Aguirre <brenda.aguirre@lacity.org>, Brian Hale <brian.hale@lacity.org>, "Cloud, Hamilton" <c >, Cyndi Hench <c >, Dan Mohler Mohler <c >, DeAndre Parks <c >, Debra Huston <c >, Howard Wong <howard.wong@lacity.org>, Jamie Paige <c >, Jessica Froehlinger <c >, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, John Szabo <jszabo@lapl.org>, Jose Ramirez <jose.m.ramirez@lacity.org>, "Klemack, John (NBCUniversal)" <c >, L Perez <c >, Lisa Gaines <c >, Nickee Liang <c >, Paula Gerez <c >, Sonya Young-Jimenez <Sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>, Sophia Castaneda <35080@lapd.online>, Steven Embrich <30993@lapd.online>, Sue Pascoe <c >, Tom Brewster <c >, "Villegas, Catalina" <c >, brian.gallagher@lacity.org, connie.llanos@lacity.org, contactCD4@lacity.org, councilmember.Krekorian@lacity.org, councilmember.Lee@lacity.org, councilmember.blumenfeld@lacity.org, councilmember.buscaino@lacity.org, councilmember.harris-dawson@lacity.org, councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org, councilmember.martinez@lacity.org, councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org, councilmember.price@lacity.org, councilmember.ridley-thomas@lacity.org, councilmember.rodriguez@lacity.org, "cris b. liban" <c >, "erik laykin.com" <erik@laykin.com>, greg.good@lacity.org, joe.losorelli@lacity.org, kristin ziebarth <c >, paul.koretz@lacity.org, suznardi@yahoo.com, tony.royster@lacity.org

Good morning,

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

On Fri, Aug 26, 2022 at 7:39 AM Chip Mallek <c > wrote:  
 To all involved,

To add to Tim and Lisa's excellent points, some of the "parking lot campers" have been there even before the the pandemic and have REFUSED any services, as they can reside in the parking lot to live a "free and lawless" lifestyle! This is evident by vicious dog attacks, golf club assaults, lewd behavior, numerous parking violations and extremely poor health conditions.

NO ONE is safe there and that is evidenced by even Mr. Bonin, himself, hiring private security for the inside of his office (NOT outside) and building a fortress (extended chain link fence with barb wire and electronic gated fence) for his office and private parking! Who does he care for??? Certainly NOT his constituency....

RAP Commissioners et el, PLEASE see the writing on the wall and realize that Mr. Bonin is trying convert precious open space, used by the many, for the gain of the few, because he can't get rationale people, like LAWA who has agreed to 50 safe parking spots on their property, but offering with strong, reasonable rules, which he doesn't believe it!

The time has come to say NO and call FOUL on claims of successful placements and forfeiting our park, library and senior center, for a lifestyle that no way supports the community norms!

On Fri, Aug 26, 2022 at 7:01 AM Tim Campbell <c > wrote:  
 Good Morning

I have only two things to add to Debra's email:

In yesterday's news item, Ms. Goldman from Mr. Bonin's office said they have found housing for over 100 people who were living in the park. However, the number of campers has grown. People moved from the park to housing is an output, not an outcome. Does Mr. Bonin's office or any other agency have information about what the daily population of campers in the park has been over the last 12 months? Among the 100 people moved, how many are "dual residents" with campers in the park? How many are still in transitional or permanent housing?

Also, the email from Sachin Medheker indicates the intent to convert the entire lot to Safe Parking has been considered for some time. When was this first proposed or considered, and what community outreach was done before the email asking for costs was sent to the CAO? Converting the parking lot to Safe Parking would be a fundamental repurposing of the park's physical plant, and certainly not consistent with its original purpose. Has there been any studies or reports on the impact to the services traditionally offered there as part of the Safe Parking plan?

If I need to file a public records request with the appropriate agency, please let me know.'

Thank you

On Fri, Aug 26, 2022 at 6:23 AM Debra Huston < > wrote:

This week, a vicious dog owned by a homeless person who is living in the municipal parking lot at Westchester Park attacked an LAPD officer and a social worker. This same dog had already attacked others in the same parking lot within the last week. The man was arrested and spent a day or two in custody. He is expected to try to retrieve his dog and return to the park.

Yesterday a CBS News team went to the municipal parking lot to do a story on homeless vehicle dwellers interfering with public access to the library, the senior center, and other facilities in the park, and that news team, which included two women, were accosted by homeless men as they were doing their work in filming footage and interviewing people who were trying to use the library.

The news team left that parking lot rather abruptly out of fear for their safety, and went to another parking lot to continue their interviews.

Here is the news piece: <https://www.cbsnews.com/losangeles/news/westchester-residents-frustrated-with-growing-homeless-encampment/?intcid=CNM-00-10abd1h>

The CBS news team reached out to CM Bonin's office for a statement, and in their news piece quoted Bonin's office as saying they have placed so many people in Westchester Park and they will continue to do that. Basically, that means he is not going to allow anyone or any city agency to move these vehicle dwellers out of the park and to another location.

CM Bonin, in his statement to CBS, also omitted the fact that he is trying to get a permanent Safe Parking program in that. CM Bonin has obtained estimates to fence that entire lot and a member of Bonin's staff has inquired of the CAO by email regarding funding sources to use that entire lot for Safe Parking.

We asked our County Supervisor, Holly Mitchell, to help us get information from Mr. Bonin's office, as he will provide no information at all to our community regarding his plans for this lot. The only information we have received is in response to PRA requests filed over the last five months. Yesterday, we received an email from Sup. Mitchell's staff stating Mr. Bonin's office would reach out to his constituents when he has something to report. We are aware that Bonin reaches out to constituents only after his plans are approved.

We have been doing everything within our power to work with Mr. Bonin's office, but we are met with a brick wall. We have reached out to Mr. Royster, GM of the GSD, many times, and we are met with a brick wall. Because we understand GSD has jurisdiction over this lot and any request for a permit to use this lot for Safe Parking would be issued by GSD. We have requested meetings with Mr. Bonin's office and with Mr. Royster, to no avail.

Community members of Westchester have been entirely excluded from this public process. Meanwhile, people do not feel safe in that parking lot, and they are not safe there. Also, this parking lot is the largest in the park, 112 spaces, and people who use the senior center and the library need this parking. The ball fields, which have undergone renovation, will open October 3 and thousands of youth athletes use those fields. We cannot expect children and their families to find parking across Lincoln Avenue--a seven-lane stretch of Highway 1.

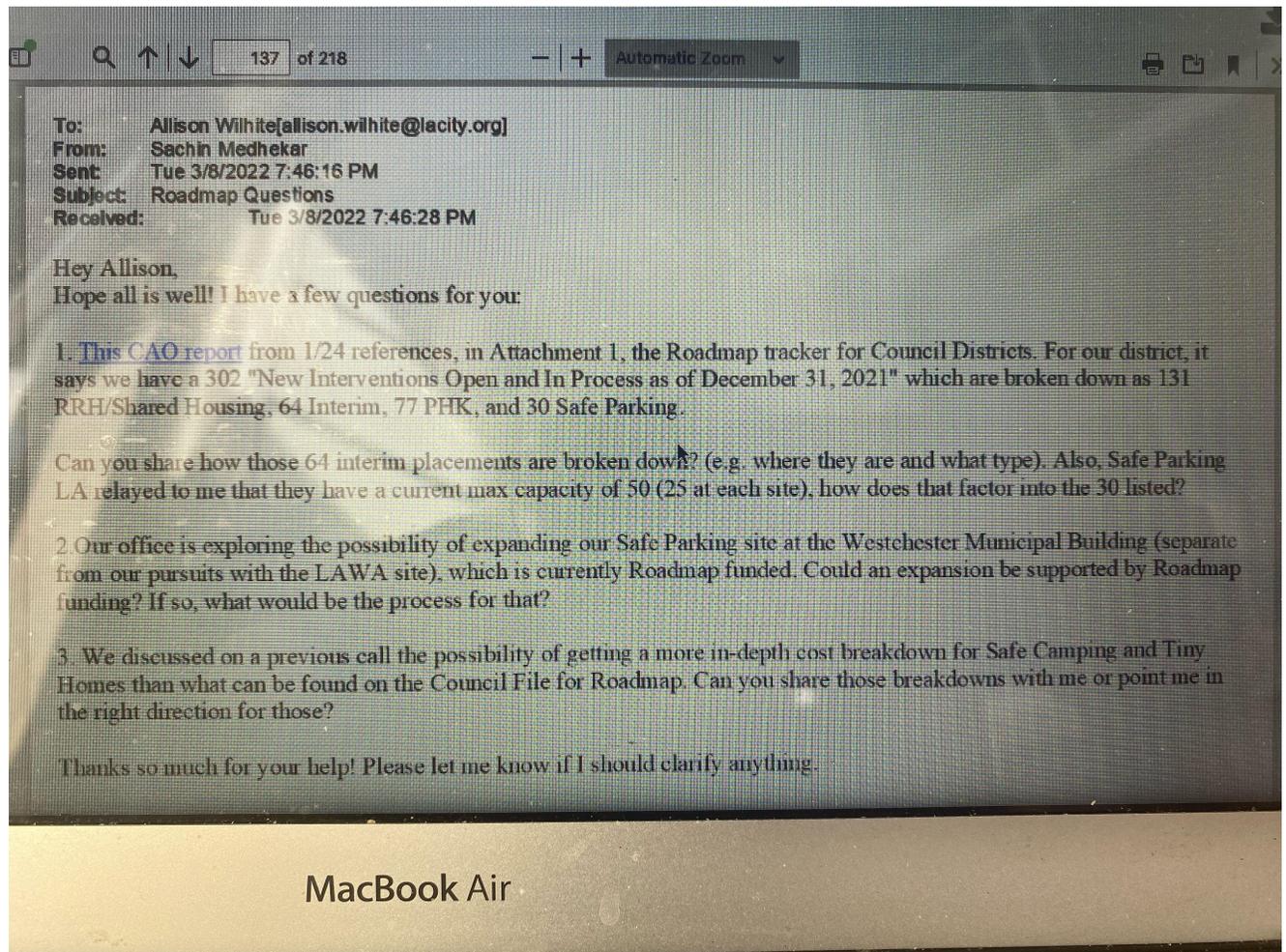
I am attaching one of the estimates CM Bonin obtained to fence the entire lot. I am also attaching an email from Sachin Medhekar of CM Bonin's office inquiring of the CAO about the availability of Roadmap (covid) funding to use that parking lot for Safe Parking.

I noticed in the news piece the man lying next to the entrance to the senior center. This man, who is homeless, has walked onto tennis courts on two separate days. The first day he walked onto the court where several 12-year-old girls were taking tennis lessons from a pro. The man began saying "These girls just want to f\*ck me. I tell them I'm just a homeless guy and they still want to f\*ck me." The next day, he leapt over a low fence onto a court where five-year-old girls were taking lessons and began the vulgar sex talk again. In each case, the girls and the pros teaching them were terrified.

**We plead with our city officials to find another lot for people who reside in their vehicles in Westchester Park. There is no other park in the City, out of 480 parks, that has a Safe Parking program. Using this lot as a Safe Parking program is not consistent with park uses or purposes, and it is not safe for children, seniors, and others.**

Please contact me with any questions, and if you would like to visit the park and see this situation for yourself. Our community would like to work with you and be a part of this public process. Thank you.

Debra Huston



[Preview attachment H234010E OPT2 CNC CD 11 WESTCHESTER - IRON FENCE sent to client 01-20-2022.pdf](#)

 PDF  
[H234010E OPT2 CNC CD 11 WESTCHESTER - IRON FENCE sent to client 01-20-2022.pdf](#)  
 641 KB

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 Tim C

Chip

!!This email reflects ONLY my opinion!!!

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

**Re: Oppose name change of Oakwood Park**

1 message

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

Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 11:29 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, Aug 18, 2022 at 10:55 AM Laura Ceballos < > wrote:

I oppose the Oakwood Park name change, because there was no collaboration or community input to discuss the ramifications of the name change. The name change would not only erase the Venice Oakwood Park History, but the Chicano/Mexican American History in the Oakwood Park area. Please do not move forward with the Oakwood Park name change and allow for the community to be involved in this major decision making. Thank you.

Laura Ceballos

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

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**Re: Oakwood park opposing the name change**

1 message

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

Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 8:18 AM

To: Hector Garcia &lt;

&gt;

Good morning,

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

On Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 3:43 PM Hector Garcia &lt;

&gt; wrote:

To Rap. Commissioners of city of Los Angeles

I oppose the oakwood park name change because the park represents the brown/black community By changing the name it will erase the history of the Chicano/Mexican American community Plus blacks have oakwood park field already. So that means it will leave the Mexican American community out

--

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

## Re: RECAP/ACTION PLAN - POST ZOOM MEETING AUGUST 9th

1 message

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

Fri, Aug 26, 2022 at 7:38 AM

To: Mark Soslow &lt;

Cc: Adrian Acosta <37285@lapd.online>, Jeffrey Lovick <36047@lapd.online>, Laura Island <laura.island@lacity.org>, John Gavilan <john.gavilan@lacity.org>, leslie.richter@lacity.org, Noah Fleishman <noah.fleishman@lacity.org>, Susan Botta <susan.botta@lacity.org>, ani wlafield <Ani.wlafield@lacity.org>, Daniel Brewster <daniel.brewster@lacity.org>, Pamela Anderson <>, Eileen Archibald <>, Lydia Ponce <>, Margaret Molloy <>, Shawnie Soil <>, "adolf. alzuphar" <a >, lan <>, Mike Bonin <Mike.bonin@lacity.org>, Steven Embrich <30993@lapd.online>, Ed Ferrer <>, Peggy Kennedy <>, Naomi <>, Nightingale <>, Gary Featherstone <>, Jon Wolff <>, Dillon Chapman <>, Tim Walsh <>, David Busch <>, Joe Losorelli <joe.losorelli@lacity.org>, Sonya Young-Jimenez <sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>, "laughinghard@aol.com" <>, Michael Applegate <34613@lapd.online>, carl.holmes@lacity.org, Laddie Williams <>

Good morning,

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

On Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 7:43 PM Mark Soslow &lt;

&gt; wrote:

Hello all -

I am sorry to have missed the zoom but I finally got Covid. It seems like a lot was accomplished on the call and thank you Mrs. Greenwald for the notes/zoom recording, and thank you all county offices for devoting their time and future energies to this problem. We do appreciate you and are doing everything in our power to help you.

I was uplifted when I heard LAPD was at the park but I am surprised that tickets weren't issued. We all heard the warning issued to the dog owners on a bullhorn or loud speaker but these are the same people who have been coming every night for the last year. They know they aren't supposed to have their dogs off-leash. The park crowd was scarce for a couple days after the warning but all these owners know the drill - warnings are given but never citations, They wait a few days until the dust settles and are all back.

There are currently 15 or so dogs that have been off-leash in the park for the last hour plus. They include the owner of the black lab with the cropped tail that was warned last week, the man with the corgi who emptied out the other day when the warning was issued, the woman in the white lexus who drives to Oakwood every night, the couple in the Mazda who park on oakwood and comes every night for about 2 hours (that have been warned by Animal Control, LAPD, and Keith Rice and his staff), the mini-golden doodle that was warned, the labradoodle owner that was in the park 2xs when warnings were issued last week.

While I appreciate the effort, we have all agreed time and time again - **the only thing that works is repercussions in the form of tickets. How have there been 20+ dogs in the park on most evenings and 1 citation given this week?**

Best -- Mark Soslow, esq.

On Aug 23, 2022, at 12:29 PM, Adrian Acosta <37285@lapd.online> wrote:

Today's task force information with LA Park Rangers and LA Animal Regulations

***This is Park Ranger Smith from the task force, We Cited a total of 3 at Penmar Rec, 5 at Mar Vista Rec and returned to Oakwood Rec and cited 1. Total of 9 citations.***

***Please keep us updated on any future task force or any other efforts on how we can collaborate. Thanks***

Adrian

Adrian D. Acosta, #37285

Pacific Area Senior Lead Officer

Los Angeles Police Department

310.622.3970

On Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 7:50 AM Rap Commissioners <[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)> wrote:

Good morning,

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

On Fri, Aug 12, 2022 at 10:07 AM Bethy G < > wrote:

First, we'd like to thank everyone for taking the time for the zoom meeting this week. Your time and commitment this week in working towards a safe resolution is appreciated. Hopefully all of our collective efforts moving forward will help curb this dangerous issue.

We thought it best to recap what each division spoke to/options researching so we can have a game plan and map next steps. We are hoping that these notes will help keep momentum so we can move the ball forward. As discussed there is an urgency given how bad the problem has gotten and the recent wave of aggression from the owners to Rec staff, coaches, parents, community members etc.

If I left anything off or left anyone out please feel free to add them or respond.

Thanks again for taking the time.

Best,

Oakwood Community

**ONE NOTE RE UPCOMING TASK FORCE VISITS**

\*\*As stated on this call there is a task force coming up and we would love to assist you in being effective. In the AM's the dog owners have been congregating more so on the Oakwood side closest to 1046/1042 Oakwood. You can't miss them. We are happy to help you day if you text any one of us who lives right on the park will gladly tell you where they are congregated to help make these task force visits most effective.

\*\*In the evening from 6 - 8pm owners congregate on the 7th avenue side of the park as well as closer to the picnic table area. It's impossible to miss them.

## HEADLINES FROM THE ZOOM MEETING/ACTIONS TO FOLLOW UP ON

### COMMUNITY

- roughly 12 signs up, warnings don't work unless consistent, tickets are effective
- field is unsanitary and not cleaned like a dog park is - urine, dog poop (bacteria against this), holes from the dogs digging, dust pit from all the damage and the grass is in horrible shape
- making the park less comfortable for owners via Oakwood staff on megaphone, LAPD getting on their megaphone when they drive by, community members patrolling
- Can Oakwood be made a human's only park (ala Veteran's Park in Culver City which is people only)
- Historical designation for Oakwood?
- The park is completely enclosed - if it were more open it would deter owners.
- Disparity in policing of multi-generational black/brown members of the community and white dog owners
- Private Security options?
- Photograph people with dogs off-leash so there is a record
- The liability is a concern
- CPRA request documents showed 10 tickets in the last 3 years for tickets.**

### LAPD (Sergeant Lovick and Officer Acosta)

- Task force coming up in a couple of weeks (AC)
- Promise to work on solution, last resort would be to close the park down a la Centennial Park. (SL)
- Trying to step up enforcement working on a timetable for that, looking for longterm change, conferring with his Captain,
- Don't want to put the public in a situation where they are unnecessarily in danger,
- "Now our job is to do what we are supposed to do and put your taxpayer dollars to work and go out there and provide that enforcement that will strengthen that message. The plan is to figure out some effective task forces to get these people out of there, possibly closing them in the park - (SL)
- Officer Acosta promises to be at the park as much as humanly possible given other tasks (AC)
- We should feel safe to confront idiot neighborhood but by the same token if it escalates we need to use the tools (SL)

**FOLLOW UP: COMMITMENT TO TICKETING, WORKING ON GETTING MORE EFFECTIVE TASK FORCE VISITS,**

### QUESTION FOR LAPD/RANGERS

\*\*One question we forgot to pose is that at least 50% of the Oakwood dog traffic is from drive ups. Since people come every day at the same time, we have license plate #'s, in some cases we know the names of people - - can anything be done with this information? Warning letters? Trespass?

### RECREATIONS AND PARKS (John Gavilan, Laura Island, Leslie Richeter)

JG - John shared that this issue is clearly an issue, the staff tries to walk around and remind owners about the leash rules but they are ignored or worse. John had an experience with a special needs camper that had an encounter with a dog that was upsetting as the boy was afraid of the dog. The female owner of the dog was kurt when asked to leash and John was trying to focus on the kid. Trying to provide a safe environment for people to enjoy the park.

LI - They have noticed this problem has escalated and it's concerning. It impedes programming, endangers children and divides the community. Some of these people have proven they are disrespectful, aggressive, and she would hate to see the women on this call in jeopardy.

- Plans to enhance Westminster, architects visited to make it more user friendly,
- Concern over the liability

**FOLLOW UP: UPDATED ON WHERE WESTMINSTER REMODEL IS AT**

**-REVISITING REMOVING FENCES (NOT BY THE BASEBALL FIELDS OR PLAYGROUND BUT CENTER PARK AREA) - WORTH A LOOK AT WHAT THAT WOULD COST AND WHERE FENCE COULD BE MOVED  
-SPEAK WITH CITY ATTORNEY TO SEE IF THERE COULD BE A MONITOR TO CHECK LICENSE ETC.  
LONG TERM SOLUTION BUT COULD TAKE A YEAR IF EVEN POSSIBLE**

### RANGERS (Park Ranger Brewster) -- I DO NOT HAVE RANGER BREWSTERS EMAIL

- Background to the rangers - area they cover, station in the harbor, they don't patrol
- He has spoken to Keith Rice and he has never seen a park take the steps to have enough signage up, thankful for Oakwood and the community for signs up.

- When enforcing, people spot them, leash up, text others or if they do catch them in the act - they run away. That could escalate, arrest, whole other ballgame
- Willing to come out join the task force - with animal control, LAPD,
- Rangers can write ACE and the fines start at \$250 and can escalate (people wouldn't have to go to court). Violations can be not having tags, leash can't be longer than 6ft, they can write up multiple offences/codes
- Since they don't patrol they aren't over here that said if they have a westside assignment Ranger Brewster and his partner etc can come by and do some enforcement.
- Schedule task forces at random times, keep certain gates closed before a task force which will assist in giving out tickets.

**FOLLOW UP: TASK FORCE HELP****LT BOTTA (Animal Control)**

- Would love to do more task force but limited with staff of 1-2 officers for entire area
- Tried to coordinate with LAPD but issue when people leash up and leave
- Suggestion that is being utilized elsewhere in LA. Close up the gates and leave one access point, hire private security that will request proof of LA license, license (which includes proof of rabies vaccination), pamphlet instructing dog to stay on leash, an ACE (administrative citation doesn't need to be issued by an officer, a security guy could issue them), this is currently being done by several parks - in Beverly Hills, and county. People are not allowed in the parks without proof the dog is licensed.

**NOAH FLEISHMAN (Councilman Bonin's office)**

- Current situation isn't working for the kids, community, concern for council member office
- The park is a recreation center for kids (sports), cookouts, community gathering - it's not a dog park. City has specific area dog parks.
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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

## Re: Sepulveda Dog Park 2022

1 message

**Dog Park** < > Wed, Aug 24, 2022 at 11:09 AM  
 To: Wayne Neal <wayne.neal@lacity.org>  
 Cc: Paola Jaramillo <paola.jaramillo@lacity.org>, Jonah Glickman <jonah.glickman@lacity.org>, Viana Parra <viana.parra@lacity.org>, Sylvia Patsouras <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, Javier Solis <javier.solis@lacity.org>, Ramon Barajas <ramon.barajas@lacity.org>, Brian Yamasaki <brian.yamasaki@lacity.org>, Cesar Lomeli <cesar.lomeli@lacity.org>, Linda Gravani >, Jim Stein < >, Ruth Doxsee < >, Muriel Kotin <de-348@lafn.org>, Glenn Bailey < >, Ter Lieberstein < >, "Katie (Mowgli) Serviss" < >, "Robert (Mowgli) Serviss" < >, Trudi Schoolhouse < >, John Genga < >, "Deborah (Tommy) Davies" < >, "Dana (Barney & Tallulah) Bartholomew" < >, Linda Schwering < >, Donna 🐶 Soskin < >, "Barbie (Lulu)(Leo) Schwab" < >, Michelle Lasky-Nielson < >

Wayne,

I'm sorry, again I put bullet points and you haven't answered most of my questions. I am going to request that this be on the LB NC agenda and we can address it, this email has been ignored since March.

Also, the Eagle Scout agility course barrel in the timid side which was backed into by an truck with an aerator in tow by accident was not repaired, it was removed. Is there another plan? It sat with caution signs on it for over a year and is now gone. Getting the Eagle Scout project approved and done took at least 6 years. It was installed with deep cement to RAP's specifications and someone backed into it and uprooted one corner of the cement, it's been sitting for over a year, maybe two since I haven't seen the park aerated for that long and now the ground is like cement.

Miriam

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 23, 2022, at 3:11 PM, Wayne Neal <wayne.neal@lacity.org> wrote:

Good Afternoon Miriam,

We are addressing your concerns beginning with any safety issues. In regards to the budget, there is \$25,00.00 for grounds maintenance which is used for the part-time staff with a schedule of 4 hours per day/ 7 days a week. I know there has been discussion of restroom facilities in the past, however, there are no sewer lines within the area of the dog park this is why we provided porta potties. Additionally the question of lighting has also been discussed in the past but at this time there are no plans or budget for this project. All LA City dog parks' public hours are from sunrise to sunset. Any other concerns feel free to contact myself at (818) 756-8189 with any other questions or concerns.  
 Thank You

*Wayne Neal  
 Principal Grounds Maintenance Supervisor II  
 City of Los Angeles  
 Dept. of Recreation and Parks  
 Valley Region Maintenance  
 Office: (818) 756-8189  
 Email: Wayne.neal@lacity.org*

On Wed, Aug 17, 2022 at 5:22 PM Miriam Preissel < > wrote:

Thank you Wayne for getting back to me. Hope you had a great vacation!

Just want to make sure we aren't pinning the tree issue on urine. These trees are older than the park in most cases and have only recently become distressed because of the watering issue. No tree expert that I've talked to has worried about the dog urine. For the record I am still concerned about the amount of water that the trees are getting.

Thank you for the items that you have addressed. Some things we are still waiting for answers to. Most importantly the park budget plus available funds vs funds that would need to be found outside of RAP. Realistically the only item that should need outside funding vs our park's yearly budget and the Measure A funds that RAP receives for our area are rest rooms. Do we need to set up a meeting with you or someone else to do this? There is also an account with approximately 25k in it that Ramon Barajas can probably help us identify again. It was set up for a PAB for the park and never spent. Mike Shull identified it for us and it should still be available.

Here are outstanding questions:

#### WHAT IS BEING DONE ABOUT THE EROSION?

The biggest issue for the majority of the patrons of our park is the grass. I say grass but it is the erosion of the soil over the last 3 years that is one of the main concerns of the Army Corps as well. The sprinklers which were not readily visible are now an inch above the dirt line so we have eroded that much soil. In the Army Corps Master Plan I left with you, it advises that the dog park should be kept clean and not lead to the contamination of the LA River with feces and urine. In the past to satisfy that direction we have had grass as the vegetation but nothing has been done in the last 3 years. Also with the wind off the wash the dust that people are breathing in is not healthy.

We also had questions about budget and how much was already in the regular park budget and how much would have to be found in measures and possibly upcoming Olympic funds. Ideas like the DG walking paths through the parks would be an easy improvement, allowing exercise for people and their off leash dogs without the danger of breaking ankles in potholes. This may already be attainable. The idea of bathrooms I'm sure is not.

Here are the questions, some policy and then some are just park maintenance issues.

- \* Schedule of the purple line  
Present watering schedule (CAN WE GET AN EXCLUSION BECAUSE OF THE TREES?)  
Seeding plans
- \* New Fountains - 2 were redone with proper drainage  
When are the other 2 going to be started?

#### Maintenance Issues

- \* Signs indicating "no parking between signs" at the emergency entrance were broken off and someone recently slashed their tires on the metal sticking up. We spoke about addressing this. Do we have a date to replace?
- \* Updated Handicap parking signs near small side DONE, THANK YOU!
- \* Updates and removal of faded/out of date signs DONE, THANK YOU!
- \* Victory entrance needs rules & neutering signs
- \* White Oak entrance needs chains and broken locks removed and doors realigned
- \* Timid side agility course barrel was backed into by aeration truck and needs repair. This has been sitting like this for over a year now.

Wish list: (I THINK THESE ARE REASONABLE UNDER PRESENT BUDGET)

- \* DG Paths
- \* Benches
- \* Cement under the benches that we already have (WAS OFFERED AND SUPPOSED TO HAPPEN BEFORE THERMAN AND JORGE LEFT)

- \* Self Closing Gates like the ones at the Eagle Rock Dog Park
- \* Lights

Wish list: (Olympic funds? Other funds?)

- \* Plumbed toilets The porta potties are not very well kept and keep being burned down

Thank you again for your cooperation. It is appreciated.

Best,

Miriam and the Friends

On Aug 12, 2022, at 1:51 PM, Wayne Neal <[wayne.neal@lacity.org](mailto:wayne.neal@lacity.org)> wrote:

Miriam, Hello

I have returned to work and read your statement of maintenance concerns.

Since our last meeting at the dog park and as of today we have addressed several of your concerns:

- "Handicap" Signs were installed or replaced where needed
- "No Food..." signs were replaced
- New trash cans were installed
- There is an ongoing effort to remove the mesh by our part time staff as previously discussed in our meeting with you last month.
- Berms created around trees, (on-going)
- Trees being irrigated (on-going)
- A Protective orange mesh was installed around several young trees to protect them from dog urine.

As we move forward feel free to contact me for any questions or concerns

Thank You

*Wayne Neal*

*Principal Grounds Maintenance Supervisor II*

*City of Los Angeles*

*Dept. of Recreation and Parks*

*Valley Region Maintenance*

*Office: (818) 756-8189*

*Email: [Wayne.neal@lacity.org](mailto:Wayne.neal@lacity.org)*

On Tue, Aug 9, 2022 at 3:44 PM Miriam Preissel <

> wrote:

Hey Paola,

Great seeing you the other day and appreciate your involvement with the park.

This was the email I sent a while back after meeting with Brian at the end of March. I'm pretty sure most of the maintenance is still outstanding. The only thing off the top of my head that has been addressed were the trees. Although I don't believe they are getting enough water yet.

Some questions like the purple line have been brought up elsewhere and I don't expect maintenance to have all of these answers. But most questions are still outstanding, so I am resending this and hope this gets reviewed again.

Best,

Miriam

Hi Brian,

I'm sorry this has taken so long. We appreciate you meeting with us and it was lovely to meet you, but I am very confused as to who we should be talking to regarding some of the specific questions about maintenance of the park. As you know I made our appointment with Wayne Neal and there are obviously issues that only he could answer. So I'm thinking that we can review a list of concerns we went over and maybe get an idea of who we have to lobby for answers/action.

There are 2 neighborhood councils that have Parks committees for the Sepulveda Basin. Lake Balboa and Encino. From what I am understanding there is no RAP representation at any of the meetings. Is this a recent department decision or did this just fall through the cracks?

As a nonprofit for the park we held two adoption events a year, a very popular Holiday event and a spring event. We think that it is a good location for more adoption events. You informed me that we will need permits going forward. Is there an event coordinator with RAP that we should talk to? Can I get a contact for that?

Two pressing issues for us may not be questions for you or Wayne but we keep asking everyone. The purple line and the bike path. We would like to know the status of both.

The biggest issue for the majority of the patrons of our park is the grass. I say grass but it is the erosion of the soil over the last 3 years that is one of the main concerns of the Army Corps as well. The sprinklers which were not readily visible are now an inch above the dirt line so we have eroded that much soil. In the Army Corps Master Plan I left with you, it advises that the dog park should be kept clean and not lead to the contamination of the LA River with feces and urine. In the past to satisfy that direction we have had grass as the vegetation but nothing has been done in the last 3 years. Also with the wind off the wash the dust that people are breathing in is not healthy.

We are now looking at the most serious drought in our history and the purple line that was scheduled to come to our park has not been extended. So the question is, do we know when that will happen? Do we know who interfaces with the DWP to keep on top of that schedule? What are we looking at in terms of watering now. Our trees are looking distressed. Are we watering now and what will happen in the near future. The distant future?

We also had questions about budget and how much was already in the regular park budget and how much would have to be found in measures and possibly upcoming Olympic funds. Ideas like the DG walking paths through the parks would be an easy improvement, allowing exercise for people and their off leash dogs without the danger of breaking ankles in potholes. This may already be attainable. The idea of bathrooms I'm sure is not. There is also an account with approximately 25k in it that Mike Shull can probably help us identify again.

So if you and Wayne would help us get a sense of what we can expect from RAP, who we can turn to if you don't have the answers and how we can lobby to help the department help the park it would greatly be appreciated.

Here are the questions, some policy and then some are just park maintenance issues.

- \* Schedule of the purple line  
Present watering schedule  
Are we actually watering? Park is very dry and dusty  
Seeding plans  
Future restrictions and the already distressed trees
- \* New Fountains - 2 were redone with proper drainage  
When are the other 2 going to be started?

#### Maintenance Issues

- \* Signs indicating "no parking between signs" at the emergency

entrance were broken off and someone recently slashed their tires on the metal sticking up. We spoke about addressing this. Do we have a date to replace?

- \* Updated Handicap parking signs near small side
- \* Updates and removal of faded/out of date signs
- \* Victory entrance needs rules & neutering signs
- \* White Oak entrance needs chains and broken locks removed and doors realigned
- \* Timid side agility course barrel was backed into by aeration truck and needs repair. This has been sitting like this for over a year now.

Wish list:

- \* DG Paths
- \* Benches
- \* Cement under the benches that we already have
- \* Lights
- \* Self Closing Gates like the ones at the Eagle Rock Dog Park
- \* Plumbed toilets The porta potties are not very well kept and keep being burned down

I'm sure I've missed things but am hoping we are opening more of a communication so it will be ok to update as life is fluid.

We are a Friends group for the park and have felt like we have also been Friends of RAP for a few years now. We are volunteers. We are dog enthusiasts. We are taxpayers. We represent park users who want nothing short of the best for our community resource. Changing out the maintenance personal every few years makes it difficult. We would like to change that going forward and would need your help in accomplishing that.

Many thanks, will look forward to hearing back from you.

Best,

Miriam Preissel

President - Friends of the Sepulveda Basin Off-Leash Dog Park

And the Friends: Dana Bartholomew, Ter Leiberstein, Katie Serviss, Trudi Schoolhouse and John Genga

8/18/22, 12:28 PM

City of Los Angeles Mail - Re: Palisades Pickleball - An update PLEASE



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

---

**Re: Palisades Pickleball - An update PLEASE**

1 message

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

Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 12:28 PM

To: pong nim &lt;

&gt;

Cc: Sonya Young-Jimenez &lt;sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org&gt;, Jimmy Kim &lt;jimmy.kim@lacity.org&gt;, Anthony Gallo &lt;anthony.gallo@lacity.org&gt;, Jasmine Dowlatshahi &lt;jasmine.dowl@lacity.org&gt;, Kortley Norris &lt;kortley.norris@lacity.org&gt;, Patricia Delgado &lt;trish.delgado@lacity.org&gt;, Leslie Richter &lt;leslie.richter@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 Wed, Aug 17, 2022 at 9:26 PM pong nim &lt;

&gt; wrote:

Dear Superintendent SYJ et al:

I just went to check out the 8x Pickleball courts that the City of LA just painted on 2 of the tennis courts at Westchester Tennis Center and they look great. See the pictures below.

Please, you've got to do the same for us. 4x Pickleball courts on 1 tennis court will simply be not enough. The popularity of Pickleball and the demand for more courts are real! You can't deny that. And since the contractor is already there, you might as well have them paint 8x on 2 tennis courts like they did here. We have been playing Pickleball on tennis court #8 at the Palisades Rec Center for almost a year now and we have yet to hear any complaint from the neighboring residents.

Again, I urge you to please reconsider painting 8x hybrid Pickleball courts like you did here at Westchester instead of 4x. What will it take for you to change your mind?





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

On Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 11:59:46 AM PDT, Sonya Young-Jimenez <[sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org](mailto:sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org)> wrote:

Hello Pong, we are working to move forward with creating a hybrid court of court #7. We want to start with one court first and evaluate how this sport works in this area. We are concerned with the close proximity to the houses behind the courts. Court 7 will have 4 courts. I am working on the board report and it should go to the RAP Board of Commissioner meeting in September. I am also happy to hear the lines have been completed at Westchester today. I'll be stopping by this week to take a look. Thank you

On Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 12:01 PM pong nim < > wrote:  
 To Superintendent Sonya Young-Jimenez et al.

It has been almost a month since my last email to you. Can one of you please update us with the progress of painting the 8x Pickleball court lines (4x on tennis court #7 + 4x on tennis court #8) at the Palisades Rec Center? I'd really appreciate it. Thank you very much.

Vora **PONG** Nimnual  
<https://usapickleball.org/>

On Wednesday, July 20, 2022 at 03:01:04 PM PDT, Sonya Young-Jimenez <[sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org](mailto:sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org)> wrote:

Thank you Pong for your email and we look forward to these changes and lines on the courts. I appreciate you breaking everything down and sending this email to the group.

On Mon, Jul 18, 2022 at 10:05 AM pong nim > wrote:

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 start 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](mailto: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

**Sonya Young Jimenez**

*Superintendent of Venice Beach and West Region*

City of Los Angeles  
Department of Recreation and Parks  
2459 Motor Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90064  
Cell: (213) 312-7966  
Mail Stop: 673  
Website: [laparks.org](http://laparks.org)

**Sonya Young Jimenez**

*Superintendent of Venice Beach and West Region*

City of Los Angeles  
Department of Recreation and Parks  
2459 Motor Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90064  
Cell: (213) 312-7966  
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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



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

**Re: Palisades Pickleball - An update PLEASE**

1 message

pong nim

&gt;

Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 1:21 PM

To: Sonya Young-Jimenez &lt;sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org&gt;

Cc: Jimmy Kim &lt;jimmy.kim@lacity.org&gt;, Anthony Gallo &lt;anthony.gallo@lacity.org&gt;, Jasmine Dowlatshahi &lt;jasmine.dowl@lacity.org&gt;, Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;, Kortley Norris &lt;kortley.norris@lacity.org&gt;, Patricia Delgado &lt;trish.delgado@lacity.org&gt;, Leslie Richter &lt;leslie.richter@lacity.org&gt;

Understood. **Thank you ALL very much for your support.**

I apologize if some of us have been less than civilized in his/her communication with some of you in the past. We truly look forward to the day that residents of Pacific Palisades will have their very own public Pickleball courts in their home turf that they can play on.

Thanks again and have a great day today and the rest of the week everyone.

Vora **PONG** Nimnual<https://usapickleball.org/>

USAPA Ambassador - Pacific Palisades

On Thursday, August 18, 2022 at 01:05:32 PM PDT, Sonya Young-Jimenez <sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org> wrote:

Thank you Pong for the great pictures. I'm happy this project has been completed at Westchester. I understand your want for more courts but for now we are sticking to this plan. We will reassess the courts in 6 months after the install and see how things are going. Thank you again for reaching out.

On Wed, Aug 17, 2022 at 9:26 PM pong nim

&gt; wrote:

Dear Superintendent SYJ et al:

I just went to check out the 8x Pickleball courts that the City of LA just painted on 2 of the tennis courts at Westchester Tennis Center and they look great. See the pictures below.

Please, you've got to do the same for us. 4x Pickleball courts on 1 tennis court will simply be not enough. The popularity of Pickleball and the demand for more courts are real! You can't deny that. And since the contractor is already there, you might as well have them paint 8x on 2 tennis courts like they did here. We have been playing Pickleball on tennis court #8 at the Palisades Rec Center for almost a year now and we have yet to hear any complaint from the neighboring residents.

Again, I urge you to please reconsider painting 8x hybrid Pickleball courts like you did here at Westchester instead of 4x. What will it take for you to change your mind?



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

**Re: Original Art Proposal - Mural in South Park**

1 message

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

Thu, Aug 11, 2022 at 7:16 AM

To: Ariella Kirschbaum <

Cc: ligaya.khennavong@lacity.org, Georgia Van Cuylenburg <

>

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Aug 10, 2022 at 6:26 PM Ariella Kirschbaum <

> wrote:

Dear RAP Commissioners:

Arts Bridging the Gap is submitting an original art proposal in order to create a mural in South Park. We have been in touch with the department about this proposal and the process it has to go through. We have done many murals approved by RAP in the past and we are excited to make this happen with the South Park community! Attached is our proposal. Please let me know if you need anything further.

Thank you so much for reviewing our proposal. Have a great week.

Sincerely,



**Ariella Kirschbaum**

Programs Manager

[Arts Bridging the Gap](#)

Working days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

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City of Los Angeles  
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
Figuroa Plaza  
221 North Figuroa 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)

**SUBMISSION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS**

**In regards to  
The Original Art Proposal for  
South Park (Barry White) Recreation Center  
345 E 51st St  
Los Angeles, CA 90011**

**Art Piece Name: Legacy**

**Enclosed is:**

- A. Application Form
- B. Artist Resumes, Artist Waivers, Maintenance Commitment Agreements
- C. Relevant Press
- D. Written Narrative (includes: Funding Source(s), Artist Selection Process, Design, Community Context, Production Process, Maintenance, and Agreement Regarding Anti-Graffiti Coating)
- E. Detailed Mural Design Drawings
- F. Color Photographs of the Site and Surroundings

City of Los Angeles · Department of Recreation and Parks  
**Public Artwork, Murals and Plaques: Application**  
Submit to: [rap.projectideas@lacity.org](mailto:rap.projectideas@lacity.org)

**Applicant: (Individual name or organization, address, email, telephone)**

Arts Bridging the Gap  
Founding Director: Georgia Van Cuylenburg  
1433 N Hayworth Ave #5  
Los Angeles, CA 90046  
georgia@artsbridgingthegap.org  
323-244-0720

**Project Title/Description:**

Title: Legacy

Arts Bridging the Gap is excited to partner with The Los Angeles Mayor's Department of Human and Civil rights and Equity in creating a youth driven mural in South Park part of the LA for All Campaign led by the Mayor's office. A primary goal of this project is to create a mural on a prominent public wall in a way that is meaningful for the community, providing an uplifting outlook for the future and celebrating the legacy of their past. The design was created as a collaboration between the two selected muralists - one African American, one Latina and the youth at South Park's summer camp. Arts Bridging the Gap and the muralists conducted art workshops including games, discussions, and art-making. This allowed for free expression and thought-provoking understandings, so that the muralists could see through the communities' eyes and gain a deeper perspective on how to make a public art piece meaningful for everyone in the neighborhood. In addition to working with the youth, Arts Bridging the Gap also spoke with adult community members about the history of the park to infuse this into the art piece. Themes of renewal and fun were highlighted by the youth and the adult community members expressed imagery relating to the evolution and legacy of the park. South Park has a history of many faces. From being a place of turbulent tension to a place of peaceful protest, it has held space for the vast spectrum that is the human experience of living in community. Although the older members of the community still see the scars of the park, the youth maintain the park's purity and innocence as they treat it as a place for their spirits to play freely. This piece aims to showcase South Park's vibrant ever-evolving legacy by depicting moments of peace, protest, play and the iconic palm trees that weave together the different communities of Los Angeles.

**Project Location/Street Address:**

South Park Recreation Center  
345 E 51st St  
Los Angeles, CA 90011

Mural on the Teen Center outside wall (image attached)

**Council District of Project Location:**

9

**Artist(s): (Name(s), address(es), email(s), telephone(s))**



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

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**Re: Centennial Park Sycamore trees and future understory plants**

1 message

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

Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 11:28 AM

To: isabelle duvivier &lt;

Cc: Noel Johnston &lt;

&gt;

Good morning,

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

On Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 10:24 AM isabelle duvivier &lt;

&gt; wrote:

My name is Isabelle Duvivier. I'm a Community Forest Advisory Committee Rep for CD 11 as well as co-chair of the Verdant Venice Group, also known as VVG. We are a group of local volunteers that plants, mulches, and cares for trees. We have planted over 300 trees. VVG has collaborated with many city agencies to plant and care for our young trees. Last year we worked with Streets LA, to remove the permeable concrete, that was strangling 77 mature sycamore trees along Venice Blvd. Currently we are working with LADOT to improve and care for native understory plantings at several parking lots including Tabor court and the Farmer's Market site.

I am here today regarding Centennial Park next to the Venice Library that was fenced off several months ago to keep the homeless encampment away. Centennial Park has several dozen sycamores trees that were planted as part of a boulevard wide planting plan from Ocean to Lincoln Blvd. Those trees at Centennial Park were regularly watered until the homeless encampments moved to the site. That irrigation was recently turned off. VVG is hoping that RAP can help us care for that park and those trees by:

1. turning the irrigation back on, OR
2. allowing VVG to get into the fenced-in area so that we can mulch and water the trees, AND
3. keeping in-communication with VVG with regards to the future landscaping plans.

We hope to see our sycamore trees at Centennial Park well nurtured. We also hope that the future understory plantings will be coastal CA natives.

Thank you

Isabelle Duvivier, FAIA  
Duvivier Architects

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

1 message

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

Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 8:47 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, Aug 17, 2022 at 3:27 PM Jamie York < > wrote:

Dear Recreation and Parks Commissioners,

I am forwarding the following Community Impact Statement from the Reseda Neighborhood Council. I am forwarding this email as I have become aware that the community impact statement portal submission system for many commissions has been broken for months and I have received no confirmation regarding its repair. Unfortunately, Recreation and Parks is one of the affected commissions as you can see from the correspondence below. If you could confirm receipt of our community impact statement, I would greatly appreciate it.

Best regards,

Jamie York  
Secretary  
Reseda Neighborhood Council

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

From: <Clerk.CIS@lacity.org>  
Date: Tue, May 17, 2022 at 10:38 AM  
Subject: Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
To: <commissions@rap.lacity.org>  
CC: >

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

\*\*\*\*\* This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. \*\*\*\*\*

Contact Information  
Neighborhood Council: Reseda Neighborhood Council  
Name: Jamie York  
Phone Number:  
Email:

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(7) Nay(1) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)  
Date of NC Board Action: 05/16/2022  
Type of NC Board Action: Against unless Amended

Impact Information  
Date: 05/17/2022  
Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number: 22-0600

Agenda Date: 05/16/2022

Item Number: X. D.

Summary: Please see attached file for our full statement on the proposed City Council budget.

--

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)



## Reseda Neighborhood Council

**DJ FRANK**  
PRESIDENT  
**VACANT**  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
**JAMIE YORK**  
SECRETARY  
**ANGELA SABORIO**  
TREASURER  
**MICHELLE GALLAGHER**  
PARLIAMENTARIAN  
**VICTOR SABORIO**  
SERGEANT-AT ARMS

**THOMAS BOOTH**  
**SHARON BREWER**  
**KARLA ESCOBAR**  
**JENNIFER HUNT GUDERNATCH**  
**MAYA HWANG**  
**GUILLERMO MORALES-**  
**VITOLA**  
**ANAT INDIG-PEDDICORD**  
**JOE PHILLIPS**  
**MARIA SKELTON**

[Council File 22-0600](#) (Budget Proposal Fiscal Year 2022-23)

### **Neighborhood Councils**

Neighborhood councils are the boots on the ground for LA city government and are often the first place stakeholders turn when having issues. Our service to the City and our communities is on a volunteer basis, but there is a limit to how much time and labor each of us can give. When the pandemic hit and all departments were asked to cut their budgets, Neighborhood Councils took a disproportionate 24% reduction. We need our budgets restored to their original \$50,000 plus an adjustment for inflation which would bring our budgets to \$82,000 per year. It is very hard to function on our current \$32,000 a year allocation and make a significant difference in our communities.

If we provide simple snacks for our meetings that's 2% of our budget. If we fully fund a single neighborhood purpose grant and that's over 15% of our yearly budget. Our rent to have a meeting space in our community as required under the Brown Act is over 56% of our budget. We have to decide between basic operational expenses and making a difference in our neighborhoods. Most NCs are making this up by over relying on the free labor of our board member volunteers and we are getting exhausted and worn out.

This has a disproportionate effect on disadvantaged communities where board members do not have the luxury and privilege of time to dedicate hours upon hours to service of their communities. It has become clear that the City is leaning very heavily on our free labor and the situation is untenable and will drive active volunteers out of the NC system. It was especially disheartening to hear Capri Maddox exemplify this point during the Budget Hearings on May



2nd, saying that the Civil, Human Rights, and Equity Department was leveraging the free labor of Neighborhood Councils to save money in their outreach budget. If the NC system is to survive and thrive, we need our budgets reinstated to \$50,000 a year with an additional adjustment for inflation which would bring our budgets to \$82,000 a year.

The Reseda Neighborhood Council opposes the request by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment for increased engagement and awareness budget. We refer the City Council to our previously filed community impact statement available [here](#).

### **Emergency Management Department**

The Reseda Neighborhood Council is also very concerned about the capacity of the Emergency Management Department. Los Angeles County was ranked highest in the nation for natural disasters in FEMA's 2020 Natural Risk Index and while experts on urban emergency response recommend that cities the size of Los Angeles have 100 people for emergency management, as of November 2021, the Emergency Management Department had 18 filled positions.

We ask that, in addition to proper funding and access to immediate funds in emergencies, that the Emergency Management Department develop a five-year plan to bring itself up to the basic level of being able to protect Los Angeles and that the City Council work with the Department to implement it. To save lives, we urge the creation of a revolving fund of \$10 million that can be drawn on without delays.

### **Ethics Department**

Furthermore, given the City's well-publicized ethics issues, the Reseda Neighborhood Council asks that the City strengthen the Ethics Department by increasing its authority and independence. Angelenos should not settle for less. **Two of the three following recommendations should be implemented:**

- Give the Ethics Department the ability to place legislation directly on the ballot.
- Give the Ethics Department its own independent legal counsel outside of the City Attorney.
- Give the Ethics Department a steady source of funding not under City influence.

### **Department of Transportation**

We recommend that LADOT be funded to work towards Vision Zero and Mobility 2035 goals. We also recommend that the West Valley traffic engineer and its support staff be fully funded. The West Valley needs long lasting traffic improvements that can be best done by smart road design. The Reseda Neighborhood Council is committed to street design changes that prioritize safety and reduce pedestrian fatality and injury.

We also would like to see the city prioritize shade equity along transportation routes and invest more in transportation infrastructure in communities that have traditionally been overlooked.



## **Recreation and Parks**

Lastly, the Reseda Neighborhood Council strongly desires park improvements, particularly the development of a splash pad in the West Valley. We ask that the planned improvements for “triangle park” include a splash pad water play feature. This was recommended in the [LA County Parks Needs Assessment](#) and the need for a splash pad only grows as heat increases and the West Valley grows. A splash pad play feature would be a much needed recreation feature but also provide a modest economic boost to Reseda as families from areas outside Reseda would travel to our area to use this amenity.

Sincerely

Reseda Neighborhood Council

This vote occurred in a general board meeting in accordance with the Brown Act on May 16, 2022 with a total of: 7 yes, 1 no, 6 absent.

CC: Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners, Board of Transportation Commissioners, Los Angeles City Ethics Commission, Emergency Management Department, Board of Civil and Human Rights Commissioners



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

## Re: Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

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

Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 8:47 AM

To: Jamie York &lt;jamiey@resedacouncil.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 Wed, Aug 17, 2022 at 3:27 PM Jamie York > wrote:

Dear Recreation and Parks Commissioners,

I am forwarding the following Community Impact Statement from the Reseda Neighborhood Council. I am forwarding this email as I have become aware that the community impact statement portal submission system for many commissions has been broken for months and I have received no confirmation regarding its repair. Unfortunately, Recreation and Parks is one of the affected commissions as you can see from the correspondence below. If you could confirm receipt of our community impact statement, I would greatly appreciate it.

Best regards,

Jamie York  
Secretary  
Reseda Neighborhood Council

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

From: <Clerk.CIS@lacity.org>

Date: Tue, Jul 19, 2022 at 1:33 AM

Subject: Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

To: <commissions@rap.lacity.org>

CC: <JamieY@resedacouncil.org>

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

\*\*\*\*\* This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. \*\*\*\*\*

#### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Reseda Neighborhood Council

Name: Jamie York

Phone Number:

Email:

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(9) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/18/2022

Type of NC Board Action: For

#### Impact Information

Date: 07/19/2022

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number: 22-0650

Agenda Date: 07/18/2022

Item Number: X.E.

Summary: The Reseda Neighborhood Council supports the City Council's report back instructing the Department of Parks and Recreation to assess the conditions of all playgrounds in the city within thirty days and looks forward to the ensuing recommendations for repair and capitalization for long-term upkeep. The Reseda Neighborhood Council and our constituents are extremely interested in park improvements. At the recent Getty 25 Art Fest, the Reseda Neighborhood Council collected comments from attendees to see what our constituents wanted for our neighborhood. By far, the top request was for the installation of a splash pad in Reseda Park. We registered 73 comments asking for the addition of a splash pad or water play feature from parents, children, and event goers. We believe the desire for that amenity reflects the reality of the effects of climate change on the West Valley and inadequate public cooling places. However, residents also frequently highlighted the need for park improvements, more trees or shading, and more community events and programming within the top ten comments we received. This shows a desire for greater community investment in Reseda facilities. These comments echo the recommendations of the LA County 2016 Park Needs Assessment for a splash pad to be installed in the Reseda area and also noted that most Reseda Park facilities were in state of fair or poor repair. We would urge the City Council to integrate the recommendations from this recent study when considering recommendations and upgrades Please see the attached pdf and supporting document for our full statement.

--

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  
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**DJ FRANK**  
PRESIDENT  
**KARLA ESCOBAR**  
VICE-PRESIDENT  
**JAMIE YORK**  
SECRETARY  
**ANGELA SABORIO**  
TREASURER  
**MICHELLE GALLAGHER**  
PARLIAMENTARIAN  
**VICTOR SABORIO**  
SERGEANT-AT ARMS

**THOMAS BOOTH**  
**SHARON BREWER**  
**JENNIFER HUNT GUDERNATCH**  
**MAYA HWANG**  
**GUILLERMO MORALES-**  
**VITOLA**  
**ANAT INDIG-PEDDICORD**  
**JOE PHILLIPS**  
**GOLZAR SEPEHRI**  
**MARIA SKELTON**

[Council File 22-0605](#)

Playground Upgrades / Resilient Surfacing / Shade / Safety / Accessible

The Reseda Neighborhood Council **supports** the City Council's report back instructing the Department of Parks and Recreation to assess the conditions of all playgrounds in the city within thirty days and looks forward to the ensuing recommendations for repair and capitalization for long-term upkeep. The Reseda Neighborhood Council and our constituents are extremely interested in park improvements.

At the recent Getty 25 Art Fest, the Reseda Neighborhood Council [collected comments](#) from attendees to see what our constituents wanted for our neighborhood. By far, the top request was for the installation of a splash pad in Reseda Park. We registered 73 comments asking for the addition of a splash pad or water play feature from parents, children, and event goers. We believe the desire for that amenity reflects the reality of the effects of climate change on the West Valley and inadequate public cooling places. However, residents also frequently highlighted the need for park improvements, more trees or shading, and more community events and programming within the top ten comments we received. This shows a desire for greater community investment in Reseda facilities. These comments echo the recommendations of the [LA County 2016 Park Needs Assessment](#) for a splash pad to be installed in the Reseda area and also noted that most Reseda Park facilities were in state of fair or poor repair. We would urge the City Council to integrate the recommendations from this recent study when considering recommendations and upgrades.

We believe the recent allocation of funding for improvements to the Triangle Park section of Reseda Park presents a unique opportunity to meet the wishes of our neighbors. We believe it should be explored if Measure W funding could be utilized to capture and recycle the water



used by the splash pad to then be used for park irrigation. We believe the splash pad play area could also be Los Angeles River themed in keeping with the environmental education mission of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority which is also involved in the project. We look forward to working with our Councilmembers to explore how we can make a splash pad a reality for Reseda residents.

The Reseda Neighborhood Council has highlighted in previous community impact statements and requests for actions the desire in our community for park improvements and repairs as well as accessibility upgrades. We look forward to the report back and hope to see the addition of these improvements in our neighborhood parks.

Thank you for your consideration.

Reseda Neighborhood Council

This vote took place in a Brown Act compliant meeting on July 18, 2022. The vote was 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 0 recused, 5 absent.

Category	Comments
Splashpad	73
Community Events/Centers/Programs	21
More Trees	15
Less Trash	14
Affordable housing	12
Park Improvement / dog park	11
More security/police	8
Bus stops Transit improvements	7
Less homelessness	7
More parking	5
Reseda Theatre	5
Investment in social services	5
Homeless Shelters	4
bike lanes	4
Playground	3
Mental Health Services	3
Less police	3
Roads paved	2
Cooling center	2
Sidewalk Repair	1
Better lighting	1
NC Budget increase	1
public wifi	1



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

**Re: Rancho Park Golf Clubhouse**

1 message

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

Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 3:13 PM

To: John Given &lt;

&gt;

Cc: rachel.ramos@lacity.org, rap.golf@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 Mon, Aug 15, 2022 at 12:05 PM John Given <

&gt; wrote:

In your Concession Committee hearing on Thursday please provide in as much detail as available for a full report on the Rancho Park clubhouse project.

Specifically:

1). Have the City and lessee reached an agreement?

... who are the lessee's principal parties

... what is the total project cost?

... costs and scope to be funded or performed by the City

... costs and scope by lessee

2) when will the amended lease be approved? Available to public?

3). Please provide update on design and scope. Does it include the same as depicted and attached to the original approved lease?

4). What is the updated construction schedule?

I think we are coming upon three years since the clubhouse and restaurant was closed. While we are all frustrated, I for one hope there are no compromises on the original vision. The clubhouse is of course an important service to the public recreational use of Rancho Park. It is also uniquely situated in a very strong market. The potential for success in terms of revenue is unlike any other golf facility in the system.

The infrastructure investment will get great returns. I hope that inures someday soon to upgrades and modernization of the golf course, beginning with the irrigation system.

Thank you and respectfully,

JOHN GIVEN

On Jun 28, 2022, at 1:35 PM, John Given

wrote:

On Jun 16, 2022, at 11:41 AM, Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

wrote:

Good morning,

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

On Thu, Jun 16, 2022 at 9:47 AM John Given < > wrote:

I want to commend Commissioners Bain and Chase on their response to public comments at the Concessions Task Force today, June 16. The report that the parties are attempting to remobilize is a glimmer of hope that remains vague as to essential details. It lacks transparency into the scope of the issues encountered and, more importantly, as to how the commitments of the City and TRP have been reorganized to get the job done. The RAP Board of Commissioners and the Concessions Task Force should request a more robust update and discussion at its next meeting.

The opportunity to make a long term restorative investment in Rancho Park should not be lost. Nor should the vision of vibrant public serving clubhouse be diminished. This project will be greatly supported by the public golf community and the community at large. It will be an ongoing model of revenue to the Golf Division and the RAP system from public and private investment.

The RAP Commissioners and the public should expect nothing less.

Thank you for your service.

Sincerely,

John Given

On Apr 30, 2022, at 11:41 AM, John Given > wrote:

Dear Mr. Rudnick,

I am a daily user of golf facilities at Rancho Park. Rancho is one of the busiest facilities in the City's golf division, let alone the entire rec & park system. Yet its clubhouse facilities have been ragged for years, decades in fact, and now they have been closed for over two years. I learned this week that disputes between the City and the restaurant development team have completely broken down and the parties have withdrawn. As a retired developer of comparable facilities I was pleased and impressed when this new arrangement first rolled out. I was then patient and now I am very frustrated and worried about what is to come. There was so much potential and there still is.

While there must be a lot of fingers to point, what matters most is how the City is going to go about resolving issues that led to dispute, select a new lessee (with comparable or better qualifications), and remobilize. As we look to what could be months or years until construction is again mobilized, I hope the Administration can provide some transparency to the public and golfers in particular. Here are some questions:

- 1) Have arrangements been made for a new temporary food and beverage service?
- 2) How will the site be secured and maintained until construction commences again? We should be concerned about safety, convenience and protecting the structures from vandalism. As an aside,
- 3) Bathroom facilities are too few and abysmal. The two replacement bathrooms installed prior to the pandemic do not have any ventilation. With everything we know about health and ventilation, that this continues is shocking.

4) What steps is the City taking to select a new lessee?

I would appreciate if you could provide me with publicly available management reports on this matter to advisory committees, the Park and Rec Commission, and City Council. Perhaps there are websites and search links where the reports are available.

I trust there is great urgency to get this situation turned around and the case for expediting good solutions is being made.

Sincerely,

John Given

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

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

## Fw: Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners - RE: DEARBORN PARK

1 message

**Glenn Bailey** < > Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 9:38 AM  
 Reply-To: Glenn Bailey < >  
 To: "rap.commissioners@lacity.org" <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners

Good morning Commissioners,

I am forwarding the Community Impact Statement filed on July 21, 2022 to your Commission regarding Dearborn Park that I am concerned you might not have received. Please see below.

Thank you.

Cordially,

**Glenn Bailey**  
**President**  
**Northridge East Neighborhood Council**

### Office/Voicemail/Text:

The Northridge East Neighborhood Council Board meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. normally at the Northridge Woman's Club, [18401 Lassen Street, Northridge 91325](http://www.nenc-la.org). However during the COVID-19 pandemic, the meetings are being held virtually via Zoom until further notice. For more information, visit: <http://NENC-LA.org/>

### GET INVOLVED - MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

**APPLY for vacant seats:** Two Business/Employee, two Resident and two Alternate seats are available; NENC stakeholder eligibility is described in the NENC Bylaws. For additional information or to apply, email [GlennBaileyNENC@yahoo.com](mailto:GlennBaileyNENC@yahoo.com)

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

**From:** "clerk.cis@lacity.org" <clerk.cis@lacity.org>  
**To:** "commissions@rap.lacity.org" <commissions@rap.lacity.org>  
**Cc:** " <  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 21, 2022 at 10:50:06 AM PDT  
**Subject:** Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

\*\*\*\*\* This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. \*\*\*\*\*

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Northridge East Neighborhood Council

Name: Glenn Bailey

Phone Number:

Email:

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(6) Nay(0) Abstain(2) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 07/20/2022

Type of NC Board Action: Neutral Position

Impact Information

Date: 07/21/2022

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Northridge East Neighborhood Council, at its duly noticed Board meeting held on July 20, 2022, passed agenda item 10i by a vote of 6-0-2 as follows: MOTION: Dearborn Park does not allow reservations, weddings, amplified music, moonbounce jumpers, barbeques or alcohol but there have been many complaints of such activities related to unpermitted group events so therefore the Northridge East Neighborhood Council demands the City of Los Angeles immediately enforce its own laws, rules and regulations in Dearborn Park. Passed 6-0-2 on July 20, 2022.



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

**Re: Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners**

1 message

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>  
To: Thomas Soong <thomas.soong@lacity.org>

Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 8:50 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, Aug 18, 2022 at 10:01 PM Thomas Soong <thomas.soong@lacity.org> wrote:

Thomas Soong  
Director of Awareness and Engagement

**Department of Neighborhood Empowerment**  
200 N. Spring Street, Suite 2005  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Office | 213-978-1551 Fax | 213-978-1751  
Email | [EmpowerLA@lacity.org](mailto:EmpowerLA@lacity.org) Web | [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)



*Empower Yourself. Empower Your Community. Empower LA.*

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

From: <[Clerk.CIS@lacity.org](mailto:Clerk.CIS@lacity.org)>  
Date: Thu, Jul 21, 2022 at 10:50 AM  
Subject: Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
To: <[commissions@rap.lacity.org](mailto:commissions@rap.lacity.org)>  
Cc: < >

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

\*\*\*\*\* This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. \*\*\*\*\*

Contact Information  
Neighborhood Council: Northridge East Neighborhood Council  
Name: Glenn Bailey  
Phone Number:  
Email:

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(6) Nay(0) Abstain(2) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)  
Date of NC Board Action: 07/20/2022  
Type of NC Board Action: Neutral Position

Impact Information  
Date: 07/21/2022  
Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Northridge East Neighborhood Council, at its duly noticed Board meeting held on July 20, 2022, passed agenda item 10i by a vote of 6-0-2 as follows: MOTION: Dearborn Park does not allow reservations, weddings, amplified music, moonbounce jumpers, barbecues or alcohol but there have been many complaints of such activities related to unpermitted group events so therefore the Northridge East Neighborhood Council demands the City of Los Angeles immediately enforce its own laws, rules and regulations in Dearborn Park. Passed 6-0-2 on July 20, 2022.

--

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

**Re: Baldwin Hills Rec Center - Neighborhood Park Filming**

1 message

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

Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 8:49 AM

To: martin.gutierrez &lt;

&gt;

Cc: "baldwinhills.recreationcenter@lacity.org" &lt;baldwinhills.recreationcenter@lacity.org&gt;, "rap.publicinfo@lacity.org"

&lt;rap.publicinfo@lacity.org&gt;, "matthew.rudnick@lacity.org" &lt;matthew.rudnick@lacity.org&gt;, "jimmy.kim@lacity.org"

&lt;jimmy.kim@lacity.org&gt;, "sylvia.lacy@lacity.org" &lt;sylvia.lacy@lacity.org&gt;, "cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org"

&lt;cathie.santodomingo@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 Thu, Aug 18, 2022 at 9:35 PM martin.gutierrez &lt;

&gt; wrote:

Good evening, my reason for sending this email is to bring to light what many have failed to consider, hours of filming and impact to the park's neighbors.

A permit has been issued to a production company to use Baldwin Hills neighborhood park surrounded by home to film an outside baseball scene from 11am to 2:30am, this is unacceptable. Living in this neighborhood we hear park visitors cheering on baseball games, football games, people with music and much more. The sound travels in this park and regardless in what area of the park your having a game, the cheering and music, the noise travels, now imagine having a permit until 2:30am and hearing generators, trucks backing up beeping noise, people yelling, cheering and many other noises that late, it is just not acceptable. We've live on Dunsmuir for many years, the park is literally our backyard. Just to make this very clear we are ok with 7 days out of the week park noise during park hours BUT we're not ok with park noise after 10pm.

What we're asking is nothing new, it gets done in other area neighborhood parks and that is consideration for the neighbors, we're filming pass 10pm doesn't happen. The filming time for this park needs to be permanently adjusted to reflect what they call in the film industry "tail lights" by 10pm, that means pick up or rap it up and your done for that day.

Again, the hours of filming for this production needs to change immediately not to allow filming pass 10pm for this production and for future park use. Please see attach image. Please advise of resolution.



**NOTICE OF FILMING  
(Feature Film - Scripted)**

**PERMIT NUMBER:** LA00063016-2  
**PRODUCTION COMPANY:** Sweet Dreams LLC  
**WILL BE FILMING:** Sweet Dreams  
**LOCATION** Baldwin Hills Recreation Center - 5401 Highlight Pl,  
Los Angeles, CA 90016  
**FILM DATES:**08/19, 08/22-08/26 11:00 AM - 2:30 AM

**FILMING ACTIVITY:**  
Community Survey Pending, Camera on Sticks, Equipment and  
Activity on Property Only, Filming Outside with Sound, Parking  
on Property

**PRODUCTION PARKING**  
N/S=North Side, E/S=East, S/S=South, W/S=West, B/S=Both Sides  
**Information in this section is for reference only. Posted  
DOT "No Parking" signs must be adhered to at all times.**  
NONE

**PRODUCTION LANE/STREET CLOSURES**  
NONE

**LOCATION MANAGER:** Luke Lakin  
**MOBILE PHONE:** (702) 910-5776  
**EMAIL:** lakinlukec@gmail.com  
**PRODUCTION OFFICE PHONE:** (702) 910-5776  
TG CD SD 2 | CD 10 | JR | AA

Thanks,  
M. Gutierrez

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

## Re: FIRE CRISIS COMING TO A HEAD Griffen/S Ave 52

1 message

**Bill Cody** <bill.cody@lacity.org>

Tue, Aug 23, 2022 at 9:49 AM

To: Pamela Bean <pamela.bean@lacity.org>  
 Cc: Sandy Huse <sandy.huse@lacity.org>, Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, Roseann Gentry <roseann.gentry@lacity.org>, "Trinidad, Marcos" <trinidad.marcos@lacity.org>, Pae White <pae.white@lacity.org>, Cynthia Gonzalez <cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org>, Gil <gil@lacity.org>, Fabiola Torres <fabiola.torres@lacity.org>, Yves Spinelli <yves.spinelli@lacity.org>, Andrei Deocampo <andrei.deocampo@lacity.org>, Thomas F Marble <thomas.marble@lacity.org>, Linda Torn <linda.torn@lacity.org>, Joseph Fuentes <joseph.fuentes@lacity.org>, Jose Pineda <jose.pineda@lacity.org>, Patrick Joyce <pat.joyce@lacity.org>, Ricardo Huerta <34863@lapd.online>, Sweet P Vaughn <sweet.p.vaughn@lacity.org>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, Peter Delgadillo <peter.delgadillo@lacity.org>, Adriana Smith <adriana.smith@lacity.org>, Evy Bround <evy.bround@lacity.org>, Brennan Schloo <brennan.schloo@lacity.org>, "a arnett (via Google Sheets)" <a.arnett@lacity.org>, Seb bean <seb.bean@lacity.org>, Alyse Gae Johnson <alyse.gae.johnson@lacity.org>, Jacqueline Bowman <jacqueline.bowman@lacity.org>, Raul Leon <raul.leon@lacity.org>, Yovonte Robinson <yovonte.robinson@lacity.org>, Theodore Garcia <theodore.garcia@lacity.org>, Treva Wurmfeld <treva.wurmfeld@lacity.org>, Alejandra Fiallos <31770@lapd.online>, Fire Cheif <ralph.terrazas@lacity.org>, Jose Rodriguez <Jose.A.Rodriguez@lacity.org>, "kevin deleon@lacity.org" <kevin.deleon@lacity.org>, "Nate Hayward@lacity.org" <Nate.Hayward@lacity.org>, Johnny Altamirano <38828@lapd.online>, German Hurtado <34865@lapd.online>, James Bean <james.bean@lacity.org>, isabella.bolton.torres@lacity.org

Dear Montecito Heights constituents.

Sorry I was out last week for a few days but CD1 had continued to schedule Sanitation Clean Ups along Griffin. We have continued to be in touch with both the Senior Lead Officer Ricardo Huerta and the Park Rangers. I did drive by today as I did last week before I left for the weekend. I do see that there has been a rise in RV's. We will work to address that situation again as we have in the past.

We will continue to do this work until we leave the office. I have been working with Marcos and his staff on helping with signs this Thursday and will be doing a clean-up there soon with the Friends of Debs Park. Hopefully a lot of people will come out for that. .

Thanks,

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 10:39 AM Pamela Bean <pamela.bean@lacity.org>

> wrote:

Excellent point Sandy! We are still waiting for something more than just 'we care about our community and please dial this or that number' kind of message. Hopefully our local authorities will realize this time that we will not stop until these very threatening situations are dutifully addressed.

Pamela

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 12:25 PM Sandy Huse <sandy.huse@lacity.org>

> wrote:

FOUR of these boilerplate responses? Do they actually go to ANY real human being? Or is this just another "dodge'n'weave" by public servants to NEVER respond?

Sandy

Sandy Huse



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: FIRE CRISIS COMING TO A HEAD Griffen/S Ave 52

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org> Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 8:04 AM
To: Pae White >
Cc: Cynthia Gonzalez <cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org>, Gil <gilcedillo45@gmail.com>, Fabiola Torres >, Sandy Huse <>, Yves Spinelli <>, Andrei Deocampo <andrei.deocampo@lacity.org>, Thomas F Marble <>, Linda Torn <>, Joseph Fuentes <joseph.fuentes@lacity.org>, Jose Pineda <jose.pineda@lacity.org>, Patrick Joyce <pat.joyce@lacity.org>, Ricardo Huerta <34863@lapd.online>, Sweet P Vaughn <>, Roseann Gentry <>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, Peter Delgadillo <peter.delgadillo@lacity.org>, Adriana Smith <adriana.smith@lacity.org>, Evy Bround <>, Brennan Schloo <>, James Bean <>, "a arnett (via Google Sheets)" <>, Seb bean <>, Alyse Gae Johnson <>, Jacqueline Bowman <>, Raul Leon <raul.leon@lacity.org>, "Yovonte.Robinson@lacity.org" <Yovonte.Robinson@lacity.org>, Theodore Garcia <theodore.garcia@lacity.org>, Bill Cody <bill.cody@lacity.org>, Treva Wurmfeld <>, Pamela Bean <>, Alejandra Fiallos <31770@lapd.online>, "ralph.terrazas@lacity.org" <ralph.terrazas@lacity.org>, Jose.A.Rodriguez@lacity.org, "kevin deleon@lacity.org" <kevin.deleon@lacity.org>, Nate.Hayward@lacity.org, Johnny Altamirano <38828@lapd.online>, 34865@lapd.online

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

On Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 11:47 AM Pae White <> wrote:
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Please provide us with some dates where we can meet in person or via zoom. Please keep in mind that I plan to pester you all until this meeting gets set up.

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However, it's also obvious that it's a "pick your authority" situation: Parks, Police and Cal Trans are overlapping here, with any and all being able to step in and deal with this. CAN we deal with this?

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

## Re: FIRE CRISIS COMING TO A HEAD Griffen/S Ave 52

1 message

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

Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 8:06 AM

To: James Bean >  
 Cc: Pae White < >, Cynthia Gonzalez <cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org>, Gil < >,  
 Fabiola Torres < >, Sandy Huse < >, Yves Spinelli < >,  
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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: FIRE CRISIS COMING TO A HEAD Griffen/S Ave 52

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626.617.3897

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Dear City Officials,
Please do something now.
This is beyond ridiculous. How is De Leon able to clean up his area but we cannot. I noticed more encampments cleaned up in his district while ours continue to grow. He lost his run as mayor yet continues to work. Our Park Rangers work so hard as does Sanitation to no avail. There is no follow thru from above. We are sick of all the excuses.
One of my neighbors texted me this morning about calling the media. I think she's right.

Sweet P Vaughn

Sent from my iPhone

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However, it's also obvious that it's a "pick your authority" situation: Parks, Police and Cal Trans are overlapping here, with any and all being able to step in and deal with this. CAN we deal with this?

Thanks. Sandy

Sandy Huse

<Video\_1.mov><Video.mov>

--  
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



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

**Re: FIRE CRISIS COMING TO A HEAD Griffen/S Ave 52**

1 message

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

Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 9:31 AM

To: Sandy Huse &lt;&gt;

Cc: Roseann Gentry <>, "Trinidad, Marcos" <>, Pae White <>, Cynthia Gonzalez <cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org>, Gil <gilcedillo45@gmail.com>, Fabiola Torres <>, Yves Spinelli <>, Andrei Deocampo <andrei.deocampo@lacity.org>, Thomas F Marble <>, Linda Torn <>, Joseph Fuentes <joseph.fuentes@lacity.org>, Jose Pineda <jose.pineda@lacity.org>, Patrick Joyce <pat.joyce@lacity.org>, Ricardo Huerta <34863@lapd.online>, Sweet P Vaughn <>, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, Peter Delgadillo <peter.delgadillo@lacity.org>, Adriana Smith <adriana.smith@lacity.org>, Evy Broad <>, Brennan Schloo <>, "a arnett (via Google Sheets)" <>, Seb bean <>, Alyse Gae Johnson <>, Jacqueline Bowman <>, Raul Leon <raul.leon@lacity.org>, Yovonte.Robinson@lacity.org, Theodore Garcia <theodore.garcia@lacity.org>, Bill Cody <bill.cody@lacity.org>, Treva Wurmfeld <>, Pamela Bean <>, Alejandra Fiallos <31770@lapd.online>, ralph.terrazas@lacity.org, Jose.A.Rodriguez@lacity.org, "kevin deleon@lacity.org" <kevin.deleon@lacity.org>, Nate.Hayward@lacity.org, Johnny Altamirano <38828@lapd.online>, German Hurtado <34865@lapd.online>, James Bean <>, isabella.bolton.torres@lacity.org

Good morning,

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

On Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 4:53 PM Sandy Huse &lt;&gt;

&gt; wrote:

Thanks to all the CITIZENS who are responding to this thread and monitoring the ongoing fires and pollution in Debs and playgrounds/Sycamore Grove/Arroyo environs.

I can't help but notice that there has been NO response (at least in a reply all format) from ANY city official...oh, except for turning on a spigot at Peanut lake and a small amount of graffiti abatement. Personally, I have had to call 911/FD three times in the last 2 weeks for active fires. This has become a nearly useless exercise, and a deadly game of Russian roulette.

Unless there is a public meeting scheduled that actual city (public servants) authorities attend (fire, ranger, police, city council, RAP) within the next 2 weeks, I wholeheartedly embrace informing media about the ongoing threat to hundreds of thousands in the area around Debs Park because it is not a matter of IF, it is WHEN a major fire escapes the homeless arsonists and takes out homes and people.

There are at least TWO ordinances now that give authorities (public servants) the ability to evict and/or arrest those who continue these arsenious activities...and yet, all we hear is that "we are waiting for the go-ahead". From WHOM, exactly? The city council passed ordinances, so cops and rangers are able to get going NOW. The FD has always had authority, but they seem to be bored and are becoming less responsive ("Is the fire in the arroyo? Well, call us back if any brush starts up"...yes, that is a direct quote from 911 dispatch).

OUR PUBLIC SERVANTS somehow think that they are no longer answerable to constituents. We can't let this continue.

Sandy

Sandy Huse

**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2022 2:16 PM

**To:** Trinidad, Marcos <>; Pae White <>

**Cc:** Cynthia Gonzalez <[cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org](mailto:cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org)>; Gil <>; Fabiola Torres <>; Sandy Huse <>; Yves Spinelli <>; Andrei Deocampo <[andrei.deocampo@lacity.org](mailto:andrei.deocampo@lacity.org)>; Thomas F Marble <>; Linda Torn <>; Joseph Fuentes <[joseph.fuentes@lacity.org](mailto:joseph.fuentes@lacity.org)>; Jose Pineda <[jose.pineda@lacity.org](mailto:jose.pineda@lacity.org)>; Patrick Joyce <[pat.joyce@lacity.org](mailto:pat.joyce@lacity.org)>; Ricardo Huerta <[34863@lapd.online](mailto:34863@lapd.online)>; Sweet P Vaughn <>; Sarah Flaherty <[sarah.flaherty@lacity.org](mailto:sarah.flaherty@lacity.org)>; Jimmy Kim <[jimmy.kim@lacity.org](mailto:jimmy.kim@lacity.org)>; Peter Delgadillo <[peter.delgadillo@lacity.org](mailto:peter.delgadillo@lacity.org)>; Adriana Smith <[adriana.smith@lacity.org](mailto:adriana.smith@lacity.org)>; Evy Bround <>; Brennan Schloo <>; a arnett (via Google Sheets) <>; Seb bean <>; Alyse Gae Johnson <>; Jacqueline Bowman <>; Raul Leon <[raul.leon@lacity.org](mailto:raul.leon@lacity.org)>; Yovonte.Robinson@lacity.org; Theodore Garcia <[theodore.garcia@lacity.org](mailto:theodore.garcia@lacity.org)>; Bill Cody <[bill.cody@lacity.org](mailto:bill.cody@lacity.org)>; Treva Wurmfeld <>; Pamela Bean <>; Alejandra Fiallos <[31770@lapd.online](mailto:31770@lapd.online)>; [ralph.terrazas@lacity.org](mailto:ralph.terrazas@lacity.org); Rap Commissioners <[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)>; [Jose.A.Rodriguez@lacity.org](mailto:Jose.A.Rodriguez@lacity.org); kevin deleon@lacity.org <[kevin.deleon@lacity.org](mailto:kevin.deleon@lacity.org)>; [Nate.Hayward@lacity.org](mailto:Nate.Hayward@lacity.org); Johnny Altamirano <[38828@lapd.online](mailto:38828@lapd.online)>; German Hurtado <[34865@lapd.online](mailto:34865@lapd.online)>; James Bean <>; [isabella.bolton.torres@lacity.org](mailto:isabella.bolton.torres@lacity.org)

**Subject:** RE: FIRE CRISIS COMING TO A HEAD Griffen/S Ave 52

Marcos,

Thank you so much!

Roseann Gentry

Customer Service Representative

direct

fax



---

**From:** Trinidad, Marcos <[Marcos.Trinidad@audubon.org](mailto:Marcos.Trinidad@audubon.org)>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 19, 2022 1:42 PM  
**To:** Pae White <>  
**Cc:** Cynthia Gonzalez <[cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org](mailto:cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org)>; Gil <[qilcedillo45@gmail.com](mailto:qilcedillo45@gmail.com)>; Fabiola Torres <>

**Subject:** Re: FIRE CRISIS COMING TO A HEAD Griffen/S Ave 52

Hello everyone,

Feel free to coordinate a time that works for most and I'll make sure the Audubon center is opened for you all to meet. Thank you for coordinating this effort.

Marcos

**Marcos A. Trinidad**

Center Director

Audubon Center at Debs Park

4700 N. Griffin Ave

Los Angeles, CA 90031

(o) (323) 221-2255 x 111

[marcos.trinidad@audubon.org](mailto:marcos.trinidad@audubon.org)

---

**From:** Pae White

**Date:** Friday, August 19, 2022 at 1:24 PM

**To:**

**Cc:** Cynthia Gonzalez <[cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org](mailto:cynthia.gonzalez@lacity.org)>, Gil <[gilcedillo45@gmail.com](mailto:gilcedillo45@gmail.com)>, Fabiola Torres <

**Subject:** Re: FIRE CRISIS COMING TO A HEAD Griffen/S Ave 52

Ironically, as I write this, the encampments on Griffin are currently on fire. Surprise surprise.

On Aug 19, 2022, at 1:21 PM, Pae White

> wrote:

I am asking everyone to assemble a log of all the times the city has been contacted about the situation on Griffin/Debs. We will present this in the upcoming meeting.

Other council reps have been effective in areas of the city that are **NOT** VHFHSZ. Why is it that we have to tolerate inaction in an area that IS where wilderness and lives are at stake?

Cynthia, I leave it to you to organize this meeting. Perhaps we can meet at Audubon in one of their meeting rooms. Please give us some times and Marcos, perhaps you can give us a sense of possible availabilities.

Thank you

Pae

On Aug 19, 2022, at 1:09 PM, James Bean

> wrote:

Once again the local government has NO clue of how to deal with this horrendous situation. You have CD1 and the fire department missing in action. The only governmental organization that has done anything is Recreation and Parks. This cannot stand. People do NOT have the freedom to use the public areas to put up tents and burn fires. Please compare this with, as an example, Alhambra or South Pasadena. These areas are free of all this degenerate activity. Why, because they enforce the loitering laws as that appear on the books.

James M. Bean

On Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 1:47 PM Pae White <

> wrote:

Dear Cynthia and Gil

We are demanding a meeting with LAPD, RAPS, Transportation and other city officials about the increasingly dangerous situation cited below. You guys have been ignoring our request for years now and blaming Covid restrictions that have now been lifted. If Mike Bonin was able to get RVs to move from Verdugo because they blocked traffic then certainly something can be done about the RVs in our VHFHSZ that are directly related to drug dealing and impaired individuals setting fires in our VHFHSZ. Why do we have to keep begging you to remove people who **have been repeatedly caught on camera starting fires in a VHFHSZ???**

Please provide us with some dates where we can meet in person or via zoom. Please keep in mind that I plan to pester you all until this meeting gets set up.

Thank you

Pae White

On Aug 19, 2022, at 11:33 AM, Pamela Bean  
< > wrote:

Hi all,

This is EXTREMELY concerning and we are asking the local authorities to take immediate action to avoid a bigger disaster with more serious detrimental damages. I am forwarding this email to the board of directors of the Friends of Debs Park, the maintenance team from Recreation and Parks, the Audubon staff and Bill Cody in the hopes that they are aware of the threats these fires and encampments represent.

Looking forward to hearing from those who can help,

Pamela

Pamela Bean, Ph.D., MBA  
President and Founder  
Friends of Debs Park

On Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 11:16 AM FABIOLA TORRES  
< > wrote:

Hello community and Park Rangers.

I am sure all of us are aware of the increase in RV parking on Griffen next to Debs Park. The newly mended fences have been breached and more camp fires are sparking up. Because I am evidence driven, I waited for a safe way to capture the activity.

Attached are 2 video clips of this morning (8/19 9:01am) we were

able to capture. I know it's fast but I am afraid of being seen. I live yards away from these encampments. There have been SEVERAL fires but I needed to provide evidence to this group which includes Park Rangers. So here you go. Homes are yards away from this fire.

Fabiola Torres

Humanized Online Instructor of Ethnic Studies

Glendale Community College

On Jul 27, 2022, at 11:24 AM, Pamela Bean wrote:

Thank you Sandy and welcome back - these continue to be serious concerns to our community and I hope that Ranger Andrei DeOcampo provides a detailed reply with some answers promptly as he frequently does.

Pamela

Friends of Debs Park

On Tue, Jul 26, 2022 at 10:21 PM Sandy Huse < > wrote:

Hi all—

Have been away, but apparently it's still a movin' and a shakin' over at Debs.

The update:

--I didn't walk yesterday, but my hiking partner told me that she had to call 911 because Fire Dude had ANOTHER conflagration happening up north of the pedestrian bridge on Griffin. FD responded, but how many of these fires are going to happen before NELA goes up?

--I am attaching 3 pics taken this morning from the pedestrian bridge. The first is a lovely trash abode just north of the bridge IN the channel, almost in the water. You can clearly see the orange toidy bucket that they are no doubt dumping directly into the water after use. Do we care that there is not only a hygiene issue, but potential flash flood danger to whoever is in that mess?

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However, it's also obvious that it's a "pick your authority" situation: Parks, Police and Cal Trans are overlapping here, with any and all being able to step in and deal with this. CAN we deal with this?

Thanks. Sandy

Sandy Huse

<Video\_1.mov><Video.mov>

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Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Fax: (213) 202-2610



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

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**Re: Venice Historic Short Line Bridge & Grand Canal Motion, Venice Neighborhood Council**

1 message

---

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

Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 9:32 AM

To: Preserving Public Places Committee &lt;

&gt;

Cc:

, councilmember.bonin@lacity.org

Good morning,

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

On Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 5:15 PM Preserving Public Places Committee &lt;

wrote:

|

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221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

[www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org) -- Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org)



August 19, 2022

By email:

LA Department of Recreation and Parks Commissioners Sylvia Patsouras, Lynn Alvarez, Nicole Chase, Tafarai Bayne and Joseph Halper: [RAP.COMMISSIONERS@LACITY.ORG](mailto:RAP.COMMISSIONERS@LACITY.ORG)

Re: HISTORIC SHORT LINE BRIDGE AND GRAND CANAL MOTION

Dear Commissioners:

Please be advised that at a regular public meeting of the Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) Board of Officers held on August 16, 2022, the following motion was approved.

Whereas the bridge traversing Grand Canal between North and South Venice Boulevards was built for the original Short Line Railroad in the 1900s and is one of the oldest bridges in Los Angeles, facilitating the original creation of Venice of America and the continued visit of hundreds of thousands of people until the 1960s; and

Whereas the Grand Canal is the sole remaining portion of Abbot Kinney's original Venice Canals built in 1904 and is on the National Register of Historic Places; and

Whereas it was this bridge that enabled people of color to come from other parts of Los Angeles to work in Venice before the time when they were able to live or own property in the area; and

Whereas the bridge and canals were primarily constructed by Black, Mexican and Chinese people whose rich cultural history has been overlooked; and

Whereas the Venice Canal is a biologically sensitive coastal wetland in the Duel Coastal Zone, which the California Coastal Commission mandated be a habitat conducive to native wildlife including the endangered Least Tern bird; and

Whereas the City of Los Angeles is in violation of the California Coast Commission mandate that the canal boat ramp be accessible to the public for recreation in addition to continuing to serve the entire Venice Canals maintenance needs; and

Whereas the City has not maintained this parcel in good repair such that it is an eyesore to the hundreds of thousands of visitors to Venice Beach and the Historic Venice Canals and has not installed interpretative historic signage and plaques as agreed by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the City of Los Angeles; and

Whereas the City is currently proposing to develop 40 contiguous lots located on both sides of this portion of Grand Canal, to sandwich the bridge and canal between two tall buildings, cutting off the aprons of the bridge, rendering it unusable by cyclists, scooters and strollers who for generations have loved traversing it, eliminating public access to the boat ramp and showing no general public access to the entire historic site; and

Whereas the balance of the Venice Canals are residential, thus this site lends itself to public enjoyment of the natural wildlife, historic and recreation not possible elsewhere; and

Whereas Venice has fewer parks than most other parts of the City of Los Angeles.

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the Department of Recreation and Parks take on control of this unique site - The Shoreline Bridge and Grand Canal between North and South Venice Boulevards, a public right of way - to create an environmentally sound parklette, accessible to the general public, recognizing its historic and cultural features with interpretive signage, and with seating, trees, landscaping and a small kiosk for visitors to enjoy the ecology of the canal, to launch boats for recreation and maintenance, to enjoy a cool beverage, and to continue to ride over the historic bridge. When funding is available, we ask that public restrooms be built under the bridge alcoves or wherever feasible.

**ACTION:** The motion was approved by a vote of 11/0/1/2/0

Sincerely

*James Murez*

James Murez  
VNC President  
James.Murez@VeniceNC.org

Supporting Documents:

Sketch of Parklette: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee62f56adc41bb0.pdf>

1992 Historic American Engineering Record, LA Bureau of Engineering:  
<http://lcweb2.loc.gov/master/pnp/habshaer/ca/ca1600/ca1696/data/ca1696data.pdf>

National Parks Service, Historic Landmark Designation:  
<https://npgallery.nps.gov/AssetDetail/NRIS/82002193>

Los Angeles Historical Cultural Monuments List - Item 270:  
[https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/24f6fce7-f73d-4bca-87bc-c77ed3fc5d4f/Historical\\_Cultural\\_Monuments\\_List.pdf](https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/24f6fce7-f73d-4bca-87bc-c77ed3fc5d4f/Historical_Cultural_Monuments_List.pdf)

Copy:

California Coastal Commission: [john.Ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:john.Ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov),  
[steve.Hudson@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:steve.Hudson@coastal.ca.gov), [SouthCoast@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:SouthCoast@coastal.ca.gov)  
California Coastal Conservancy: Megan Cooper – Amy Hutzel – [amy.hutzel@scc.ca.gov](mailto:amy.hutzel@scc.ca.gov),  
Megan Cooper [megan.cooper@scc.ca.gov](mailto:megan.cooper@scc.ca.gov), Kara Kemmler – [kara.kemmler@scc.ca.gov](mailto:kara.kemmler@scc.ca.gov)  
Los Angeles City Council District 11: [councilmember.Bonin@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.Bonin@lacity.org)



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

[www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org) -- Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org)



August 19, 2022

By email:

LA Department of Recreation and Parks Commissioners Sylvia Patsouras, Lynn Alvarez, Nicole Chase, Tafarai Bayne and Joseph Halper: [RAP.COMMISSIONERS@LACITY.ORG](mailto:RAP.COMMISSIONERS@LACITY.ORG)

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Whereas the Venice Canal is a biologically sensitive coastal wetland in the Duel Coastal Zone, which the California Coastal Commission mandated be a habitat conducive to native wildlife including the endangered Least Tern bird; and

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**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the Department of Recreation and Parks take on control of this unique site - The Shoreline Bridge and Grand Canal between North and South Venice Boulevards, a public right of way - to create an environmentally sound parklette, accessible to the general public, recognizing its historic and cultural features with interpretive signage, and with seating, trees, landscaping and a small kiosk for visitors to enjoy the ecology of the canal, to launch boats for recreation and maintenance, to enjoy a cool beverage, and to continue to ride over the historic bridge. When funding is available, we ask that public restrooms be built under the bridge alcoves or wherever feasible.

**ACTION:** The motion was approved by a vote of 11/0/1/2/0

Sincerely

*James Murez*

James Murez  
VNC President  
James.Murez@VeniceNC.org

Supporting Documents:

Sketch of Parklette: <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee62f56adc41bb0.pdf>

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Los Angeles Historical Cultural Monuments List - Item 270:  
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Copy:

California Coastal Commission: [john.Ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:john.Ainsworth@coastal.ca.gov),  
[steve.Hudson@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:steve.Hudson@coastal.ca.gov), [SouthCoast@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:SouthCoast@coastal.ca.gov)  
California Coastal Conservancy: Megan Cooper – Amy Hutzel – [amy.hutzel@scc.ca.gov](mailto:amy.hutzel@scc.ca.gov),  
Megan Cooper [megan.cooper@scc.ca.gov](mailto:megan.cooper@scc.ca.gov), Kara Kemmler – [kara.kemmler@scc.ca.gov](mailto:kara.kemmler@scc.ca.gov)  
Los Angeles City Council District 11: [councilmember.Bonin@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.Bonin@lacity.org)



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Demand Letter-Revision of Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Aug 23, 2022 at 8:26 AM

To: Coach ND <>

Cc: jimmy.kim@lacity.org

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Aug 22, 2022 at 9:00 PM Coach ND <> wrote:

TO: Jimmy Kim, General Manager, City of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation  
RAP Commissioners

FROM: Nathan Dickens, LA RAP Volunteer Coach  
DATE: August 22, 2022

RE: Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide Violates Los Angeles Administrative Code Ordinance 187134, State of California and Federal Law

VIOLATIONS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

I am writing to inform you of several civil rights violations you are committing in your **Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide** distributed by RAP recreation centers. The guide included the following paragraph:

"City of Los Angeles Ordinance 187134, COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement, requires proof of COVID-19 vaccination for all current and future City personnel, including volunteers. This mandate extends to all Recreation and Parks (RAP) volunteers. At this time, there is no vaccine exemption policy for RAP volunteers."

The statement highlighted above in yellow is false. The ordinance 187134 states in the following sections:

Sec. 4.702. Qualified Exemptions.

All current and future City employees shall have the right to petition for a medical or religious exemption to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, consistent with City procedures for reasonable accommodation requests.

**Sec. 4.700. Definitions.**

(b) Employees" includes, full, part-time and as-needed City employees regardless of appointment type, **volunteers**, in terns, hiring hall, appointed officers, board members and commissioners, 120-day retired employees, elected officials and at-will appointees of elected officials.

**In addition to the ordinance 187134 violation, the Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide is also in violation of State and Federal laws, including:**

Gov Code 37100

Gov Code 12940

Gov Code 12926(q)

Civil Code 43

Civil Code 51

Civil Code 46

HSC 24171

HSC 24172

California Constitution, Article 1, Section 1 and Section 4

Title VII and Title IV of the U.S. Civil Rights Act

The California Religious Freedom Act of 2017, which affirms:

**SECTION 1.**

(c) **California must uphold the protection of religious freedom enshrined in the United States Constitution for all of its people, and the state has a moral obligation to protect its citizens from religious persecution.**

(d) Section 4 of Article I of the California Constitution guarantees the free exercise and enjoyment of religion without discrimination or preference.

Your actions have caused me harm, including the obstruction of my ability to volunteer to coach for the city Parks and Recreation Department a role I have fulfilled for 8 years. I was also informed by a park director that children 12 years and over are being required to be vaccinated to participate in certain RAP sports. These unlawful actions have depleted the availability of coaches for the RAP programs and dramatically reduced youth participation in programs including basketball. Age divisions have been reduced. Youth are being harmed due to the lost mentorship and athletic development opportunities. This runs counter to the concept of public health. Many families may not be able to afford private alternatives such as AAU basketball. It is a fundamental civil right that all have equal access to public accommodations.

My sincerely held religious beliefs, practice and observance prohibit me from defiling my body with a vaccine, covering my face with a device that obstructs my God-given breath of life, and participating in Covid testing. These are activities that conflict with my religious beliefs, practice and observance. **Expression of my religious faith is protected by state and federal laws.**

**No emergency orders suspend civil rights.** (See Civil Rights Department of California: "Are Civil Rights Laws in Effect During a Pandemic? Yes.")

[https://civildrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2020/03/DFEH-Employment-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ\\_ENG.pdf](https://civildrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2020/03/DFEH-Employment-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ_ENG.pdf)

[https://civildrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2021/04/DFEH-Healthcare-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ\\_ENG.pdf](https://civildrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2021/04/DFEH-Healthcare-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ_ENG.pdf)

[https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2021/10/DFEH-Unruh-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ\\_ENG.pdf](https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2021/10/DFEH-Unruh-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ_ENG.pdf)

Due to the ongoing violation of ordinance 187134 and, State and Federal laws the following changes are demanded:

- (1) **An IMMEDIATE revision and distribution of the Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide to include the religious beliefs exemption to vaccination.**
- (2) **Develop a process for the expedited approval of religious exemptions.**
- (3) **Issue a written statement to RAP leadership and park directors that no child will endure discrimination or differential treatment based on reported vaccination status.**

*YOU ARE REQUIRED TO REMEDY THIS WRONG IMMEDIATELY.*

Any delay that results in my further religious persecution will be your responsibility. You will be held responsible for violating 18 U.S. Code §241, Conspiracy of deprivation of rights. This is a felony.

**I am requesting your written response in 7 days.** I look forward to hearing the resolution you will put forth, adding "religious exemptions" to the **Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide** and widely publicizing this information.

A copy of the demand letter is attached.

Sincerely,

Nathan Dickens

--  
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: Jimmy Kim, General Manager, City of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation  
RAP Commissioners

FROM: Nathan Dickens, LA RAP Volunteer Coach

DATE: August 22, 2022

**RE: Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide Violates Los Angeles Administrative Code Ordinance 187134, State of California and Federal Law**

## **VIOLATIONS OF CIVIL RIGHTS**

I am writing to inform you of several civil rights violations you are committing in your **Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide** distributed by RAP recreation centers. The guide included the following paragraph:

"City of Los Angeles Ordinance 187134, COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement, requires proof of COVID-19 vaccination for all current and future City personnel, including volunteers. This mandate extends to all Recreation and Parks (RAP) volunteers. **At this time, there is no vaccine exemption policy for RAP volunteers.**"

**The statement highlighted above in yellow is false.** The ordinance 187134 states in the following sections:

### **Sec. 4.702. Qualified Exemptions.**

All current and future City employees shall have the right to petition for a medical or religious exemption to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, consistent with City procedures for reasonable accommodation requests.

### **Sec. 4.700. Definitions.**

(b) Employees" includes, full, part-time and as-needed City employees regardless of appointment type, **volunteers**, in terns, hiring hall, appointed officers, board members and commissioners, 120-day retired employees, elected officials and at-will appointees of elected officials.

**In addition to the ordinance 187134 violation, the Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide is also in violation of State and Federal laws, including:**

Gov Code 37100

Gov Code 12940

Gov Code 12926(q)

Civil Code 43

Civil Code 51

Civil Code 46

HSC 24171

HSC 24172

California Constitution, Article 1, Section 1 and Section 4

Title VII and Title IV of the U.S. Civil Rights Act

The California Religious Freedom Act of 2017, which affirms:

**SECTION 1.**

(c) **California must uphold the protection of religious freedom enshrined in the United States Constitution for all of its people, and the state has a moral obligation to protect its citizens from religious persecution.**

(d) Section 4 of Article I of the California Constitution guarantees the free exercise and enjoyment of religion without discrimination or preference.

Your actions have caused me harm, including the obstruction of my ability to volunteer to coach for the city Parks and Recreation Department a role I have fulfilled for 8 years. I was also informed by a park director that children 12 years and over are being required to be vaccinated to participate in certain RAP sports. These unlawful actions have depleted the availability of coaches for the RAP programs and dramatically reduced youth participation in programs including basketball. Age divisions have been reduced. Youth are being harmed due to the lost mentorship and athletic development opportunities. This runs counter to the concept of public health. Many families may not be able to afford private alternatives such as AAU basketball. It is a fundamental civil right that all have equal access to public accommodations.

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[https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2021/04/DFEH-Healthcare-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ\\_ENG.pdf](https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2021/04/DFEH-Healthcare-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ_ENG.pdf)

[https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2021/10/DFEH-Unruh-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ\\_ENG.pdf](https://calcivilrights.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2021/10/DFEH-Unruh-Information-on-COVID-19-FAQ_ENG.pdf)

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**I am requesting your written response in 7 days.** I look forward to hearing the resolution you will put forth, adding "religious exemptions" to the **Volunteer's Proof of Vaccination Guide** and widely publicizing this information.

Sincerely,

Nathan Dickens



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

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**Re: Queen Anne Tennis Program // USTA Nationals**

1 message

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

Wed, Aug 24, 2022 at 3:23 PM

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Aug 24, 2022 at 12:41 PM Zachary Fishbain <> wrote:

Good afternoon, Takisha.

My name is Zach Fishbain. I am the captain of the Men's 3.0 Tennis Team at Queen Anne Park. Our team has won the USTA Southern California Sectional tournament and we'll be going to the USTA National tournament taking place in Scottsdale, AZ in October. This is an incredible accomplishment and something that we're very proud of as a tennis community at Queen Anne Park. Considering that most teams are coming from prestigious tennis clubs, I think this is also a cause for celebration for the Department of Recreation and Parks.

I'm reaching out today because I'm kindly requesting that the Commissioner's office consider a grant or stipend to help our team subsidize our travel and lodging expenses.

Any amount would be greatly appreciated and would go a long way.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this opportunity further, please don't hesitate to contact me directly. My information is found below.

Thank you in advance for your consideration,

Zach Fishbain

--  
City of Los Angeles  
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Figueroa Plaza  
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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Fax: (213) 202-2610  
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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK GRAFFITI CD1 LA 90065

1 message

Yovonte Robinson <yovonte.robinson@lacity.org>

Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 8:18 AM

To: Garcia Incareal <i...>  
Cc: daniel marlos <...>, Christopher Howard <...>, Clare MK <...>, Ruth Mehninger <...>, Bertha Calderon <bertha.calderon@lacity.org>, Laura Island <laura.island@lacity.org>, art.gomez@lacity.org, Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, Valentine Brown <valentine.brown@lacity.org>, Ackley Padilla <ackley.padilla@lacity.org>, Debby Kim <debby.kim@lacity.org>, Councilmember Lee <councilmember.lee@lacity.org>, Councilmember Raman <contactCD4@lacity.org>, Solomon Rivera <Solomon.rivera@lacity.org>, Karo Torossian <karo.torossian@lacity.org>, Mary Allison <...>, Robert Diaz <...>, Shanna Oskin <...>, Theresa Saso <...>, Emily Aldrich <...>, Councilmember Krekorian <councilmember.krekorian@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 Bonin <councilmember.bonin@lacity.org>, Mitch O'Farrell <councilmember.ofarrell@lacity.org>, Mayor Garcetti <mayor.garcetti@lacity.org>, Edna Degollado <edna.degollado@lacity.org>, Nury Martinez <nury.martinez@lacity.org>, Caroline Aguirre <...>, Councilmember de Leon <councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org>, Rick <...>, gemma marquez <...>, Sara <...>, Liz <...>, Yolanda Nogueira <...>, Estrella Sainburg <...>, Rocio Rivas <...>

Good morning,

Unfortunately, the dirt on the sidewalk will be an ongoing situation due to gophers. We will continue to service the park in the allotted time frame.

Best Regards,

On Wed, Aug 24, 2022, 5:40 PM Garcia Incareal <...> wrote:  
AUGUST 24

Sycamore Park Supervisor Yvonte Robinson  
The park has graffiti  
Attach picture  
Also please don't forget about painting the parking lots poles.  
The dirt was removed on the side walk of So Ave 49  
But the one on the side walk on Figueroa still there.  
Thank you  
Mauro Garcia



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

---

**Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK GRAFFITI CD1 LA 90065**

1 message

---

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

Thu, Aug 25, 2022 at 11:38 AM

To: Garcia Incareal

>

Cc:

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Aug 24, 2022 at 5:40 PM Garcia Incareal <

> wrote:

AUGUST 24

Sycamore Park Supervisor Yvonte Robinson

The park has graffiti

Attach picture

Also please don't forget about painting the parking lots poles.

The dirt was removed on the side walk of So Ave 49

But the one on the side walk on Figueroa still there.

Thank you

Mauro Garcia

--

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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

**Re: Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners**

1 message

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>  
To: Thomas Soong <thomas.soong@lacity.org>

Fri, Aug 19, 2022 at 8:51 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, Aug 18, 2022 at 10:02 PM Thomas Soong <thomas.soong@lacity.org> wrote:

Thomas Soong  
Director of Awareness and Engagement

**Department of Neighborhood Empowerment**  
200 N. Spring Street, Suite 2005  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Office | [213-978-1551](tel:213-978-1551) Fax | [213-978-1751](tel:213-978-1751)  
Email | [EmpowerLA@lacity.org](mailto:EmpowerLA@lacity.org) Web | [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)



*Empower Yourself. Empower Your Community. Empower LA.*

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

From: <[Clerk.CIS@lacity.org](mailto:Clerk.CIS@lacity.org)>  
Date: Sat, Jul 30, 2022 at 1:59 PM  
Subject: Community Impact Statement - Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
To: <[commissions@rap.lacity.org](mailto:commissions@rap.lacity.org)>  
Cc: < >

Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org).

\*\*\*\*\* This is an automated response, please DO NOT reply to this email. \*\*\*\*\*

Contact Information  
Neighborhood Council: Encino Neighborhood Council  
Name: Alex Garay  
Phone Number: (  
Email:  
The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(0) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)  
Date of NC Board Action: 07/27/2022  
Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information  
Date: 07/30/2022

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number: 22-0600-S61

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC) supports CF 22-0600-S61 and collaboration and possible partnership with additional environmental and community groups including but not limited to the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) and impacted Neighborhood Council(s). Note that in 2021 RAP had an offer from the CNPS to do a 30 acre pilot goat grazing project in the Sepulveda Basin at no cost to the City.

--

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