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Los Angeles Equine Advisory
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November 18, 2024

SENT BY ELECTRONIC MAIL

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

Dear Commissioners:

LAEAC Endorses Community-Supported Pony Rides with Emphasis on Safety Protocols

The Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee (LAEAC) would like to express its sincere appreciation to the Department of Recreation and Parks for their dedication and diligence in commissioning a thorough and impartial review of community sentiment regarding the future of the pony rides. The survey's comprehensive approach offers a balanced look at possible alternatives and provides our community with a meaningful opportunity to voice its preferences.

The survey results indicate a clear preference for the return of the pony rides, even when presented with a range of other options. The historic pony rides hold a special place in our community, valued not only for the unique experiences they offer children and families but also for their role in introducing responsible and ethical interactions with animals. In light of this, the LAEAC fully supports reinstating the pony rides.

We recognize the importance of ensuring the well-being of both patrons and ponies. The LAEAC urges the enforcement of Ordinance 184021¹ which prohibits designated areas from inconsistent activities and any person from disturbing animals, thereby safeguarding the welfare of everyone involved. By strictly adhering to these standards, we can promote a positive, enjoyable, and educational experience for all.

¹ Section 63.44(B)(7) and Section 63.44(B) (11) of the Los Angeles Municipal Code



Thank you again for your commitment to serving the diverse community and for considering the insights and feedback provided by your survey. Please feel free to contact me for further assistance or to provide additional recommendations at Mary.Benson@lacity.org or by phone 818-720-7062.

Sincerely,

Mary Benson

Mary Benson, President

cc: Mayor
City Council