


INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

February 15, 2024

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

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

<u>From</u>		<u>Action Taken</u>
Griffith Park Pony Ride comments		Referred to General Manager
1) Sarajane Schwartz, Vice President and Safety Chair Hollywoodland HOA comments regarding Hollywood Sign Lighting	#9555	Referred to General Manager
2) Christine O'Brien comments regarding Hollywood Sign Lighting	#9555a	Referred to General Manager
3) Yiwen Luo comments regarding behavior at Griffith Observatory	#9556	Referred to General Manager
4) Gillian Singletary comments regarding playground at Windward on Venice Beach	#9557	Referred to General Manager
5) Mehmet Berker comments regarding Support for Under the Oaks Mural	#9558	Referred to General Manager
6) Anthony Harvey-Jones comments regarding Mar Vista RC tennis program	#9559	Referred to General Manager
7) Joe Harper comments regarding Status of Playgrounds Report	#9560	Referred to General Manager
8) Miles McQueen comments regarding Penmar Tennis Courts Construction	#9561	Referred to General Manager
9) Mauro Garcia comments regarding Sycamore Grove Park Graffiti	#9562	Referred to General Manager

10) Valdivia Francisco comments regarding Horses at Rancho & Western	#9563	Referred to General Manager
11) Lisa Fredriksen comments regarding Ascot Park	#9564	Referred to General Manager
12) Krista Armstead comments regarding Grass Parking at Jim Gilliam RC	#9565	Referred to General Manager
13) Vivian Escalante on behalf of Boyle Heights Community Partners regarding Evergreen Senior Center	#9566	Referred to General Manager
14) Todd Greenberg comments regarding Balboa Sport Complex Recreation Acting Director	#9567	Referred to General Manager

Prepared by Carolyn Shannon-Joyner, RAP Commission Office



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Hollywood Sign Lighting

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org> Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 9:19 AM
To: " < >
Cc: Stefanie Smith <stefanie.smith@lacity.org>, Christine OBrien < >, Linda Doe < >, John Dotto < >, Jeff Swofford < >, Michelle Botts < >, Michael Paolini < >, Justin Burnett < >, JJ O'Brien < >, David Goggin < >, Grant Stephen C. < >, Crosby Doe < >, Alexa Williams < >, Louis < >, Jeanne Clark < >, Reena Liebling <r >, Sydney < >, jeremiah christopher <t> < >, Derrick Flynn < >, Tara < >, Christine Kent < >, Susan Krantz < >, Jim < >, Farrell Bernard < >, Rochelle Steiner < >, Doron Ofir < >, Jim Van Dusen < >, Robert < >, David Shew < >, John Vidovich < >, Michael Halloran < >

Good morning,

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

On Sat, Jan 27, 2024 at 4:33 PM < > wrote:

Dear City Officials,

I want this email to be part of the public record.

I am writing to you as a representative of the Hollywoodland Homeowners Association. I was sent the following film (excuse the language) and photos early this morning of the Hollywood Sign being lit late last night, Friday, Jan 26th. I do not know the exact time this happened, but my guess is between 10 and midnight. See below.

This, of course, is outrageous, inappropriate, and possibly dangerous and illegal.

Did you approve this activity? If so why were we not included in the planning or at the very least, informed?

If not--how is this allowed to happen? Do you know of any other public landmark that is abused in this way, particularly when it is located in a substandard hillside residential neighborhood (and sensitive wildlife area) in a very high fire severity zone? And when you saw this was going on, what did you do to stop it and hold the perpetrators accountable?

These actions only encourage future abuse.

If this lighting was not a sanctioned or planned one, you must now add to your budget a 24 hour, seven day a week guard to prevent this in the future as what you are currently doing is shamefully inadequate.

Please forward this on to whatever City official is appropriate and to the Hollywood Sign Trust and the Hollywood Chamber who are also stewards of the Hollywood Sign. Obviously what

happened is unacceptable and must never happen again.

The HHA and our severely impacted residents are anxiously awaiting your reply with an apology and more information.

Sarajane Schwartz
Vice President
and
Safety Chair
Hollywoodland Homeowners Association

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: The assault

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 9:17 AM

To:
Cc: Stefanie Smith <stefanie.smith@lacity.org>, Joe Losorelli <joe.losorelli@lacity.org>, Mehmet Berker <mehmet.berker@lacity.org>, Jeff Zarrinam <>

Good morning,

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

On Sat, Jan 27, 2024 at 7:20 AM <

> wrote:

The assault on the environment, the park, animal habitat, Hollywoodland residential, the main communication tower and the safety for all continues. Why do you continue to promote rather than protect? When will it stop? Around 1:00AM today. Christine O'Brien

Sent from my iPad

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: [Complaint] City employees discriminative behavior towards disabled dying child

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 9:22 AM

To: Yiwen Luo < >

Cc: "RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org" <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>, "DOD.Contact@lacity.org" <DOD.Contact@lacity.org>, "mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org" <mayor.helpdesk@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 Sun, Jan 28, 2024 at 2:21 AM Yiwen Luo < > wrote:
(CC'd RAP, DOD, Mayor office)

City of Los Angeles / RAP Commissioners,

I am writing to complain about two city employees' discriminative behavior towards a disabled dying 11-year old child.

My niece, who has been diagnosed terminal brain cancer, traveled across the pacific ocean to LA for experimental treatment hoping to extend her life for couple months. The huge tumor damaged her brain so much that she is unable to move herself and is on a wheelchair. One of her very last wishes was to see "city of stars" from Griffith Observatory, even with her mostly taken away vision by the tumor.

We arrived at Griffith Observatory parking lot around 9:05pm on January 27, 2024. Because she came from another country, we could not get a disabled parking permit in the US yet. The regular parking spot is too narrow to unload her to her wheelchair, so we stoped our vehicle outside a parking spot in the parking lot and turned on hazardous light to unload her. While I had her in my arms and trying to put her on her wheelchair, two city RAP employees approached us and yelled at us asking us to leave immediately. When they saw the wheelchair and the child in my arms, they kept yelling something like "why come with wheelchair", "you should do this fast", "your wheelchair is blocking the traffic", etc. I unloaded her as quickly as possible. The child was frightened and kept asking if she did anything wrong.

I approached both of the employees later asking for their names. They refused to provide names or any sort of identifications. I asked for their supervisor. They refused to let me talk to a supervisor. I approached park rangers and traffic officers in the same parking lot. None of them could connect me to a RAP supervisor.

While there might not be another chance to change my niece's memory, I do hope anyone in a similar unfortunate situation will not experience the same in the future.

Sincerely,
Yiwen Luo

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Venice Beach Windward Playground

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Jan 31, 2024 at 7:55 AM

To:

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 10:31 AM LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello,

Please see patron's email below.

Thank you,

Caro

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

From: **Gillian Singletary** < >
Date: Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 7:16 AM
Subject: Re: Venice Beach Windward Playground
To: LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

Hi -

I still haven't gotten a response from Cathie. Not sure if you saw the [write-up from LA Magazine](#), but residents are still eager for answers about this playground. Is there any timeline for replacing this valued public space? Or someone else I can contact?

Thanks,

Gillian Singletary

On Thu, Nov 30, 2023 at 9:50 AM Gillian Singletary < > wrote:

Hi -

I haven't been able to get a reply from Cathie. Is there anyone else I can reach out to?

Thank you for your help!

Gillian Singletary

On Wed, Nov 8, 2023 at 4:36 PM Gillian Singletary < > wrote:

Thank you - will do.

On Wed, Nov 8, 2023 at 3:08 PM LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello Gillian,

Thank you for contacting us. You may reach out to Cathy Santo Domingo, our Assistant General Manager, at cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org to learn more.

Thank you,
Hally

On Wed, Nov 8, 2023 at 11:27 AM Gillian Singletary

> wrote:

Hi -

I want to check on the status of rebuilding the razed playground at Windward on Venice Beach. It was my daughter's favorite place to play and was easily accessible by transit. It was completely disassembled with no warning whatsoever. What is the timeline for rebuilding? Is there someone I can contact directly with my questions?

Thank you,
Gillian Singletary



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Letter of Support from CD4 for Under the Oaks Mural (24-039)

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 7:24 AM

To: Mehmet Berker <mehmet.berker@lacity.org>

Cc: Lucy Gonzalez <>, Gerry Hans <>

>, Brenda Aguirre

<brenda.aguirre@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 Wed, Jan 31, 2024 at 5:15 PM Mehmet Berker <mehmet.berker@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello,

Please accept this letter of support for agenda item 24-039, the Under the Oaks Mural.

Best,

Mehmet

--
Mehmet Berker

Director of Transportation, Infrastructure, and Public Space
Council District 4
(cell) 818-925-0465
mehmet.berker@lacity.org

See our district boundaries, as well as other jurisdictions, [HERE](#).

Sign up for our District-wide newsletter and other regular updates here: https://councildistrict4.lacity.gov/sign_up



Connect With Us:

- Sign Up For Our Newsletter [Here](#)
- Follow Us On [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), & [Facebook](#)

DISCLOSURE: All emails sent to or from this account are subject to the California Public Records Act and may be released upon request.

Download the City of Los Angeles MyLA311 app for smartphones!

MyLA311 links Angelenos with the services and information they need to enjoy their city, beautify their community and stay connected with their local government. With MyLA311, City of Los Angeles information and services are just a few taps away.

--
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



**NITHYA
RAMAN**

| Los Angeles
★ City Councilmember
| 4th District

January 5, 2022

Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department Board of Commissioners
221 N. Figueroa St, Ste 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Council District 4 Letter of Support for *Under the Oaks* Mural Proposal at Griffith Park Visitor Center

Dear Commissioners,

Griffith Park is Los Angeles' preeminent park in the region, located at the heart of a sprawling metropolis, and containing some of the region's most beloved park assets in over 4200 acres of park land. In addition to the built and maintained portions of the park, Griffith Park is also an integral part of the Rim of the Valley and the wider Southern California ecology, containing thousands of acres of natural habitat, that until recently, hosted an adult mountain lion named P-22. I am proud to be the Councilmember whose district encompasses the entirety of Griffith Park and P-22's range throughout the Hollywood Hills.

Several weeks ago, medical professionals with the California Department of Fish & Wildlife and the National Park Service made the difficult decision to euthanize P-22, after he experienced acute injury and age-related health issues. Prior to this decision, planning to honor P-22's unique presence in our city had already been underway via a mural.

Under the Oaks, a three-wall mural installation at the Griffith Park Visitor Center designed by Studio Tutto, a local public art studio, captures P-22 in a layered style, presenting the local flora and fauna in an absorbing piece which calls to mind water-color landscapes and decoupage. P-22 sits at the center of this mural, but is hidden in plain sight by the trees, shrubs, and grasses on the hillsides that were his home. The mural will be painted at the Griffith Park Visitor Center and donated to the City by the Friends of Griffith Park.

The full scope of work will include a mural as well as the relocation of existing building signage, and replacement of existing non-native shrubbery, with a *Seed Spire* pollinator garden. These compressed soil spires form a conical shape with native wildflower seeds, and naturally disintegrate back into the earth.

I am writing to you all to express my strong support for this thoughtful project and generous donation, as we honor P-22 in the many special ways he graced us with his presence in our city for nearly a decade.



Sincerely,

Nithya Raman
Councilmember, 4th Council District
City of Los Angeles

Cc: Jimmy Kim, RAP General Manager
Stefanie Smith, RAP Superintendent for Griffith Park Region



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Resolution to restrict and limit the courts and time schedule time of the issuing of permits to Windward School ,Mar Vista RC tennis program and third parties to non peak times and no Weekends

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 2:01 PM

To:

Cc: Councilmember Park <councilmember.park@lacity.org>, Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, Takisha McFarland <Takisha.Sardin@lacity.org>, Renata.Simril@lacity.org, Luis.Sanchez@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 Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 8:26 AM Anthony Harvey-Jones <

> wrote:

See attached document as an exhibit to be entered into the record. I represent the Los Angeles Tennis group some of our representatives will be attending this February 1st meeting with counsel we intend raise this issue "during general public comment" for this to be considered and put on next agenda of the next meeting Commissioners. We on the westside encountering a lot of issues using the tennis courts. Our grievances are threefold we are being deprived on a regular basis one to obtain adequate availability of the courts due to the Mar Vista issuing permits to Windward combined with the Mar Vista RC tennis program and third parties such as liveball during peak times have been issued to Windward, We are being squeezed out of the use of the tennis courts and kicked off the courts by the Mar Vista RC tennis coaches who want to conduct private lessons. There have been altercation relating to this with Mar Vista RC tennis staff coaches and members of the public. We want you to put a stop to these practices have these scheduled during peak time when most people need to use the tennis courts we want you to accordingly pass a rule to direct the director to not issue permits during peak time schedules and weekends.

Virus-free. www.avast.com

--

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

To: RAP Board of Commissioners
RE: Testimony on Status of Playgrounds Report
From: Joe Halper

In response to a motion of the City Council the Planning Repair and Maintenance Task Force of the LA City Recreation and Parks Board of Commissioners addressed the status of the playgrounds, a ubiquitous component on our parks that serves to enhance the mental and physical development of the children at play. I would urge the RAP Board of Commissioners to adopt standards of care for our playgrounds that assures the safety and access of the diverse users that include 13% of children enrolled in public schools that receive supportive services which range from Autism to loss of hearing or sight.

Currently, the LA City Council offices control the expenditures of the Quimby and Prop A Funds and has made the determinations of use of these funding sources based on expressed local community interest. This has not always resulted in a coherent outcome in practice as a reliable funding source that can provide planned periodic maintenance, refurbishment, and replacement of the playground apparatus. To assure this outcome, it is recommended that an annual capital budget allocation is necessary to support a systematic approach to this area of park operation.

I would suggest that the professional expertise of staff be a determining factor as envisioned by the City Charter to allow for a systematic approach to be employed. National standards should prevail, adopted as a policy in this area of park maintenance. The requirements of a resilient safety surfacing, and shade cover are essential components. Inspection standards devised by the National Recreation and Parks Association should be scheduled to be performed periodically by certified personnel to assure the safety of the equipment. A critical amenity to service an Inclusionary /Universal playground is the proximity of an ADA compliant rest room facility in the area.

The playground development in Palisades Park, for example, is over 30 years old, has sand as a safety surface that is labor intensive to keep sanitary, and no shade as the mature Ficus tree that previously provided shade fell on the slide area this past year. The long-standing aspiration of the Park Advisory Board according to President Andy Starrels and the Pacific Palisades Community Council President Maryam Zar, has been to transform the playground into an Inclusive facility and to renovate the rest rooms to be ADA compliant. The current status of the playground project appears to have been accomplished by the advocacy of Council District 11 Council Member Traci Park.

The staff report dated February 1, 2024, to the Facility Repair and Maintenance Commission Task Force indicated that the playground project is an active replacement project that is in process at the predesign stage. Funding source identified and or secured to meet the estimate cost of \$2,000,000.

Question: What is the source of the funding identified or secured for this project and the estimated time for its implementation



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Penmar Tennis Courts Construction Delayed Again?

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Mon, Feb 5, 2024 at 11:37 AM

To: Miles McQueen <

>

Cc:

Councilmember Park <councilmember.park@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 Sun, Feb 4, 2024 at 12:20 PM Miles McQueen <

> wrote:

Hello Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners,

I am writing a follow up email to inquire about the status of the tennis courts construction project at Penmar Park.

Since my last email, 55 days ago, there has been no change in the status of the tennis courts. Please see the attached photos taken earlier today on February 4th, 2024 to see the current status of the courts.

Can you please provide an updated timeline for the project to be completed?

Is there anything I can do to help the process?

Thank you,
Miles McQueen

On Tue, Dec 12, 2023 at 7:31 AM Rap Commissioners <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 Mon, Dec 11, 2023 at 7:36 PM Miles McQueen <

> wrote:

Dear Board of Commissioners,

I am writing to inquire about the status of the construction project surrounding the tennis courts at Penmar Park.

Construction started on April 25th, with an estimated finish date for the end of June.

An update was provided on July 18th with an expected completion date for the end of September.

Construction was delayed again and the last update provided was on September 28th.

The courts remain unfinished today. I am attaching to this email photos of the courts taken this weekend highlighting 7.5 months of work on a \$1 million project. No work has been done on courts 1,2,5 and 6.

I deeply appreciate being able to use these courts. Can the board please provide an update on the construction status of the courts and explain the months long delay with the completion of this project?

Best regards,
Miles McQueen

--

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Penmar Tennis Courts

1 message

Sonya Young-Jimenez <sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>

Mon, Feb 5, 2024 at 3:49 PM

To:

Bcc: rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Dear Miles McQueen,

Thank you for your continued interest and patience regarding the Penmar Park Tennis Courts construction project. I appreciate the photos you provided.

As of now, all major aspects of the project, including fencing, electrical and significant concrete repairs, have been successfully completed. However, we are currently facing a challenge with the weather conditions. The cold and wet conditions are preventing us from proceeding with the minor crack filling and acrylic application.

To ensure the highest quality outcome, we require several consecutive days of dry and warmer weather, with temperatures consistently above 54 degrees. Unfortunately, the current weather forecast indicates ongoing challenges in this regard.

Rest assured, we are closely monitoring the weather conditions and will initiate the final phases of the project as soon as we have a suitable window of opportunity. I understand the importance of completing the project promptly, and I will keep you updated on any developments or changes in the timeline.

Your understanding is greatly appreciated. If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out.

Thank you

--

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

Website: laparks.org



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Penmar Tennis Courts Construction Delayed Again?

1 message

Lila Vandenberghe <lila.vandenberghe@lacity.org>

Mon, Feb 5, 2024 at 4:56 PM

To:
Cc: Sean Silva <sean.silva@lacity.org>, Juan Fregoso <juan.fregoso@lacity.org>, Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Hi Miles,

Thank you for your email, we have been receiving a lot of inquiries about the Penmar tennis courts. We've just had word from our Rec and Parks Superintendent:

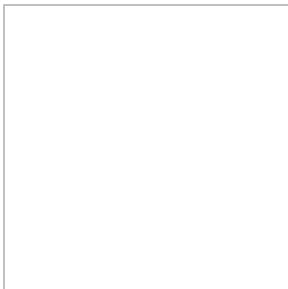
The courts are almost complete. Here is the response I got from the contractor:

Everything is done (Fencing, Major concrete repairs...) except for the minor crack filling and acrylics. The weather is too cold and wet to apply. More weather to come. We need several days of dry and warmer weather (Need temps consistently above 54 degrees and dry). Not the time for this type of application

As soon as weather is good we will push to complete the project.
Thank you for your patience.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please let me know.

All the best,
Lila Vandenberghe

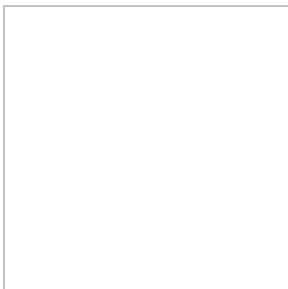


Lila Vandenberghe Constituent Services Deputy
Office of Councilwoman Traci Park * 11th District
WESTCHESTER: 7166 W Manchester, Los Angeles CA 90045
(310) 568-8772 TEL | 11th District Website



*PLEASE NOTE: E-mail correspondence with the Office of Councilwoman Traci Park may be subject to public disclosure under the California Public Records Act. (including attachments) *

On Mon, Feb 5, 2024 at 2:52 PM Councilmember Park <councilmember.park@lacity.org> wrote:



TRACI PARK
Councilwoman * 11th District
LA CITY HALL: 200 N. Spring Street, Rm 410, LA, CA 90012
(213) 473-7011 TEL | 11th District Website



*PLEASE NOTE: E-mail correspondence with the Office of Councilwoman Traci Park may be subject to public disclosure under the California Public Records Act. (including attachments) *



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK GANG GRAFFITI CD1

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Feb 6, 2024 at 10:43 AM

To: Garcia Incareal <

>

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Jan 31, 2024 at 1:37 PM Garcia Incareal

> wrote:

JANUARY 31-2024

Council member Eunisses Hernandez

The Sycamore Grove Park has gang graffiti.

Attached pictures

We also have 2 homeless encampments across the park on Figueroa.

Attach pictures.

Mauro Garcia

--

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





AVE 49

81
18

THE DANGER OF TRACKS
IN THE MIDDLE
RISK OF INJURY
TO ADULTS
SEE MORE
INFORMATION

FLIP
LULU



AVES 4300





Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Complaint

1 message

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

Tue, Feb 6, 2024 at 1:37 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Tue, Feb 6, 2024 at 9:14 AM LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello,

Please see the forwarded message below.

Thanks,

Caro

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

From: **Francisco** < >
Date: Mon, Feb 5, 2024 at 3:42 PM
Subject: Complaint
To: RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

I would like to speak some one about the horse park located in Rancho ave and Western ave. I want to submit a formal complaint to see if we can do something about this area because it has become terribly dangerous with the amount of people who can not control their horses. On Saturday February 3rd, myself and my family were out in the park located adjacent to the horse park, and the owner of a horse abruptly lost control of their horse and nearly missed me and my family from being struck by the runaway horse. This isn't the first occasion this has happened, it's been multiple times. Even driving through the area in Rancho and on Riverside I have had to stop my vehicle abruptly for a runaway horse dangerously running in this area. We must make a change the laws that owners must take a learning course on how to control their horses, for everyone's safety, Or have strict laws so that irresponsible owners do not create a dangerous environment for family oriented public places.

--

Department of Recreation and Parks
Public Information Office
Email: rap.publicinfo@lacity.org
Phone: 213-202-2700
Website: www.laparks.org

Follow us on social media for everything under the sun at LA Parks!





Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Hmmm, well.....

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org> Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 1:35 PM
To: , LA Parks Public Information <rap.publicinfo@lacity.org>

Good morning,

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

You may also visit the MyLA311 website to create a service request at: https://lacity.gov/myla311

On Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 12:55 PM LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org> wrote:

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

From: Lisa Fredriksen < >
Date: Mon, Jan 8, 2024 at 2:06 PM
Subject: Hmmm, well.....
To: <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

I went back to Ascot Park and reassessed. Lots of trash cans. No doggie poop bags in your receptacle but, obviously, people don't understand that once you use said bag you have to dispose of it!!! And the SWEET homemade signs are just adorable but too bad people could care less. I picked up 13 individual dog poop bags today. People like to leave them by your signage for you to pick up. Sigh.

Department of Recreation and Parks
Public Information Office
Email: rap.publicinfo@lacity.org
Phone: 213-202-2700
Website: www.laparks.org

Follow us on social media for everything under the sun at LA Parks!



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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Urgent Request to Pause Elimination of Grass Parking at Jill Gilliam Recreation Center

1 message

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

Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 12:16 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, Feb 7, 2024 at 11:41 AM LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org> wrote:

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

From: **Krista Armstead** < >
Date: Sun, Jan 14, 2024 at 6:32 PM
Subject: Fwd: Urgent Request to Pause Elimination of Grass Parking at Jill Gilliam Recreation Center
To: <rapjimgilliamrc@lacity.org>
Cc: <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

From: Krista Armstead < >
Date: January 14, 2024 at 6:21:50 PM PST
To: RAPJIMGILLIAMRC@lacity.org
Cc: RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org
Subject: Urgent Request to Pause Elimination of Grass Parking at Jill Gilliam Recreation Center

Dear Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks,

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing on behalf of the concerned residents in our neighborhood to address the recent decision to eliminate parking on Tuesday January 16th in the grass areas surrounding the Jill Gilliam Recreation Center.

While we acknowledge the importance of preserving the park and understand the damage caused by parking, we kindly request that the elimination of grass parking be temporarily paused until the City Council proposes a long-term solution to the parking crises in our community.

We have gathered significant community support, with over 200 signatures on a petition ready to be sent to City Council for a permanent solution like zoned parking and added parking facilities. However, we require more time, as we cannot deliver the petition until Tuesday during office hours due the extended weekend holiday. This demonstrates the urgency and widespread concern regarding this matter.

Additionally, we would like to express our concern about the proposed installation of a chain-linked fence around the park. Such a measure will create accessibility issues and detract from the park's aesthetic appeal, making this beautiful space less desirable for the community.

We believe that working collaboratively with the community will lead to a more sustainable and effective resolution. Abruptly removing parking spaces and introducing a fencing will exacerbate traffic and safety issues in our streets, negatively impacting the overall well-being of our neighborhood.

We empathize with the need to address the park's damages, but we are confident that a thoughtful, community-involved approach will result in a solution that benefits everyone. We urge the Jill Gilliam Recreation Center to engage in open dialogue with residents and collaborate on finding a resolution that enhances the livelihood of our community.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to the opportunity to work together for the betterment of our neighborhood.

Sincerely,

Krista Armstead

--

**Department of Recreation and Parks
Public Information Office**

Email: rap.publicinfo@lacity.org

Phone: 213-202-2700

Website: www.laparks.org

Follow us on social media for everything under the sun at LA Parks!



--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Unfair practices at Evergreen Senior Center, MAOF Lunch Program to closed for voters registration.

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 2:20 PM

To:

Cc: Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@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 Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 1:49 PM LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello,

Please see the forwarded message below.

Thank you,

Caro

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

From: **Vivian M. Escalante** <

>

Date: Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 1:26 PM

Subject: Unfair practices at Evergreen Senior Center, MAOF Lunch Program to closed for voters registration.

To: <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

Cc: Dulce Acosta < >, Tony Marquez < >, CD 14 BH Susana Lopez <susana.lopez@lacity.org>, CD 14 CITY HALL Cynthia Castellanos <cynthia.castellanos@lacity.org>, SANTIAGO Brad Fingard <Brad.Fingard@asm.ca.gov>, SANTIAGO Crystal Meza <Crystal.Meza@asm.ca.gov>, SOLIS Hilda L. Solis <firstdistrict@bos.lacounty.gov>, DURAZO Conrado Terrazascross <conrado.terrazascross@sen.ca.gov>, DURAZO Bethany Renfree <Bethany.enfree@sen.ca.gov>, BASS Jacqueline Hamilton <jacqueline.hamilton@lacity.org>

Hello LA City Park info,

Lunch Program. I am deeply concerned to hear that it will not be available between February 22nd through March 7th, 2024. Clearly, the park directors do not respect the needs of our seniors without transportation to El Sereno or Lincoln Heights Senior Centers for the MAOF Lunch Program.

The current directors have made this discussion without any concern about the impact that this has on our seniors who depend on this lunch program; the senior lunchroom does not interfere with voter registration at the front main entrance since it has a separate entrance and safe walkway at the side of the Senior Center where large signs can be posted. Notices could also be distributed to attendees of the Senior Lunch Program provided by MAOF, notifying them of the entrance on the side. You may consider this a standard for the future since the directors do not provide any real senior programming, like El Sereno, Lincoln Heights, and Highland Park.

I urge you to consider the impact of this decision on the seniors who rely on this service. It is in the best interest of our senior community to have a new senior center park director leadership and to replace them with more active visionaries for our seniors. Currently, all that is taking place is BINGO every day, which is not sufficient for our community, and learn from the proactive directors at El Sereno, Lincoln Heights, and Highland Park, which have the most active and the best programming for our seniors.

I hope you will take this matter seriously and find a solution that meets the needs of our senior community.

Sincerely,

Vivian Escalante,
Founder, President & CEO

<http://www.BoyleHeightsCommunityPartners.com>

a California **501(c)(3) Nonprofit** #32-0628921

Celebrating Black History Month

**"Unity with strength for History, Community and Historic Preservation".
"Historic Preservation, Education and Community Participation"**

ΧΟΝΦΙΔΕΝΤΙΑΛ & ΠΡΙΖΙΛΕΓΕΔ ΤΡΑΝΣΜΙΣΣΙΟΝ

Τησ ινφορματιον ιν τησ ε-μαιλ ανδ ανψ ατταχηεδ δοχυμεντ(σ) ισ χονφιδεντιαλ ανδ/ορ περιπιλεγεδ. Ιτ ισ ιντενδεδ σολελψ φορ τησ υσε οφ τησ αδδρεσσεε(σ) ναμεδ ιν τησ εμαιλ. Υναυτηοριζεδ δισχλοσυρε, πηοτοχοπμινγ, διστριβυτιον ορ υσε οφ τησ ινφορματιον χονταινεδ ηερειν ισ προηιβιτεδ. Ιφ ψου βελιεσε ψου ηαπε ρεχειπεδ τησ ε-μαιλ ιν ερρορ, πλεασε νοτιψψ τησ σενδερ βψ ρεπλψ τρανσμισσιον ανδ δελετε τησ μεσσαγε ωιτηουτ χοπμινγ ορ δισχλοσιγγ ιτ.

--

**Department of Recreation and Parks
Public Information Office**
Email: rap.publicinfo@lacity.org
Phone: 213-202-2700
Website: www.laparks.org

Follow us on social media for everything under the sun at LA Parks!



--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Unfair practices at Evergreen Senior Center, MAOF Lunch Program to closed for voters registration.

1 message

Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>

Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 1:53 PM

To: Chinyere Stoneham <Chinyere.Stoneham@lacity.org>, Belinda Jackson <belinda.jackson@lacity.org>

Cc: Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, LA Parks Public Information <rap.publicinfo@lacity.org>

Good Afternoon Belinda and Chinyere,

Can you work with Region management to determine if we can provide Senior Program Services at the Recreation Center during the time the SCC is being utilized for Voting.

On Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 1:49 PM LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello,

Please see the forwarded message below.

Thank you,

Caro

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

From: **Vivian M. Escalante** < >

Date: Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 1:26 PM

Subject: Unfair practices at Evergreen Senior Center, MAOF Lunch Program to closed for voters registration.

To: <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

Cc: Dulce Acosta < >, Tony Marquez < >, CD 14 BH Susana Lopez <susana.lopez@lacity.org>, CD 14 CITY HALL Cynthia Castellanos <cynthia.castellanos@lacity.org>, SANTIAGO Brad Fingard <Brad.Fingard@asm.ca.gov>, SANTIAGO Crystal Meza <Crystal.Meza@asm.ca.gov>, SOLIS Hilda L. Solis <firstdistrict@bos.lacounty.gov>, DURAZO Conrado Terrazascross <conrado.terrazascross@sen.ca.gov>, DURAZO Bethany Renfree <Bethany.enfree@sen.ca.gov>, BASS Jacqueline Hamilton <jacqueline.hamilton@lacity.org>

Hello LA City Park info,

Lunch Program. I am deeply concerned to hear that it will not be available between February 22nd through March 7th, 2024. Clearly, the park directors do not respect the needs of our seniors without transportation to El Sereno or Lincoln Heights Senior Centers for the MAOF Lunch Program.

The current directors have made this discussion without any concern about the impact that this has on our seniors who depend on this lunch program; the senior lunchroom does not interfere with voter registration at the front main entrance since it has a separate entrance and safe walkway at the side of the Senior Center where large signs can be posted. Notices could also be distributed to attendees of the Senior Lunch Program provided by MAOF, notifying them of the entrance on the side. You may consider this a standard for the future since the directors do not provide any real senior programming, like El Sereno, Lincoln Heights, and Highland Park.

I urge you to consider the impact of this decision on the seniors who rely on this service. It is in the best interest of our senior community to have a new senior center park director leadership and to replace them with more active visionaries for our seniors. Currently, all that is taking place is BINGO every day, which is not sufficient for our community, and learn from the proactive directors at El Sereno, Lincoln Heights, and Highland Park, which have the most active and the best programming for our seniors.

I hope you will take this matter seriously and find a solution that meets the needs of our senior community.

Sincerely,



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: FORMAL COMPLAINT

1 message

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

Thu, Feb 8, 2024 at 8:10 AM

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 8:58 PM Todd Greenberg <> wrote:

Hello,

I need to know who is in charge of The Balboa Sport Complex Recreation Director (Basically who is Adam's boss?).

I cannot have my kid continue to come home in tears.

See emails below for two incidents.

Sincerely,
Todd Greeberg
Father of Jonah Greenberg

Adam Monick
Acting Senior Recreation Director
Balboa Sport Complex
17015 Burbank Blvd
Encino CA 91316
(818)756-9642

Adam Monick
Recreation Facility Director
Studio City Recreation Center
12621 Rye Street
Studio City, CA 91604
(818) 769-4415

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

From: **Todd Greenberg** <>
Date: Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 8:36 PM
Subject: Fwd: FORMAL COMPLAINT
To: <Stephanie.estrada@lacity.org>

Dear Ms. Estrada-

Can you please tell me who is Adam's supervisor? I need to escalate a formal complaint. See below.

Sincerely,
Todd Greenberg

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

From: **Todd Greenberg** <>
Date: Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 7:28 PM

Subject: Re: FORMAL COMPLAINT

To: brittanie.monge@lacity.org <brittanie.monge@lacity.org>, Adam Monick <adam.monick@lacity.org>

Dear Adam,

I am not sure if you spoke with the coach regarding the situation the other day but this is now absurd. We have a whole new situation. Is there someone else besides you I can speak to regarding this new situation? I am sorry but I just don't think things are being resolved here and only getting worse.

My 9 year old son Jonah arrived early excited to play basketball today for his practice. Unfortunately only 5 other kids came to practice. My wife told me that the main coach arrived briefly and then left. The assistant coach took over. He taught them nothing and then instead of having games of 3 vs 3, he literally does 2 vs 2 and has Jonah sit out most of the time. My wife literally had to loudly bring this up to his attention. What experience do these coaches have? My kid comes to practice unlike many others and then sits around during a practice game?

Who can i mail this e-mail so there is a formal record of my prior and current formal complaint?

Sorry but these are 9 year olds and why it's a struggle to apparently be present for an hour my kid comes home incredibly upset for something completely ridiculous.

I will call the number on your e-mail in addition to this e-mail to make sure you got my email.

Sincerely,
Todd Greenberg

On Sun, Jan 28, 2024 at 5:12 PM Todd Greenberg <toddgreenberg@lacity.org> wrote:
ah ha!! i didnt know these rules. ok interesting well he had half the team fully sit out for the remaining 12 minutes.

but, i guess if those are the rules and its at his discretion what can i do.

i appreciate the quick reply.

todd-

On Jan 28, 2024, at 5:09 PM, Adam Monick <adam.monick@lacity.org> wrote:

Mr Greenberg

Thank you for your email, I will reach out to Coach Gallagher in regards to his assistant. Jonah has moved up a division and the rules have changed slightly. Every child should sit out 5 min each half minimum. As long as all the coaches have followed this rule, the last 10 minutes is free substitution, once all the kids have sat out the minimum amount of time. So they do have a choice to play the kids who they choose the last 10min. That being said, I will still contact coach Gallagher to speak with him in regards to his assistant coach and encourage him to still play kids in that last 10 min block.

Best
Adam Monick
Acting Senior Recreation Director
Balboa Sport Complex
17015 Burbank Blvd
Encino CA 91316
(818)756-9642

Adam Monick
Recreation Facility Director
[Studio City Recreation Center](#)
12621 Rye Street
Studio City, CA 91604

(818) 769-4415



On Sun, Jan 28, 2024 at 11:10 AM Todd Greenberg <

> wrote:

Dear Mr. Monick:

I believe you are in charge of the youth basketball league over here in Encino Rec Center. I was provided with your information by Delia earlier this morning.

I am making a formal complaint on the following issue:

My 9 year old son Jonah Greenberg is currently playing basketball in the youth league. To say, he's been ecstatic to play is an understatement. We were only able to join the last league on a backup list and we were thrilled to join late. We had Coach Anthony. He was the nicest sweetest heavenly involved coach. I bring this up because it is the only thing I can compare to (other than seeing the other coaches in the league). This is only our second season we're playing in.

Unfortunately, we are having a horrible experience and I need you to immediately address the issue in fear that its having a severe personal affect on my kid. For whatever reason the main coach for our team has not been present at the past 2 games and a game earlier too. I am not sure what's going on there. I know this volunteer only so it is what it is. However, the issue we're having is with the backup assistant coach. I am not sure his name. This person should not be coaching this team or any other team at this point.

I want to immediately highlight my concerns. I speak as a parent, but also as a local citizen of the county/city of los angeles and love how this is a community based sports league so it should be fair and also reasonable.

1) The kids are told to come to the games 30 minutes earlier. Jonah and a few other kids were present at the last game (630p) and just sat around didn't do anything. The coach wasn't there and then when he was there rather than coordinate stuff/get them together just did his own thing. The kids should have been doing something, anything, for that time, otherwise why are we doing everything we can in our personal lives/leaving work early to have them there. My wife and I have 3 kids and it is not easy to get him there. But, we do it.

2) During that game, there were 3 kids extra. Rather than sub out the 3 kids evenly every approx 5-6 mins, Jonah sat on the bench more than any other kid and he'd sub others leaving Jonah there. I jokingly told the coach this after the game he joked saying well i'm really busy. I said I know but this needs to be fair. We are not the NBA here.

3) **Today's game is the reason for my email mainly.** We had a game this morning at 830am. Myself, my wife, my 2 other kids, my parents came from long afar to be present. We were all there very excited to watch Jonah play. Also, because it meant alot to Jonah. There was an even 10 kids there. You'd think an even 5 player swap every 5-6 mins would be simple. Unfortunately it was even worse than last game (I am now thinking it's intentional due to my conversation last game). For the first half kids were switched evenly. Then, the second half, he kept Jonah and 4 other kids on the bench the entire last 12 minutes. This was not Ok. I did not say anything to him directly at this point as i see it could also turn into more intentional acts by this assistant coach. I was shocked. The other team continued to sub out everyone evenly.

4) Another example, another kid on Jonah's team was hurt. You could see it. He was holding his fingers/stomach. This assistant coach ignored him. He eventually took him out. He didnt attend to him. He didn't ask him if he needed ice or anything. I eventually saw the kids father go over there. This was absurd. This is supposed to a fun loving sports game. I saw no good example of good sportsmanship by the coach as a positive reflection for the kids.

Following the game this morning, I immediately walked over and explained all of this to Delila. She explained that I guess certain people in charge are out/temp on leave etc. She said she'd talk to the coach but I said i think its a bigger issue and I want the people in charge to handle this. Thus, the reason for my email.

Jonah continues to come home (after initially being excited for the games all week) upset because the coach is sitting him out unfairly. I explained we just need to get better hoping to ease his upsetness but honestly this is a kids local league and it should be as fair as possible especially considering its run by the city.

In any event, I would like this issue addressed immediately so that I can explain to Jonah that things will improve. There aren't many games left. I am not sure what's going on with the main coach but maybe a different assistant coach is the solution. The main coach is great. You can tell he's much more fair and acts the roll properly.

I also don't want this email to have an impact on the future of Jonah's participate/acceptance by other coaches for future seasons. This is why I am also putting on writing and making a record of the issues. I suspect word may get around and I am just doing what any good parent would do when they see their kid upset.

Sincerely,
Todd Greenberg, JD

Jonah's Dad

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Animals / Dept of Recreation and Parks

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Los Angeles Alliance for Animals

Wed, Feb 7, 2024 at 11:22 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, Feb 7, 2024 at 9:37 AM Los Angeles Alliance for Animals <

wrote:

Hello,

- A petting zoo should not be chosen as a replacement because they subject sensitive animals to constant noise, chaos, and strangers touching them against their will. Pony rides also shouldn't be chosen, as it's inherently cruel to force ponies to plod along in endless circles while hauling riders on their backs. This teaches children that it's OK to treat animals like toys or carnival equipment instead of individuals with thoughts, needs, and desires.
- The city doesn't have the time or other resources to monitor the treatment of animals at these exhibits, and as we saw with Griffith Park Pony Rides and Petting Zoo, this lack of oversight meant that elderly ponies suffered from dehydration, overheated from not having shade, and lacked veterinary care.
- Los Angeles constituents want a non-animal model in Griffith Park because there is no acceptable option for a concession stand featuring animals. Forcing animals into situations where they're used as entertainment is exploitation, and it's time for the city to move on from this antiquated and cruel practice.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Ballard

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Griffith Park pony ride

1 message

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

Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 7:17 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, Jan 31, 2024 at 11:47 AM Carolyn Seeman <> wrote:

Dear Commissioners:

Please do not bring back the pony ride at Griffith Park, or any activity that involves animals. We need activities that keep children active and healthy. Children need to move and to experience the environment!

Moreover, he city does not have the resources to monitor animal-based activities and the protesters will return if you bring back animals.

Carolyn Seeman

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Griffith Park

1 message

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

Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 12:28 PM

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 11:54 AM Amanda < > wrote:

It is NOT an acceptable option for a concession featuring animals. The city has neither the time nor the other resources to monitor the treatment of animals at such an exhibit—as we saw with Griffith Park Pony Rides and Petting Zoo, this lack of oversight allowed the vendor to further exploit and neglect the animals. According to a report from an independent equine expert, the exhibitor didn't even meet the *minimum* standards of care and lacked veterinary records. The ponies suffered from untreated mouth and teeth problems, hoof ailments, saddle sores, and lameness but were *still* forced to work until the public and legislators intervened.

It's inherently cruel to force ponies to plod in endless circles while carrying riders on their back and to force animals in petting zoos to interact with strangers who continuously invade their personal space and touch them. Animal exhibits are a danger to public health and teach children the harmful message that animals are ours to dominate and exploit.

I am urging the Department of Recreation and Parks to commit to a non-animal concession in the park, in which no more animals would be abused or exploited for entertainment.

Amanda Turner

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Live animal entertainment in Griffith Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 9:23 AM

To:

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Jan 29, 2024 at 9:42 AM LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello,

Please see the patron's email below.

Thank you,

Caro

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

From: **Keren (Christine) Weiss** < >
 Date: Mon, Jan 29, 2024 at 9:28 AM
 Subject: Live animal entertainment in Griffith Park
 To: <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

Hello,

I would like to state my objection to this and kindly ask to shut down [Griffith Park Pony Rides and Petting Zoo](#), as I believe animals should not be displayed for entertainment but cared for and provided with good lives. Moreover, I believe that the city doesn't have the time or other resources to monitor the treatment of animals at these exhibits. And as we saw with Griffith Park Pony Rides and Petting Zoo, this lack of oversight meant that elderly ponies suffered from dehydration, untreated mouth and teeth problems, hoof ailments, and saddle sores and that they lacked veterinary care.

As a Constituent I would like to see a non-animal model in Griffith Park because there is no acceptable option for a concession stand featuring animals. Forcing animals into situations where they're used as entertainment is exploitation, and it's time for the city to move on from this antiquated and cruel practice.

Sincerely,

--

C. Keren Weiss

 The information contained in this electronic message and any attachments to this message are intended only for the exclusive use of the designated recipient(s). It may contain confidential or proprietary information and may be subject confidentiality protections. If you are not the intended recipient, or the person responsible for delivering the e-mail to the intended recipient, be advised you have received this message in error and that any use, dissemination, forwarding, printing, or copying is strictly prohibited.

--



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Los Angeles Griffith Park Pony Rides

1 message

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

Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 9:27 AM

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Jan 29, 2024 at 1:34 PM LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org> wrote:

Hello,

Please see the patron's email below.

Thank you,

Caro

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

From: **Pamela Perkins** < >
Date: Tue, Jan 10, 2023 at 4:22 PM
Subject: Los Angeles Griffith Park Pony Rides
To: RAP.PUBLICINFO@LACITY.ORG <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>, mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org <mayor.helpdesk@lacity.org>, contactCD4@lacity.org <contactCD4@lacity.org>, councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org <councilmember.kevindeleon@lacity.org>, info@laconservancy.org>, rap-gpab@lacity.org>

Hello - Please open the attached letter. Thank you.

--
Design the World
Pamela Perkins

--
Department of Recreation and Parks
Public Information Office
Email: rap.publicinfo@lacity.org
Phone: 213-202-2700
Website: www.laparks.org

Follow us on social media for everything under the sun at LA Parks!



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

1-10-2023

Regarding the Reinstatement of the Los Angeles Griffith Park Pony Rides

Los Angeles City Officials

To Whom This Concerns,

I am writing the City of Los Angeles and the Department of Recreation and Parks to suggest a way to compromise and keep the ponies and the petting zoo at Griffith Park. As with all compromises, not everyone will be happy but I'm hoping that something like this could work:

The Pony Rides could be mandated by an oversight committee. This committee could be a group of licensed or otherwise certified professionals to assure that the science in decision-making is adhered to. The facility could be inspected on demand and/or at least four times per year. Any corrections could be made in a reasonable amount of time set by these professionals.

1. Licensed Equine Veterinarians – at least two.
2. Animal Services for the humane treatment of all animals – Los Angeles certificated personnel.
3. Stable management professional – minimum 10 years documented experience with stables preferably with ponies. Responsible for the physical structure inspections and waste management.
4. A pony training and management professional – minimum ten years documented experience.
5. Historical Cultural impact – Griffith Park Heritage Committee.
6. Environmental Health Inspections – County of Los Angeles.

Additionally, I would have someone to evaluate the positive community impact of returning the ponies and petting zoo animals to the facility. The activity was a favorite of lower to middle income families that would have difficulty paying for riding lessons available to the higher income.

The age limit for the ponies and mini horses should be older than six years (for full physical development) and a mandatory retirement age of twenty-five years or sooner depending on the veterinarian input. At retirement the pony would be rehomed to a safe-vetted stable to live out its life. Any and all health concerns of the animals would be reported along with the quarterly inspections.

The average life expectancy of a horse is 25-30+ years; the average life expectancy of a pony is usually 10 years longer. Also notable is that it is more common to see ponies ridden later in life than their full-sized counterparts. There are theories that ponies are hardier/healthier than horses, contributing to both a longer lifespan and a longer under-saddle career. While genetics and a little luck play a factor in determining a pony's

lifespan, there are many things within the owners' control to promote a long, healthy life. This is in the form of regular vet-checks, especially the teeth, digestive system and hooves. The addition of these inspections would make the ponies and other animals under such scrutiny that may seem overdone but would move toward satisfying the allegations of misuse and cruelty (which were never founded).

There is no substitute for firsthand pony experiences for the children of Los Angeles especially in the urban areas. Everyone I've spoken to has had a very positive experience in participation of the Griffith Park Pony Rides. Many children respond to the more kinesthetic interactions with animals. They also learn that these animals are sensitive creatures and respond to calmness and kindness. When this is learned at an early age, it can carry through to adulthood. Domestic animals help children develop their own sense of humanity and responsibility. In this controlled environment, the children and the ponies and the petting zoo animals all benefit from the experience. Domestic ponies have been bred since the middle-ages for riding and cart pulling. Carrying a tiny human is a part of their forte.

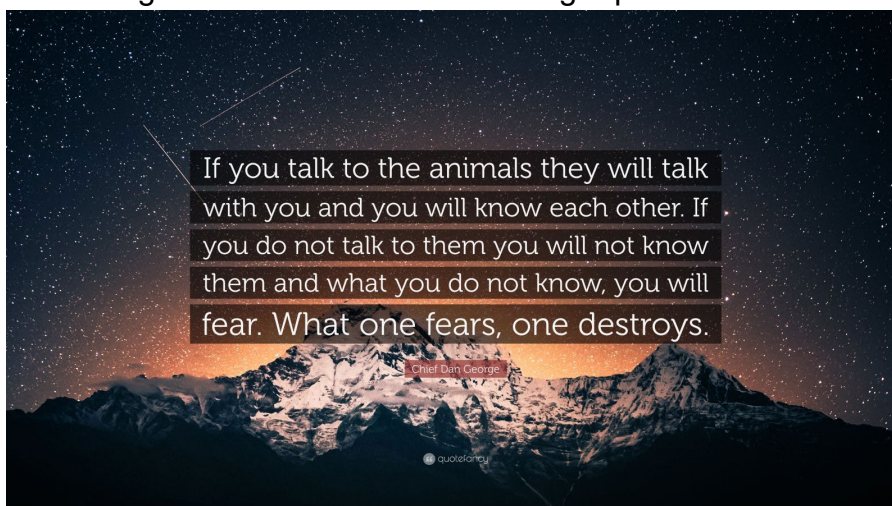
In conclusion, I'm urging all Los Angeles city government decision makers involved in this situation to use these and other ideas to bring back the Griffith Park Pony Rides. The oversight of seasoned, licensed professionals - those in the profession of the Animal Sciences can help assure full accountability of the activities with more fact and less speculative opinion.

I am a citizen of the City of Los Angeles I would hope that the City of Los Angeles Department of Receptions and Parks would please reconsider the reinstatement of the pony rides. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Pamela Perkins

P.S. The following is a favorite Chief Dan George quote:





Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Non-Animal Model for Griffith Park

1 message

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

Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 7:17 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, Jan 31, 2024 at 3:42 PM Andrea Kaye < > wrote:

Hello Leaders:

I am a long-time resident of Los Angeles, and a voting constituent from West LA.

I am demanding a non-animal model for the safety of our community, and to take the place of the liability causing Griffith Park Pony Rides.

Thank you for your very important decision.

Sincerely,

Andrea Kaye

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Please Commit to a Non-Animal Attraction in Griffith Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 9:23 AM

To: kim lindsey <

>

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Jan 29, 2024 at 8:18 AM kim lindsey <

> wrote:

Message to Jimmy Kim:

I'm writing to urge you to recommend that the city replace the pony rides and petting zoo in Griffith Park with a non-animal form of entertainment. The city has neither the time nor the other resources to monitor the treatment of animals at such an exhibit—as we saw with Griffith Park Pony Rides and Petting Zoo, this lack of oversight allowed the vendor to further exploit and neglect the animals. According to the report from the independent equine expert, the vendor didn't even meet the minimum standards of care and lacked veterinary records. The geriatric ponies suffered from untreated mouth and teeth problems, hoof ailments, saddle sores, and lameness but were still forced to work until the public and legislators intervened.

Animal exhibits are a danger to public health and safety, and they teach children that animals are ours to dominate, exploit, and treat like toys or carnival equipment. It's inherently cruel to force ponies to plod in endless circles while carrying riders on their back and to force animals in petting zoos to interact with strangers who continuously invade their personal space and touch them.

Please don't replace the pony rides and petting zoo with another cruel animal exhibit. Instead, choose a humane, non-animal model in which no animals will be abused or exploited for entertainment.

Sincerely,
MS. kim lindsey

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: PLEASE DELETE ALL PONY RIDES AND PETTING ZOO ACTIVITIES!

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 9:25 AM

To: Alliance for animals <

>

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Jan 29, 2024 at 12:04 PM Alliance for animals <

> wrote:

Zohra Fahim

President and Founder of Los Angeles Alliance for Animals

Begin forwarded message:

From: JASON NAKAGAWA <

>

Date: January 29, 2024 at 12:02:22 PM PST

To:

Subject: PLEASE DELETE ALL PONY RIDES AND PETTING ZOO ACTIVITIES!

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Pony-Rides & Petting Zoo

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Feb 8, 2024 at 2:01 PM

To: Susan Hirsch <

>

Good morning,

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

On Thu, Feb 8, 2024 at 11:22 AM Susan Hirsch <

> wrote:

We were so happy that this cruel concession the pony rides and petty zoo ended and are asking you to please do NOT renew the contract and replace this with a non-animal model.

Thank you
Susan and Sam Hirsch

Sent from my iPhone

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Regarding Griffith Park pony rides concerns

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Feb 1, 2024 at 7:22 AM

To: Jeremiah Benjamin <

>

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Jan 31, 2024 at 8:28 PM Jeremiah Benjamin <

> wrote:

| Please convert the Griffith Park and Pony Rides to a non-animal model, thank you.

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Please Commit to a Non-Animal Attraction in Griffith Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 9:25 AM

To: Skip Nicholson <

>

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Jan 29, 2024 at 1:28 PM Skip Nicholson <

> wrote:

Message to Jimmy Kim:

I'm writing to urge you to recommend that the city replace the pony rides and petting zoo in Griffith Park with a non-animal form of entertainment. The city has neither the time nor the other resources to monitor the treatment of animals at such an exhibit—as we saw with Griffith Park Pony Rides and Petting Zoo, this lack of oversight allowed the vendor to further exploit and neglect the animals. According to the report from the independent equine expert, the vendor didn't even meet the minimum standards of care and lacked veterinary records. The geriatric ponies suffered from untreated mouth and teeth problems, hoof ailments, saddle sores, and lameness but were still forced to work until the public and legislators intervened.

Animal exhibits are a danger to public health and safety, and they teach children that animals are ours to dominate, exploit, and treat like toys or carnival equipment. It's inherently cruel to force ponies to plod in endless circles while carrying riders on their back and to force animals in petting zoos to interact with strangers who continuously invade their personal space and touch them.

Please don't replace the pony rides and petting zoo with another cruel animal exhibit. Instead, choose a humane, non-animal model in which no animals will be abused or exploited for entertainment.

Sincerely,
Mr. Skip Nicholson

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: PLEASE DELETE ALL PONY RIDES AND PETTING ZOO ACTIVITIES!

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 10:41 AM

To: JASON NAKAGAWA <

>

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Jan 30, 2024 at 10:29 AM JASON NAKAGAWA <

> wrote:

GREETINGS,

I SINCERELY HOPE THAT ALL IS WELL!
UNFORTUNATELY, GRIFFITH PARK IS CONTINUING TO USE PONY RIDES AND PETTING ZOO ACTIVITIES AS SOME FORM OF HUMAN ENTERTAINMENT.
PLEASE EXTRICATE THESE HEINOUS ANIMAL ACTIVITIES. THIS IS SENSELESS NOT TO MENTION ARCHAIC.
I THANK YOU KINDLY!

SINCERELY,

JASON H. NAKAGAWA

--

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