



## **Griffith Park Advisory Board**

*Community Stewards of LA's Largest Park & Great Urban Wilderness*

Department of Recreation and Parks, City of Los Angeles

[www.laparks.org/griffithpark/advisory](http://www.laparks.org/griffithpark/advisory)

October 28th, 2025

Los Angeles Board of Recreation and Parks Commissioners

RE: Renewed Concern About Alcohol Beverage Policy (board reports 23-085 and 24-059)

Synopsis: Griffith Park Advisory Board is concerned about transparency regarding alcoholic events in light of recent Haunted Hayride alcohol sales.

Dear Commissioners,

In 2023, when the draft alcohol policy was introduced, our board offered measured feedback (letter attached). We raised concerns that the policy would be a major change, potentially allowing unlimited events with alcohol at LA City parks, and asked for some reasonable limits. Given our role as RAP's community advisors for Griffith Park, we also asked for special rules for our city's great urban wilderness park. When the policy was approved in 2024, neither of these requests was addressed. Now, in light of recent events, we have renewed reason for concern.

Earlier this month, for the first time we are aware of, the Haunted Hayride was allowed to serve alcohol for three consecutive nights (10/17 – 10/19). Despite the precedent-setting nature of this decision, our board received no advance notice. Further, so far as we know, this decision was made solely by RAP executive staff. Given the public safety risks of late-night alcohol-fueled events, as well as the fragility of the Griffith Park ecosystem, we believe it is essential for the park superintendent, chief ranger and RAP's urban ecologist to be meaningfully consulted prior to any such decisions.

We have now learned that alcohol at the Haunted Hayride has continued for a second weekend (10/23 – 10/26). At the moment, it is unclear to us whether alcohol sales will continue for the event's final week, through November 2. The opaque nature of decision-making creates greater urgency for our concerns: What limits will there be on park events with alcohol in the future?

We continue to believe in the importance of a transparent and inclusive process to create parameters in advance for decisions regarding alcoholic events in Griffith Park. Doing so would create trust with the community, and, we believe, lead to better decisions. Given both the

public safety and ecological implications, and with the policy's two-year pilot set to conclude next spring, we look forward to being a constructive part of future dialogue on this issue.

Many thanks,

Alex Crow  
Chair, Griffith Park Advisory Board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alex Crow', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

cc: RAP: Jimmy Kim, Matthew Rudnick, Brenda Aguirre, Stefanie Smith, Tracy James; CD4:  
Councilmember Nithya Raman, Mehmet Berker, Hannah Jaeger