

INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

March 04, 2021

TO: BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

FROM: MICHAEL A. SHULL, General Manager 

SUBJECT: VARIOUS COMMUNICATIONS

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

<u>From</u>		<u>Action Taken</u>
1) Council Motion and Action regarding Public equestrian trails	#8875	Note and File
2) Patricia Bates comments regarding Sepulveda Basin Right of Entry Permit	#8876a	Referred to General Manager
3) Patricia Bates comments regarding Sepulveda Basin Right of Entry Permit	#8876b	Referred to General Manager
4) Council Motion regarding Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project	#8877	Note and File
5) Council Motion regarding State childcare funding	#8878	Note and File
6) Molly McGuire comment regarding Permit for public park usage	#8879	Referred to General Manager

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

PG. 2

<u>From</u>		<u>Action Taken</u>
7) Tom West of Mar Vista Rec Center Park Advisory board regarding rescind or Enforce Facility Closures	#8880	Referred to General Manager
8) Lara Karchmer regarding Youth Sports Threshold	#8881	Note and File
9) John Baginski comments regarding Venice Beach	#8874c	Referred to General Manager
10) Matthew Paine comments regarding Eagle Rock Overflow Parking Lot	#8882a	Referred to General Manager
11) Flor Mendez comments regarding Eagle Rock Overflow Parking	#8882b	Referred to General Manager
12) Flor Mendez comments regarding Eagle Rock Overflow Parking	#8882c	Referred to General Manager
12) Flor Mendez comments regarding Eagle Rock Overflow Parking	#8882d	Referred to General Manager

Prepared by Carolyn Shannon, RAP Commission Office

PUBLIC WORKS & GANG REDUCTION

MOTION

Equine keeping is a long standing tradition in the City, particularly in north San Fernando Valley communities who embrace this unique way of life. The City must continue to establish policies to protect, preserve and enhance this tradition.

Many Valley equestrian communities enjoy a network of public equestrian trails for use and safe travel by riders. Oftentimes, equestrian trail connections are constructed as part of a project that makes its way through the City's development process.

It is important that when projects and plans undergo City review, there be verification that equestrian trail easements are not overlaid on easements granted for utilities and infrastructure. Doing so ensures that the integrity of equestrian trails is maintained and that trails are improved in a manner that promotes safe and passable access for riders.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Department of Building and Safety, in consultation with the Planning Department, the Bureau of Engineering, Department of Recreation and Parks, Department of Water and Power, City Attorney, and any other relevant department, to develop a process to ensure that public equestrian trail easements are not overlaid on other easements, and thereby protect access on equestrian trails.

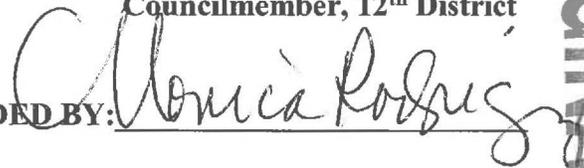
PRESENTED BY:



JOHN S. LEE

Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

FEB 19 2020



HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
CITY CLERK

City of Los Angeles
CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF THE
CITY CLERK

PETTY F. SANTOS
EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Eric Garcetti
MAYOR

Council and Public Services Division
200 N. SPRING STREET, ROOM 395
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
GENERAL INFORMATION - (213) 978-1133
FAX: (213) 978-1040

PATRICE Y. LATTIMORE
DIVISION MANAGER

CLERK.LACITY.ORG

When making inquiries relative to
this matter, please refer to the
Council File No.: [20-0230](#)

OFFICIAL ACTION OF THE LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

February 9, 2021

Council File No.: [20-0230](#)

Council Meeting Date: February 09, 2021

Agenda Item No.: 11

Agenda Description: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT relative to developing a process to ensure that public equestrian trail easements are not overlaid on other easements, and thereby protect access on equestrian trails.

Council Action: PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT - ADOPTED FORTHWITH

Council Vote:

YES	BOB BLUMENFIELD
YES	MIKE BONIN
YES	JOE BUSCAINO
YES	GILBERT A. CEDILLO
YES	KEVIN DE LEON
YES	MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
YES	PAUL KORETZ
YES	PAUL KREKORIAN
YES	JOHN LEE
YES	NURY MARTINEZ
YES	MITCH O'FARRELL
YES	CURREN D. PRICE
YES	NITHYA RAMAN
YES	MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
YES	MONICA RODRIGUEZ

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT
CITY CLERK

Adopted Report(s)

Title

Report from Public Works Committee

Date

01/27/2021



Re: Sepulveda Basin Right of Entry Request

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 11:09 AM

To: Patricia Bates <

>

Good morning,

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

Thank you,

On Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 4:27 PM Patricia Bates <

> wrote:

Dear Commissioners:

Here is more detailed information regarding the issue with the Sepulveda Basin (I did make public comment at your meeting this morning):

Re: Request for Help in Processing Ignored Application for Right of Entry Permit to Remove Weeds and prevent More Fires

The purpose of this email is to ask your help in expediting a stalled request, originally made to Recreation and Parks on November 10, 2020 by the California Native Plant Society, a member of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee (Steering Committee)¹ to allow entry of a privately funded herd of goats into the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve (SBWR) for environmentally friendly weed control and fire prevention. I am writing this request in my individual capacity, but note that I am a member of the Encino Neighborhood Council (ENC) and am its delegate to the Steering Committee. This matter will be on the ENC general board meeting agenda next week (2/24/2021).

Although this may sound novel, goat grazing for weed abatement and fire prevention has been used successfully by many other cities in California. The Company we are proposing is Sage Environmental Group, whose goats have successfully performed weed abatement and fire prevention in cities in Southern California including Irvine and Laguna Niguel (See <https://sageenvironmentalgroup.com/goat-grazing-for-wildland-management>).

To provide you with some background to this request, as you may be aware, the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve suffered a devastating fire late last summer that destroyed many acres of habitat and resulted in the death of a homeless person. There have been multiple fires in the area. The fire September 6, 2020 was the most devastating. The Steering Committee is organizing a major effort to restore the habitat, as well as to enhance the wildlife habitat and visitor experience. The first step is to control flammable weeds that spread the fire. In addition to reducing fire danger, control of the weeds is essential to restoring the habitat.

To date, unfortunately, the City Department of Recreation and Parks has not responded to the requests for right of entry (ROE) permits for weed mitigation and fire prevention using goats in the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area Reserve.

This lack of any response has continued despite repeated Requests for Right of Entry to RAP maintenance managers having been made to since the initial November 10, 2020 Application, followed by three separate inquiries by emails, spaced about one month apart, a February 5, 2021 letter to the City Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Commissioners and General Manager Michael Schull, and several verbal follow-ups to RAP representatives, including those who attended each of four monthly Steering Committee meetings from November on. We have asked local RAP managers how we can get this addressed and they have not given us any other avenues to pursue. **We are imploring you and your office to please investigate this matter and advise us as to how to get Recreation and Parks to meet their obligation to respond to us and approve the Steering Committees' ROE Request. It is an essential matter, in the public interest, to have this weed abatement and prevent more fires.**

The project will be funded by the California Native Plant Society and other organizations. The herd of goats will be brought in for about a month in the spring to devour the invasive weeds before they can go to seed. The goats come with fencing, goat herders, a night-time containment pen, and water. The grazing will probably be repeated for a couple years, reducing the seed load of invasive weeds to a negligible amount which can then be controlled by weeding and establishing native plants.

It is our opinion that allowing this remediation project would be a big plus for the city and especially the San Fernando Valley, showing an innovative solution to a problem. The project is funded by the community at no cost to the city and will result in an enduring community asset. It may provide a blueprint for improving other vegetative management areas in the Sepulveda Basin and beyond.

The project is time sensitive. We have had some rain, the weeds are emerging, and the goats need to be scheduled for mid-April. This somewhat late start is to avoid the season when the possibility of Sepulveda Basin flooding is a serious concern. Approval soon is needed so member organizations of the Steering Committee will have sufficient time to arrange funding to pay and contract for the services. The application, however, appears to be stalled at some point in the approval process after we were advised it was sent to higher levels in the RAP Department's administration.

I understand that this may be an unusual set of facts for proposed Recreation and Parks projects. However, that does not explain the failure to respond to valid proposals from advisory groups and ROE permit requests. Hopefully, you can investigate the delay and intervene in getting the Steering Committee's Request for Right of Entry immediately processed so that the goat grazing dead weed abatement can take place this April and May. Please advise the Steering Committee, whose contact information is: Chair Ms. Nurit Katz, email nkatz@facnet.ucla.edu and Mr. Bill Neill, email bgneill@earthlink.net as to what, if any, additional information is needed, or as to what can be done to get this Request for Right of Entry addressed and immediately approved.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated help and advice in this matter.

Sincerely,

Patricia Bates

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2/19/2021

City of Los Angeles Mail - Re: Sepulveda Basin Right of Entry Request

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



VC No. 8876b

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Sepulveda Basin

1 message

Patricia Bates < >
To: RAP.commissioners@lacity.org

Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 7:34 PM

Dear Commissioners -

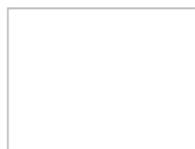
I forgot to include the footnote with the composition of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee. Here it is:

¹The **Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee** advises the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks concerning the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the existing wildlife areas and any future expansion thereof. The Committee also makes recommendations on matters concerning flora, fauna, and other natural resources in other areas within the Sepulveda Basin, such as the Los Angeles River and its tributaries, park land, and open spaces. Its current members consist of Environmental Groups: California Native Plant Society; Friends of the Los Angeles River; Los Angeles Audubon Society; Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains; San Fernando Valley Audubon Society; Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter; Sierra Club, San Fernando Valley Group; The River Project; and City Affiliated: Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles; Encino Neighborhood Council; and Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council.

Sincerely,

Patricia Bates

Thanks,
Pat Bates



MOTION

VC No. 8877

In 2016, the City Council adopted the Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration Project, also known as ARBOR or "Area with Restoration Benefits and Opportunities for Revitalization" (C.F. 14-1158-S2), developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) with the City of Los Angeles (City) as the non-federal sponsor (Sponsor). The ARBOR plan lays out actions to restore Los Angeles (LA) River habitat in and along an 11-mile segment of the River from approximately Griffith Park to Downtown Los Angeles, while maintaining existing levels of flood risk management. The City is now working with the USACE to complete technical engineering work in support of the design of the ARBOR plan as part of the City Council approved Design Agreement between the USACE and City in 2017 (CF 14-1158-S2).

As the project's Sponsor, the City is responsible to provide financial and other contributions to advance the work of the Design Agreement. To support the completion by the USACE of a portion of the technical engineering work of the Design Agreement, including a topographic survey and computer modeling, the City proposes to partner with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District).

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Engineering, with the assistance of the City Attorney, Controller, Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO) and any other departments and bureaus as needed, be authorized to execute and administer the Cooperative Agreement and accept and transfer associated funds identified in the Cooperative Agreement between the City, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District), to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to support the completion of the technical engineering work of the Design Agreement associated with the ARBOR plan.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Engineer be authorized to sign the Cooperative Agreement between the City and the District on behalf of the City.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Bureau of Engineering be authorized to accept \$1,019,600 from the District and deposit the funds into a new account in the Engineering Special Services Fund No. 682, Department No. 50 (682/50), entitled Los Angeles River Ecosystem Restoration PED Phase 1, to finance the technical engineering work by the USACE on this project.

I FURTHER MOVE the City Engineer be authorized, with assistance from the Controller, following the execution of the Cooperative Agreement with the District and payment by the District, and upon billing against the Design Agreement from the USACE, authorize the transfer to the USACE of \$1,019,600 from the new account in the Engineering Special Services Fund No. 682/50 to the USACE by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) per the following instructions:

- a. Receiving ABA Number: 051036706
- b. Account Number: 220025
- c. Account/Receiver Name: USACE Financial Center
- d. Receiving Bank: Federal Reserve Bank, New York
- e. Bank Address: Riverdale MD
- f. EROC: L1
- g. Amount: [determined as needed]
- h. ROV Number:
- i. VendorIDNumber: WHRFBG

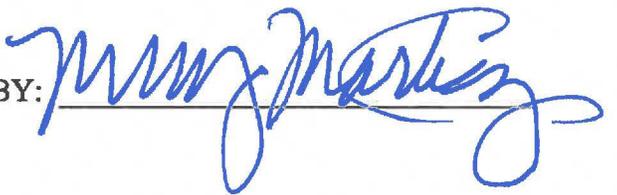


FEB 24 2021

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I FURTHER MOVE that the City Engineer, or designee, be authorized to make any necessary technical or accounting adjustment to the recommendations above to effectuate the intent of this City Council action.

PRESENTED BY: 
MITCH O'FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

SECONDED BY: 

MOTION

Strong universal childcare is a foundational element of economic mobility and opportunity. One in three families spend over 20 percent of their income on child care, and the cost has outpaced most in-state college tuition.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the childcare crisis for working families. Women, especially, have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Forced to withdraw from the workforce in record numbers, they will be unable to rejoin the workforce or will be slower to do so if the cost of childcare remains a barrier to employment outside of the home.

The state of California will be making funding available for childcare, and the City should be prepared to deploy resources and stand up services accordingly. Child care is one profound and powerful way that we can restore economic security for families and reverse inequitable investment in communities.

Universal child care will be a primary tenet of the future Department for Families, Children, and Community Investment (CF 20-1428) and management and distribution of resources related to child care will be a core function. However, until such time exists that the Department is formed, the Housing and Community Investment Department should prepare itself to be the primary point of contact for this work.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Housing and Community Investment Department be directed to report on state funding available for childcare and how the Department will pursue the resources to create universal child care as well as the plan to distribute contracts and provide equitable access to childcare in communities of color.

PRESENTED BY: Monica Rodriguez
MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7th District

Nury Martinez
NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

Nithya Raman
NITHYA RAMAN
Councilwoman, 4th District

SECONDED BY: Paul Koretz

FEB 24 2021



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Timely: Permit Needed for Public Park Usage?

1 message

Juan Aynat <juan.aynat@lacity.org>

Thu, Feb 25, 2021 at 8:17 PM

To:

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

Hello Molly,

My name is Juan Aynat, Supervisor of the Municipal Sports Section for the City of LA Dept of Rec and Parks. Muni Sports oversees the outdoor field permitting of baseball diamonds and soccer/football fields for both youth and adults. Under normal circumstances, I would simply direct any fitness group to the nearest facility to inquire on a permit, however, due to the pandemic Muni Sports has been given sole authority over sport and fitness permits.

Since the LACDPH have slowly begun to lift restrictions, we've been able to start processing permits for youth sport teams

with strict guidelines and protocols put in place. According to LACDPH Reopening Protocol for Youth and Adult Recreational Sports Leagues BOOTCAMPS fall under the **approved** for permitting umbrella of "outdoor low-contact sports" physical training (purple tier).

Have your client contact me directly so I can further explain the permit process. If and when the application is approved, they will need to provide proof of insurance, sign waivers etc.

Bootcamps / Private workshops- **cost is \$80 per hour**/ with a one time \$100 refundable deposit.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 12:17 PM Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Juan,

Please see below and advise.

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

From: **Molly McGuire** < >

Date: Thu, Feb 18, 2021 at 3:57 PM

Subject: Timely: Permit Needed for Public Park Usage?

To: <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Hello!

Hope all is well and you are staying safe and healthy during these challenging times.

I am a business consultant working on research for a client in Germany looking to bring their fitness brand to the US (LA, specifically). If the company was to offer outdoor classes but did NOT have a brick and mortar location (so, say they did not have a private parking lot to use), could a LA City park be used for this service? Is there a permit and payment? The business would be offering the service and earning money from it so I want to be entirely clear before advising.

Thank you kindly,

Molly McGuire

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City of Los Angeles



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Please Clean up Venice Beach Boardwalk - This is a Crisis

1 message

John Baginski <

>

Mon, Feb 22, 2021 at 2:55 PM

To: "rap.commissioners@lacity.org" <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, "Michael.A.Shull@lacity.org" <Michael.A.Shull@lacity.org>, "harold.arrivillaga@lacity.org" <harold.arrivillaga@lacity.org>
Cc: "pamela.perez@lacity.org" <pamela.perez@lacity.org>, "enrique.zaldivar@lacity.org" <enrique.zaldivar@lacity.org>

Dear RAP Commissioners,

Venice Beach Boardwalk is the 2ed most popular tourist destination in Los Angeles and it looks, feels, and smells worse than a third world country.

There are tents, trash, garbage, disassembled bikes and unhoused all over the grass between the boardwalk and the beach. It is awful.

My daughter refuses to go to the beach in Venice because it is a "death sentence". As of last Sunday, she will no longer bike through Venice on the bike path. We saw a partially naked homeless person in his tent, passed out, covered in filth just a few feet from the bike path. Really not the thing you want your daughter to see.

Venice has seen a 100% increase in Aggravated Assaults in 2021 (over 50% of which involved or were perpetrated on unhoused according to LAPD). Venice Businesses are Closing due to the violence and crime due to the homeless population. Housing values have dropped 34% according to Redfin.

Two of my neighbors have moved due to issues with homeless. My direct neighbor had a homeless person break into her house, ransack the entire house, sleep in her bed, eat her food, wear her cloths, and he was extremely belligerent when finally arrested. The police told us that this was the fourth time they arrested him for the same thing. He had previously assaulted a woman in her home. The police told our neighbor he would probably be back. She moved out that day and got her things the next week. So sad for Venice to lose such wonderful people and have their lives so disrupted.

Your policy of not cleaning up the boardwalk area is contributing to this horrible horrible situation.

Please immediately clean up the boardwalk area. The citizen, surfers, business owners and tourists (soon to return) need to see Venice as something other than a third world country and an example of failed government.

Santa Monica, Hermosa, Redondo, Cabrillo, Long Beach, Seal Beach, Malibu,..... all have clean, safe beaches.

Venice Beach is a true disaster and your lack of action is contributing to keep it this way.

Thanks.

2/26/2021

City of Los Angeles Mail - Please Clean up Venice Beach Boardwalk - This is a Crisis

John and Family

Venice City Residents for over 30 years

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

--

Juan A. Aynat

City of L.A. Dept. of Recreation and Parks

Recreation Supervisor

Valley Region -Mid Valley District

6335 Woodley Avenue Van Nuys, CA 91406

Phone: (818) 756-8060

PARK PROUD - LA



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Letter from Mar Vista Rec Center Park Advisory Board: Rescind or Enforce Facility Closures

1 message

Tom West <

>

Sat, Feb 20, 2021 at 4:49 PM

To: mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org

Cc: RAP.COMMISSIONERS@lacity.org, RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org

To Mayor Garcetti, President Patsouras, and Mr. Shull:

Please find attached our letter requesting action on the closure of Recreation Center Facilities.

--

Tom West

President, Mar Vista Recreation Center Park Advisory Board

E:

P:

 **MVRC PAB Letter Reopen Facilities final 20Feb21.pdf**
107K

February 20, 2021

The Honorable Mayor Eric Garcetti
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: Either Enforce or Rescind the Closing of Recreation and Park Facilities Due to the Pandemic

Dear Mayor Garcetti:

On behalf of the Park Advisory Board (PAB) of the Mar Vista Recreation Center (MVRC), I am writing to you to urge the City to rescind its closing of facilities at our City parks and recreation centers. The policy intends to keep people from congregating to reduce the opportunity for virus transmission. However, the members of the PAB, Recreation and Park (RAP) staff, and residents of our community have repeatedly seen since October 2020 that this policy is completely ineffective. At the MVRC, the closure of park facilities such as the soccer field, the roller hockey rink and the basketball courts has only led to unauthorized and unmonitored use of these facilities, not to mention the tearing down of fences and destruction of locks to gain access. Calls to the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) have resulted in limited responses. In all cases, groups reassemble shortly after the LAPD departs.

Because the policy has been so ineffective, groups numbering in the dozens now congregate almost daily, even going so far as to organize roller skating parties with DJ music and the sale of food and t-shirts with little to no effort made to maintain social distancing or mask-wearing. In fact, it would be unsurprising if the policy has done more to contribute to the spread of coronavirus than to stop it. Our community members and park patrons are irate and confused by the City appearing to condone such unauthorized use; in effect, rewarding those who are breaking the rules.

The Mar Vista PAB requests that the City either fully commit to enforcing its ban on the use of park facilities during the pandemic or rescind the policy entirely and allow the use of park facilities by the general public, not just those willing to break the law. We also request that the City restore recreation center programming (such a sports clinics adhering to the proper COVID guidelines) as soon as possible. Not only will such programming help our children struggling through the pandemic, it will also be instrumental in discouraging the unauthorized and/or uncontrolled use of park facilities.

Very truly yours,



Tom West
President, Mar Vista Recreation Center Park Advisory Board

cc: Sylvia Patsaouras, President, Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department
Michael Shull, General Manager, Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Youth Sports Threshold met

1 message

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

Thu, Feb 25, 2021 at 11:17 AM

Good morning,

Thank you for contacting the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Office.

We are currently still reviewing County orders. You may check our website for updates as well as contact the Public Information Office: Rose Watson rose.watson@lacity.org with inquiries.

Thank you.

On Wed, Feb 24, 2021 at 9:46 AM lara

> wrote:

Good Morning..

Now that LA County has reached the threshold for youth sports...
do you have any sort of timeline of when LA Parks and Recreation will open up their youth Sports Programs?

or a timeline for:

1. Youth Programs
2. Rims on outdoor hoops
3. reopening on the Parks and Recreation Facilities.... especially Pan Pacific which caters to a large group of mid city youths of all socio economic levels.... as its been a homeless shelter for a year now...

are you thinking 2 weeks? 2 months? 2 years?
even a best guess would be helpful at this time..

Beverly Hills Parks and Rec has been offering youth sports for some time... and the children have flourished

but the LA facilities are much more closer and more plentiful..

Many thanks in advance for your reply....

Best
Lara Karchmer
cell

--
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

2/26/2021

City of Los Angeles Mail - Re: Youth Sports Threshold met

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Bridge Housing @ Eagle Rock Overflow Parking Lot

1 message

Matthew Paine < > Mon, Feb 15, 2021 at 2:35 PM

To: ap.diaz@lacity.org, michael.a.shull@lacity.org, rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Cc: Flor >, Fernando Fausto < >, "Marie Rose D. Cabrera" >, Ken Henkle >, Nina Kirby < >, Gloria >
< >, Tracia < >, armand calvillo < >

Dear recreation and parks executive team,

We (the residents of the 7600 block of N Figueroa st, and our neighbors around the park) are reaching out to you, as we understand you are currently evaluating the feasibility of bridge housing at the parking lot near our homes.

With respect, we ask that you hear our concerns and consider them in your evaluation. I have only three points to mention (and will keep them as brief as possible), though my neighbors and other community members (on copy) may have additional input.

1) Location: This particular location is wrapped on 3 sides by a freeway offramp, and on one side by a busy boulevard. With currently 8-12 homeless people in the lot, we are already having constant issues with people running across traffic on Figueroa Blvd, as well as congregating on the NE corner of Eagle Rock Park (often engaging in illegal activities like drug use, rummaging through stolen cars, etc). We feel this location is a poor choice to support a large number of individuals, as they have nowhere to go except across the boulevard and into Eagle Rock Park.

2) Size proposal: We understand that Kevin de Leon's office has proposed a 75 bed solution, which we have strongly disputed with them. The parking lot currently houses maybe a dozen folks, and with a substantial amount of issues already impacting local residents (increase in gang activity, tagging, petty crime, harassment of neighbors, drug use, dumping, etc).

- The entire homeless population of Eagle Rock stands around 40 people. We think a much wiser idea would be to have bridge housing for between 25 and 40 individuals total.

3) Dry site: Easily the most important issue to us is ensuring this bridge housing location is dry. We are all for helping those who need assistance, but not if it includes enabling addicts and alcoholics, and bringing more of them into our community only a few hundred yards from our houses. I will remind you that open and easy access to drugs resulted in someone dying of an overdose at the lot just a few months ago. This is something we would like to avoid again at all costs.

Thank you kindly for hearing our concerns. Please feel free to reach out if any clarification or additional input is needed.

Best regards,
Matthew Paine



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Bridge Housing @ Eagle Rock Overflow Parking Lot

1 message

Flor < > Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 5:57 PM

To: ap.diaz@lacity.org, michael.a.shull@lacity.org, rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Cc: Fernando Fausto

, Matthew Paine

, "Marie Rose D. Cabrera"

, Ken Henkle

, Nina Kirby

, Gloria

, Tracia

>, armand calvillo

,

Good afternoon Parks and Recreation Team,

We are long time residents of the 7600 block of N. Figueroa St., and we wholly agree with Matthew's concerns, as they are all of our concerns.

I am hopeful you can take our concerns seriously and consider them in your evaluation before approving bridge housing at the Figueroa Parking Lot.

We live a couple of blocks from the encampments at the Fig. parking lot. The homeless people living at this encampment freely roam around our street, day and night, drugged out.

Our children have encountered them while they play in our front yards. We have not felt safe living on our street for a year now. If it goes from 12 homeless people to 70+ homeless people living so close to us, it will be a Nightmare! Our safety should be equally as important as their well-being.

We have documented and sent "activity" LOGS to the city and the mayor's office for months now. What we are experiencing, due to the homeless, is difficult to explain; my neighbors and I are asking for your help.

I remember when this parking lot was used for Filming Crews, as Parking for special events at the Park/Eagle Rock Rec Center, and for automobile swap meets on Sundays.

What about the loss of revenue for the Rec. Center? My children have attended preschool, after school programs, and participated in sports that are held at the ER Recreation Center.

I would love to see this continued but with so many homeless being so close, I don't think parents will be enrolling their children in such activities. Revenue can be used to update the children's playground, it is very outdated. Unfortunately, we have stopped walking to the park because we are either harassed by the homeless or we see the drug deals they are partaking in.

Lastly, the homeless living at the encampments at this lot are the culprits of all the increased crime we see in our neighborhood. This will exponentially grow if more homeless live here.

I ask that you take a minute to visit Nextdoor.com, Northeast Area, if you are not already familiar with it, and read some of our neighbors daily stories.

Just this week alone there have been 3-4 break ins and attempted break ins to cars parked on the street in the immediate area of Hill Dr. and Argus, they occurred between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Every day someone posts about theft of catalytic converters. It goes on and on.

Thank you for your time and please reach out to us if you need further input. I can also be reached at .

Kind regards,
Flor Mendez

On Mon, Feb 15, 2021 at 2:35 PM Matthew Paine < > wrote:

Dear recreation and parks executive team,

We (the residents of the 7600 block of N Figueroa st, and our neighbors around the park) are reaching out to you, as we understand you are currently evaluating the feasibility of bridge housing at the parking lot near our homes.

With respect, we ask that you hear our concerns and consider them in your evaluation. I have only three points to mention (and will keep them as brief as possible), though my neighbors and other community members (on copy) may have additional input.

1) Location: This particular location is wrapped on 3 sides by a freeway offramp, and on one side by a busy boulevard. With currently 8-12 homeless people in the lot, we are already having constant issues with people running across traffic on Figueroa Blvd, as well as congregating on the NE corner of Eagle Rock Park (often engaging in illegal activities like drug use, rummaging through stolen cars, etc). We feel this location is a poor choice to support a large number of individuals, as they have nowhere to go except across the boulevard and into Eagle Rock Park.

2) Size proposal: We understand that Kevin de Leon's office has proposed a 75 bed solution, which we have strongly disputed with them. The parking lot currently houses maybe a dozen folks, and with a substantial amount of issues already impacting local residents (increase in gang activity, tagging, petty crime, harassment of neighbors, drug use, dumping, etc).

- The entire homeless population of Eagle Rock stands around 40 people. We think a much wiser idea would be to have bridge housing for between 25 and 40 individuals total.

3) Dry site: Easily the most important issue to us is ensuring this bridge housing location is dry. We are all for helping those who need assistance, but not if it includes enabling addicts and alcoholics, and bringing more of them into our community only a few hundred yards from our houses. I will remind you that open and easy access to drugs resulted in someone dying of an overdose at the lot just a few months ago. This is something we would like to avoid again at all costs.

Thank you kindly for hearing our concerns. Please feel free to reach out if any clarification or additional input is needed.

Best regards,
Matthew Paine



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Bridge Housing @ Eagle Rock Overflow Parking Lot

1 message

Flor < > Wed, Feb 24, 2021 at 1:07 PM
 To: ap.diaz@lacity.org, michael.a.shull@lacity.org, rap.commissioners@lacity.org
 Cc: Fernando Fausto < >, Matthew Paine < >, "Marie Rose D. Cabrera" < >, Gloria < >
 < >, Ken Henkle < >, Nina Kirby < >
 < >, Tracia < >, armand calvillo < >
 , Stuart Martin < >, TaylorD < >, Charles Mason < >
 < >

Good afternoon city staff,

We understand how busy work and life is for everyone.

The motion-**Council File Number:** 19-0774-S1 for bridge housing at the N. Figueroa Parking Lot is of utmost concern to us.

Can someone please take a minute to let us know what your stance is on this motion?

How will the ER Recreation Park and Center be affected by this?

Greatly appreciated,
 Flor and neighbors

On Fri, Feb 19, 2021 at 5:57 PM Flor > wrote:

Good afternoon Parks and Recreation Team,

We are long time residents of the 7600 block of N. Figueroa St., and we wholly agree with Matthew's concerns, as they are all of our concerns.

I am hopeful you can take our concerns seriously and consider them in your evaluation before approving bridge housing at the Figueroa Parking Lot.

We live a couple of blocks from the encampments at the Fig. parking lot. The homeless people living at this encampment freely roam around our street, day and night, drugged out.

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Thank you kindly for hearing our concerns. Please feel free to reach out if any clarification or additional input is needed.

Best regards,
Matthew Paine



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

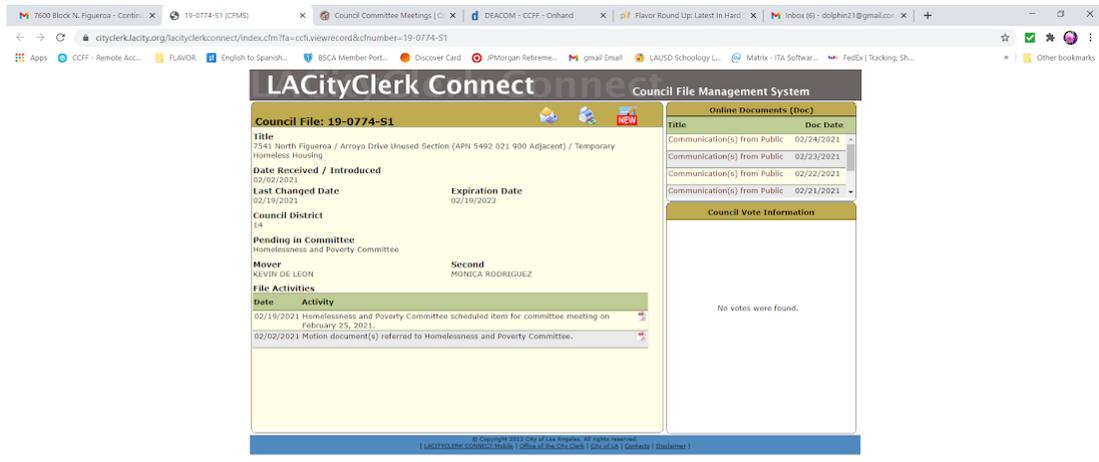
Missing Public Comments: Bridge Housing Fig Lot

1 message

Flor > Thu, Feb 25, 2021 at 12:21 PM
 To: councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org, Sarah Flaherty <sarah.flaherty@lacity.org>, ap.diaz@lacity.org, Cynthia Cruz <cynthia.v.cruz@lacity.org>, michael.a.shull@lacity.org, rap.commissioners@lacity.org, Veronica Polanco <veronica.polanco@lacity.org>, Brian Buchner <brian.buchner@lacity.org>, Fernando Ochoa <fernando.ochoa@lacity.org>
 Cc: Stuart Martin <stuart.martin@lacity.org>, Nina Kirby <nina.kirby@lacity.org>, Matthew Paine <matthew.paine@lacity.org>, Fernando Fausto <fernando.fausto@lacity.org>, Gloria <gloria.garcia@lacity.org>, "Marie Rose" <marie.rose@lacity.org>, D. Cabrera" <d.cabrera@lacity.org>, Patrick Joyce <patrick.joyce@lacity.org>, Tracia <tracia@lacity.org>, armand calvillo <armand.calvillo@lacity.org>, Ken Henkle <ken.henkle@lacity.org>, Charles Mason <charles.mason@lacity.org>, Gabriela Highley <gabriela.highley@lacity.org>, TaylorD <taylor.d@lacity.org>, Rudy Enriquez <rudy.enriquez@lacity.org>, Norma <norma@lacity.org>, Edith Urzua <edith.urzua@lacity.org>

Hi Sarah,
 I checked the public comments submitted and I can guarantee you there were over 20 people(that I know of) who submitted their comments on 2/23/21 before midnight--- You sent us the information/ link on 2/23/21 @ 3:32PM and we got to networking right away. I was afraid this was going to happen. There are only 5 comments posted and none are ours.
 Where are the comments we submitted? Was all that work in vain.....
 I can guarantee you we all received the "Public Comment Request Confirmed" pop-up.
 Where do we go from here?

Frustrated,
 Flor



On Wed, Feb 24, 2021 at 11:47 AM Flor <flor@lacity.org> > wrote:
 Good morning Councilmember,

The residents of Eagle Rock are opposed to building bridge housing at [7541 N. Figueroa St.](#) Many of us have submitted our public comments and we hope they will be taken into consideration before a final decision is made. There are schools, parks and residents living within walking distance of this location. Our families' safety should be equally as important as the well-being of the un-housed. We want them to get housed, but we urge you to find an alternate location. Moving more homeless into this location will make our neighborhood more unsafe than it already is. We are trying to raise our families in a safe neighborhood. We feel abandoned and without rights.

2/26/2021

City of Los Angeles Mail - Missing Public Comments: Bridge Housing Fig Lot

Why not in industrial areas? How about the property on [2803 W. Broadway, LA 90041](#)-where Ernie Jr's Taco used to be?

We continue to work closely with Sarah Flaherty; she's aware of the ongoing issues we are facing because of the encampments at this lot.

Thank you for your time and hope to hear from you soon,
Flor