

INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

December 19, 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>
1. Eileen Erickson comments regarding the Venice Flying Carousel	#9774	Referred to General Manager
2. Cynthia Su comments regarding Support in Preserving City of LA Public Tennis Courts	#9775	Referred to General Manager
3. Kevin Tijerino comments regarding Support of Preserving City of LA Public Tennis Courts	#9775a	Referred to General Manager
4. Mari Halliday comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776	Referred to General Manager
5. William Deeb comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776a	Referred to General Manager
6. Deborah Fidler comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776b	Referred to General Manager
7. Christine Ricci comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776c	Referred to General Manager
8. Catie Rossi comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776d	Referred to General Manager
9. Shelli Wright comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776e	Referred to General Manager

10. Taj Sullivan comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776f	Referred to General Manager
11. Emily Luddy comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776g	Referred to General Manager
12. Karin Costa comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776h	Referred to General Manager
13. Shelley McMahon comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776i	Referred to General Manager
14. Adam Baz comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776j	Referred to General Manager
15. Ben Sullivan comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776k	Referred to General Manager
16. John Nagler comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776l	Referred to General Manager
17. Gene Gilbert comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776m	Referred to General Manager
18. Karen Butler comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776n	Referred to General Manager
19. Joe Nussbaum comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776o	Referred to General Manager
20. Michael Ojaghian comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776p	Referred to General Manager
21. Christy Blakman comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776q	Referred to General Manager
22. Paula MacLean comments regarding Board Report 24-259 (Easter Field)	#9776r	Referred to General Manager
23. Cindy Guagenti comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777	Referred to General Manager

24. Pam Moeck comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777a	Referred to General Manager
25. Sam Kirkeby comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777b	Referred to General Manager
26. Madliene Haim comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777c	Referred to General Manager
27. Gary Clowry comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777d	Referred to General Manager
28. Madison Matuszewski comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777e	Referred to General Manager
29. Chris Himes comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777f	Referred to General Manager
30. Shelley McMahon comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777g	Referred to General Manager
31. Lisa Hanawalt comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777h	Referred to General Manager
32. Regina Varolli comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777i	Referred to General Manager
33. Erin Ballew comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777j	Referred to General Manager
34. Diane Bernert-Shanman comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777k	Referred to General Manager
35. Weston Deboer comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777l	Referred to General Manager
36. Gretchen Joseph comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777m	Referred to General Manager

37. Christy Blackman comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777n	Referred to General Manager
38. Colleen Stratton comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777o	Referred to General Manager
39. Regina Varolli comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777p	Referred to General Manager
40. Vanness Zhen comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777q	Referred to General Manager
41. Erin Sköld comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777r	Referred to General Manager
42. Shelly Morita comments regarding Board Report 24-254 (LAEC Rates)	#9777s	Referred to General Manager
43. Michael Sterman comments regarding Park Concerns at Dorothy and Benjamin Smith Park	#9778	Referred to General Manager
44. Karen Keen comments regarding Racial Harassment and Player Safety at a City Sports Event	#9779	Referred to General Manager
45. Georgia comments regarding Homelessness Encampments at Chatsworth Park North	#9780	Referred to General Manager
46. Jacob Wasserman comments regarding the North Westwood Neighborhood Council supporting the motion to establish Activation Zones throughout Los Angeles for the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games (Council File Number 15-0989-S37)	#9781	Referred to General Manager

47. Jacob Wasserman comments regarding The North Westwood Neighborhood Council supports the motion to establish free viewing parties and activations across Los Angeles for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games (Council File Number 15-0989-S38)	#9781a	Referred to General Manager
48. Mauro Garcia comments regarding Motor Home Parked in front of Sycamore Grove Park	#9782	Referred to General Manager
49. Louis Wenzlaff comments regarding Riverside Bridge Home Shelter	#9783	Referred to General Manager
50. Dennis Chew comments regarding Riverside Bridge Home Shelter	#9783a	Referred to General Manager
51. Ron Bitzer comments regarding Board Report 24-255	#9784	Referred to General Manager
52. Rudy Ramirez comments regarding City Employee Parked Illegal	#9785	Referred to General Manager
53. Alexandra Tower comments regarding Venice Dunes Project	#9786	Referred to General Manager
54. Jaime York comments regarding the Reseda Neighborhood Council supports the motion in CF 24-0602 (Council File Number 24-0602)	#9787	Referred to General Manager

Prepared by Rosa Cartagena, RAP Commission Office



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Centennial Park and the Venice Flying Carousel

1 message

Sean Silva <sean.silva@lacity.org>

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 10:41 AM

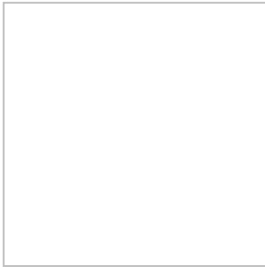
To: Eileen Pollack Erickson

Cc: "RAP.Commissioners@LACity.org" <RAP.Commissioners@lacity.org>, "jimmy.kim@lacity.org" <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, "cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org" <cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org>, "Juan.Fregoso@lacity.org" <Juan.Fregoso@lacity.org>, "matthew.rudnick@lacity.org" <matthew.rudnick@lacity.org>, "councilmember.park@lacity.org" <councilmember.park@lacity.org>

Hi Eileen,

Our office is supportive of finding a home for the Carousel and we are continuing to have discussions with Robin about the most appropriate place to do so.

All the best,
Sean



Sean Silva | Deputy, Venice | Planning Liaison

Office of Councilwoman Traci Park * 11th District

WESTCHESTER: 7166 W. Manchester Ave, LA, CA 90045

(310) 568-8772 TEL |

SIGN UP for the **Better11 Newsletter!**



*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 Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 2:36 PM Eileen Pollack Erickson

wrote:

Thank you, Sean. Will Traci be supporting the Venice Carousel in Centennial Park?



Eileen

From: Sean Silva <sean.silva@lacity.org>

Sent: Tuesday, December 03, 2024 11:27 AM

To: Eileen Pollack Erickson

Cc: RAP.Commissioners@LACity.org; jimmy.kim@lacity.org; cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org; Juan.Fregoso@lacity.org; matthew.rudnick@lacity.org; councilmember.park@lacity.org

Subject: Re: Centennial Park and the Venice Flying Carousel

Hi Eileen,

Thank you for sending this and we appreciate your engagement.

All the best,
Sean

Sean Silva | Deputy, Venice | Planning Liaison
Office of Councilwoman Traci Park * 11th District
WESTCHESTER: 7166 W. Manchester Ave, LA, CA 90045
(310) 568-8772 TEL |
SIGN UP for the **Better11 Newsletter!**

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On Mon, Dec 2, 2024 at 10:06 PM Eileen Pollack Erickson

wrote:

Dear VIP City Officials,

I hope you will take the time to watch this very short (less than 1 minute) video. I'm a young-at-heart Venician who has been active in this community for the past 40 years, and a strong supporter of the Venice Flying Carousel finding a home in Centennial Park.

Walking with a couple of my young grandchildren after visiting the Carousel in the Venice Canals a couple of weeks ago, we crossed the street at the Venice Abbot Kinney Memorial Library, and planned to walk through the park to get home. Although it was a sunny weekend day, the gates were locked despite signs indicating otherwise. Someone was sleeping in a tent at the entrance closest to the library. I took a couple of pictures and asked my technologically savvy granddaughter to help me join them in this video.

My 4 children and some of my 8 grandchildren have grown up here, and we watched with interest and high expectations as Centennial Park (aka Venice of America Centennial Park) was being upgraded and reconfigured. We heard that one of the proposed features of the renovated park might be the Flying Carousel, and thought that was the greatest idea ever!

Kindly watch this, and please imagine what it could mean to the community to have this beautiful and functional creation be located in Centennial Park, celebrating the history of Venice and providing joy to families.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Warmly,





Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Petition in Support of Preserving City of LA Public Tennis Courts

1 message

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

Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 7:50 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 Mon, Dec 2, 2024 at 10:55 AM Cynthia Su wrote:
Dear Commissioners at the Department of Recreation & Parks,

Good morning! I hope this finds you all doing well and rested after the holiday weekend.

In October 2023, we wrote to you and submitted a petition in support of preserving the stadium court at Riverside Tennis. At that time, we had collected just over 325 signatures. I am reattaching that petition below again as we have added a few pages, the signatures now totaling 410.

We've heard that the stadium court will not be converted to pickleball but that others at Riverside, Park Center (Merry-Go-Round Griffith Park), and Echo Park Tennis are being considered for pickleball conversion. As many of our public tennis courts seem to be under threat of pickleball conversion, we started a new online petition in support of preserving and better maintaining all of our city's public tennis courts.

Please find the petition linked here:
<https://www.allfortennis.net>

In just 2.5 weeks, we have collected over 1280 signatures. We will continue to collect signatures and formally submit the petition to the Neighborhood Councils and City Council districts that represent our public tennis courts.

Can you share with us what the Department of Recreation and Parks has planned? What is the Department's official stance on converting tennis courts to pickleball? Is it possible to please add this issue to the agenda for an upcoming meeting, if it's not already included? Please let us know how we can escalate this issue so that it is addressed at the next meeting.

Thank you so much for your attention to this matter. We kindly request and await your response.

Thank you again!

Very best,
Cynthia Su
Community Stakeholder

On Tue, Oct 31, 2023 at 11:26 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 Tue, Oct 31, 2023 at 11:00 AM Desiree Ramirez <desiree.ramirez@lacity.org> wrote:

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

From: **Cynthia Su**

Date: Tue, Oct 31, 2023 at 10:58 AM

Subject: Petition in Support of Preserving Riverside Tennis Courts

To: <jimmy.kim@lacity.org>, <desiree.ramirez@lacity.org>, <ap.diaz@lacity.org>, <lori.coleman@lacity.org>

October 31, 2023

To Whom It May Concern at the Department of Recreation & Parks,

We have recently learned of the city's plans to convert tennis courts at Riverside Tennis Court to pickleball courts.

This letter is in support of preserving all of the tennis courts at Riverside Tennis Court. Court 12, especially, is historic and significant to the tennis community for being the only standalone court with stadium seating that can accommodate tournament and/or other exhibition play. Permanently removing the bleachers and converting Court 12 to pickleball courts would be a mistake, and an enormous loss for Los Angeles' many tennis players and enthusiasts.

We are not against pickleball but urge the city not to take over existing tennis courts. Though we acknowledge that pickleball is experiencing a boom in popularity, participation in the sport should not come at the expense of tennis, an already popular sport that draws interest at every skill level, age and background. Preserving Court 12 and others at Riverside ensures that Angelenos of all socioeconomic backgrounds continue to have access to play and compete in a sport that promotes physical and mental health, and that would otherwise be inaccessible without membership to expensive private clubs. During peak hours in the mornings, evenings and on weekends, publicly accessible and affordable tennis courts are already scarcely available. We urge you to find a separate solution for pickleball enthusiasts to avoid displacing tennis players citywide.

Please accept this letter and the attached signatures as formal petition against the City of Los Angeles allowing pickleball courts to permanently replace any existing tennis courts at Riverside Tennis Court/Griffith Park. The 325+ signatures here represent just some of the growing number of stakeholders who are against this conversion. We know that the petition will grow as we raise awareness.

Thank you for you and your office's prompt attention to this matter and petition. We kindly request a response.

Sincerely,
Cynthia Su
Community Stakeholder

--

Desiree N. Ramirez, M.P.A. (she/her)

Executive Administrative Assistant III to

Jimmy Kim, General Manager

Matthew Rudnick, Executive Officer

City of Los Angeles: Department of Recreation & Parks

Direct: 213-524-9540



 [Please consider the Environment before printing this Email.](#)

Out of Office: **November 8-19th, 22-24th**

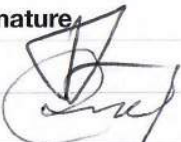

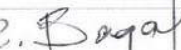

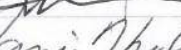
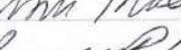

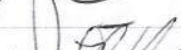


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City of Los Angeles
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners
Figueroa Plaza
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Petition to save all existing tennis courts Griffith-Park 3401 Riverside Drive tennis facilities

Petition summary and background: The city does not provide currently enough public tennis courts. At peak time people are not able to get a court. No taking away of any existing tennis courts and to find new locations for pickle ball courts. Pickle ball creates a noise nuisance with high decibels levels.

Action petitioned for: We the undersigned, are concerned citizens that the city of Los Angeles does not provide its community with enough tennis courts. We plead not to take any already existing tennis courts away and consider that at peak times there is a shortage of tennis courts.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Thomas Moece			10/5/23
RICARDO REHOLIF			10/5/23
REI TANA			10/5/23
CARLITO BAGATORO	C. Bagatoro		10-4-23
Paul Kim			10/5/23
Damian Kulash	Damian Kulash		10/5/23
FRANCISCO BOLANOS			10/5/23
Debbie.			6/6/23
Ben Goodman			10/6/23
JOHN CHENO			10/6/23
CESAR PROQUINTO			5 10-6-23
GLEN W.	Gully		10/6/23
Don Dwyer	Don Dwyer		10-6-23
Cynthia Su			10/7/2023
Fairlie McCollough			39 10/7/23
PHILIP LUU	Philip Luu		10/7/23







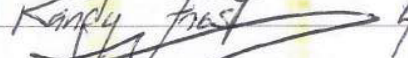

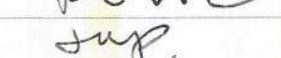
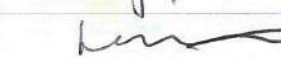
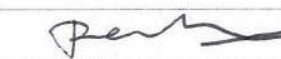
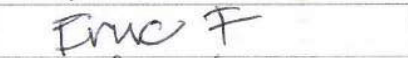
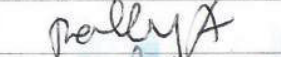



Petition to save all existing tennis courts Griffith-Park 3401 Riverside Drive tennis facilities

Petition summary and background: The city does not provide currently enough public tennis courts. At peak time people are not able to get a court. No taking away of any existing tennis courts and to find new locations for pickle ball courts. Pickle ball creates a noise nuisance with high decibels levels.

Action petitioned for: We the undersigned, are concerned citizens that the city of Los Angeles does not provide its community with enough tennis courts. We plead not to take any already existing tennis courts away and consider that at peak times there is a shortage of tennis courts.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Paul Keeley			8-10-7-23
Evan Manning			027 10-7-23
Clint Bergesen			10-7
Maru CEMAU			13
NATASHA KUA			
CHRISTINA BARBERA			1-10/7/23
ROBEL SARDEA			
FERDINANDO GONZALEZ			
ANDREW WONTORSKY			
Jennifer Kneerle			
Daniel Gabai			
MANTY WOODS			
Tisto Chapman			
Dominick Walker			
Maria Clark			
Aini Tjauw			

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
JOHN THOMAS			10/8/23
ERIC BERGEMAN			10/8/23
LOW WALKER			10/8/23
Nafesat Hopkins			10/8/23
Yoko Moore			10/8/23
BURNIER FREDERIC			10/8/23
Kandy Frost			10/8/23
EMILIO DIMMITT			10/8/23
Roli Clano			10/8/23
Jupiter Vegaspi			10/09/23
Lyneto Dionio			10/09/23
Roy Favier			10/09/23
ERIC FLORIO			10/09/23
Rolly Amuroa			10/09/23
Eduard Capella			10/09/23
Theo F. Welch			10/11/23

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
John Andrew Fredrick PhD			10 Oct 2023
GERALD AQUINO			10/10/23
Gerry Mendoza			10/10/23
JESS A. VENTURA			10/10/23
Nelson Parrel			10-23
EVANGELINE GUTIERREZ			10/10/23
GEORGE DEL ROSARIO			10/10/23
Myra Del Roser			10/10/23
GERALD ARRADAZA			10/10/23
CHRIS ARRADAZA JR			10/10/23
Tony Lo			10/10/23
Angie Lee			10/10/23
ERESMO RAMOS			10/10/23
JASON WJ HUMPHRIES			6 10/10/23
ROQUELO TAPUCCAR			10/10/23
MARIO LOPEZ MORGANETA			10/10/23

Petition to save all existing tennis courts Griffith-Park 3401 Riverside Drive tennis facilities

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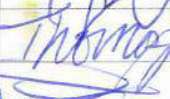






Action petitioned for: We the undersigned, are concerned citizens that the city of Los Angeles does not provide its community with enough tennis courts. We plead not to take any already existing tennis courts away and consider that at peak times there is a shortage of tennis courts.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
HERMINIGILDO URRUTIA JR.			10-10-23
Kem Poston			10-11-23
HOWE WATANABAN			10-11-23
JOE MENDIOVA			10-11-23
CARTER BIRD			10-11-23
Louie Diller			10-11-23
GABE MOFFAT			10-11-23
Zach Fishbain			10-11-23
GABRIEL SWEET			10-11-23
Kenneth Yap			10-11-23
Cecilia Navarrete			10-11-23
Adam Goodley			10-11-23
Maggie Huh			10-11-23
max a. mosesman			10-11-23
Elen Hunanyan			10-11-23
			10/11/23

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Jupiter Legaspi			10-11
Mary Ramos			10-11
Dino Herrmann			10/4/23
Sofia Ramos			10-11
Seke Breedlove			10/11
Heather McClure			10/11
Kyle Wallace			10/11
Jon Sam			10/11
Jeff Israel			10/11
Thomas Williams			10/11
Dwayne Johnson Cochran			10/11
Jose Furman			10/11
Shub Chhola			10/11
C.D. Valdez			10/11

Petition to save all existing tennis courts Griffith-Park 3401 Riverside Drive tennis facilities

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
ALEXIS ROSS			1/23
NILS-ERIK HILLIARD			2/23
YASMINE ROSS			13/23
JUSTIN YU			1/14/23
Dominic Vallejo			10/14/23
Robert Simon			10/11
Tyler Ladin			10/11
Michael Lau			1/23
Min Park			2023 10/16/23
JAS Sham			6/23
Ralph Ruggolo			1/16/23
Surya Sabitchi			10/16/23
Anthony Lee			10/10/23
Tricia Kim			CS 9/13/21
Victor Contin			
Juhi Abshovsky			

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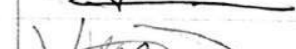

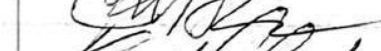










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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Neil Wyzanowski			10/18/2023
Jon Quenard			10/19/2023
Avgan Kehn			10/19/23
Tao Kho			10/19/23
Masako Naito			10/19/23
Yvonne Brossus-Fisher			10-19-23
Dennis Dembeck			10/19/23
Max Buller			10/19/23
Jon Moberg			10/19/23
Rick Mernige			90865-10/22
KAREN TODD			90068
Fousta P. Escobar			CA 90004
John Bennett			90026
Max Pitt			10/22/2023
ERIC DAVENPORT			10/22/2023
GARY WOLF			10-22-23

Petition to save all existing tennis courts Griffith-Park 3401 Riverside Drive tennis facilities

Petition summary and background: The city does not provide currently enough public tennis courts. At peak time people are not able to get a court. No taking away of any existing tennis courts and to find new locations for pickle ball courts. Pickle ball creates a noise nuisance with high decibels levels.

Action petitioned for: We the undersigned, are concerned citizens that the city of Los Angeles does not provide its community with enough tennis courts. We plead not to take any already existing tennis courts away and consider that at peak times there is a shortage of tennis courts.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
SungHo Kim			10-20-23
JOSEF FONG			10-20-23
Geoff Geel			10/20/23
Peter Canavaro			10/20/23
Virginia Lee			10/20/23
OSCAR			10/20/23
Kenny Chang			10/20/23
Ricky Jais <small>Ricky Jais</small>			10/20/23
BIN ZHANG			10/20/23
you			10/20/23
MIKE WONG			10/20/23
Patrick Ding			10/20/23
Kevin Song			10/20/23
Suzie CHANG			10/20/23
David Lim			10/20/23
Christine Kwon-Chang			10/20/23

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Ricardo Ocon			10-21-23
Ronald Young			10-21-23
Bill Woxler			10-21-23
Max Huang			10-21-23
Lisa Du			10-21-23
Kevin Chung			10-21-23
Angela			10-21-23
Angela			10-21-23
David Lui			10-21-23
Diana Thi			10/21/23
ROBERTO OREGU			10/21/23
John Nguyen			10/21/23
J. Nguyen			10/21/23
William Tom			10/21/23
HENRY ANAYA			10-21-23

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
VARUZHAN J. TOMBAKIAN			10/22/23
HABIN LEE			10/24/23
Chason Cole			10/24/23
MICHAEL W. WESTACROFT			10/24/23
MIKE MARIO			10/24/23
DAN JEONG			10/24/23
PAT TAYLOR			10/24/23
Sam Johnson			10/24/23
GIACOMO BICASSI			10/24/23
Avon Adams			10/24/23
Rachel Chow			10/24/23
Lexi Luong			10/24/23
Christine Wan			10/24/23
Alanna Merwin			10/24/23
Carthney Davison			10/24/23
Conner Stevie			10/24/23
Eddy Perez			10/24/23
PHILLIP RODRIGUEZ			10/29/23

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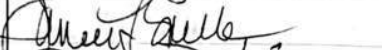

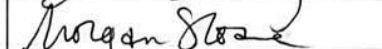









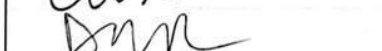
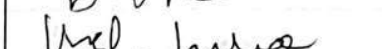
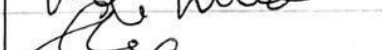
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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Tom Jimbo			10/22/23
VARDUJAN GALFAYAN			10/22/23
PETER Tombaklan			2002?
SERYJUNA HAYOBYAN			10/22/23
HRACH V			10-22-23
HAROUT HARIMO			10-22-23
Sedraik MANEKYAN			10-22-23
Danny Martin			10-22-23
Bonhan Chris Berbenyan			10-22-23
Michelle Tesoro			10-22-23
Bryan Daly			10/22/23
GAMIE DENNIG			10/22/23
KARAN SONI			10/22/23
Terrri White			10/22/23
Diane Quan			10/22/23
Robert Carfagna			10/22/23

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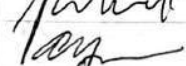













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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
JILL Rogosheske			10/22/23 ~
JAMIE SMITH			10/22/23
DAN DULING			10/22/23
Morgan Sloane			10/22/23
Kari Levine			10/22/23
Kevin Castech			10/22/23
MATT OLIVER			22-23
OSCAR LAGRESA			10/22/23
Lucia Lagresa			10/22/23
Carla Gardini			10/22/23
ZAC GREENBAUM			"
Alexandra Kovach			10/22/23
CRISTINA PADRON			10/22/23
STANA ROCHFORD			10/22/23
Vicki Weinstein			4 10/22/23
ORDOCHA RACE			10/22/23

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Alfonso Sng			2/23
JOSE DIAS			2/23
J.R. Mall			2/23
ART PAGO			1/23
Victor Coates			2/23
TODD ANDERSON			27
Kate Novak			2/23
PETER OWEN			12/23
MIGUEL MURILLO			1331 10/23
SARAI SOSA			42 10/27
LUNG LAM			7-23
Adam Briggs			7/2023
CHRIS HAWKS			0/27/2023
STEVEN HAWKS			10/27/2023
FRANK YOSHIKANE			202 10/27/23
Jeff Price			0/27/2023

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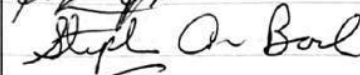


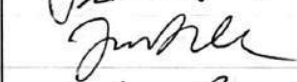
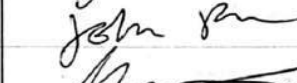










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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
DONNIE APONTE			
Dave Bullen			
Matthew Lyons			
KIRK FILLEY			
Pete Foley			
CHRISTINA BLACKWELLER			
Sean Graham			
Luichi Kojima			
Will Slanger-Gisunt			
James Redmond			
CAUGUS TOPE			
Jarrod Ehrlich			
BROOKS JACKSON			
Monica Sanchez			
Branch Fox			
Doug Armstrong			

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Kirk Williams			10/28/23
Stephen Bock			10/28/23
Andy TCO			10/28/23
Jimmy Zhang			10/28/23
Bao Le			10/28/23
Jonathan Quach			10/28/23
John Pham			10-28-23
Mark Yu			10/28/23
Richard Freeman			10/28/23
Ross RINSBERT			10/28/23
Amanda Ng			10/28/23
Jessica Helm			10/28/23
Maggie Daniels			10/28/23
Mariah Zelada			10/28/23
JONATHAN BLESER			10/28/23
CHRIS DAVIS			10/28/23

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
HAROLD HADFIELD			22nd Oct
Rebecca Carpenter			10-22-23
Sophia Maguire			10-22-23
Alexandria Rigel			0-22-23
JAKE SCHREIER			0-22-23
Josiah Tarek			0-22-23
Ramsey Fong			10/22/23
Blaine Williams			6/22/23
DAVID BEARLEY			5/22/23
Alex Kern			10/22/23
Jim Towner			10/21/23
John Niebohr			10-21-23
Tony Wise			213-503-4441
JAYSON MEKALA			10-22-23
Jeremy Forsyth			10-22-23
Benny Walden			10-22-23

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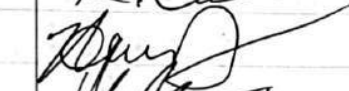

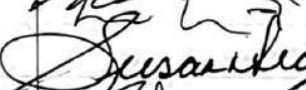

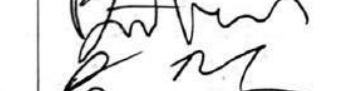
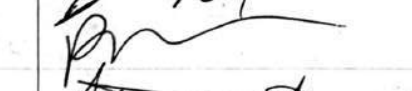




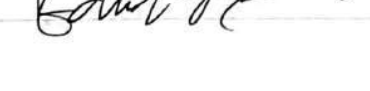




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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
JOSEPH DAVIS			10/28/23
Ryan Miorelli			1/28/23
Daniel Abbott			9:00 AM, CA 91030
John Placencia			1/28/23
PAUL RIVERA			93520
Anthony Cady			91406
Tony Bui			10/29/2023
JAMES BERNSTEIN			10/29/2023
Charlie Chen			10/29/2023
Emma Zhao			10/29/2023
ANDY COTTA			10/29/2023
Joelyn Sherman			10/29/23
Guillermo Reyes			10/29/23
John Choi			10/29/23
CAROLINE PHAM			
Max Olson			

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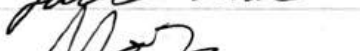


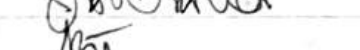






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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
JAMES Kang			0/28/23
Ray Casal			0/28/23
Amanda Darouie			0/28/23
Ron Misetich			10/28/23
Milke Wahl			10/28/23
Suan Pabb Alvarez			10/28/23
SUSAN DEAR			0/28/23
Jorge Sanchez			0/28/23
Delaney Forvey			0/28/23
James Redmond			10/28/23
Petsy Marshall			10/28/23
ANDREW ROGERS			10/28/23
American Anderson			10/28/23
PHIL RASEWSKI			10/29/23
Angela Lie			0/29/23
Whitney Marquez			1/29/23
Edmund Rothfus			0/29/23

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Denon Kane			10/29
Luke Stojcic			10/29
Scotty Cadenhead			10/29
Oswaldo Rocha			10/29
Daniel Peng			10/29
Javier Nava			10/29/23
Matt Baird			10/29
LARRY AZARVA			11/15/23
JESSICA LUNA			11/15/23
Brian Tenozza			11/15/23
Sean Leahy			11/15/23
Doug Woods			11/15
Austin Logan			11/15
Matthew Blum			11/15
Chris Al			A
Jennine Belham			

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Lea Zhang			10-29-2023
Robert Johnson			10-29-2023
Mike Chou			10/29/23
Brett Foreman			10/31/23
Chili Sastry			10/31/2023
Debbie Wei			10/31/2023
Charles Kim			10/31/23
Patrick Parao			10/31/23
Dash Conner			10/31/23
Clint Walsh			4
Jenny Roloff			11/1/23
Lindsey Newman			11/1/23
MAILI ENAY			11/1/23
Austia Santiago			11/1/23
Laraine Thomas			11/1/23
Bas Tiele			11/1/23

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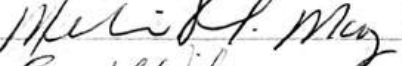


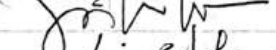
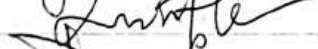

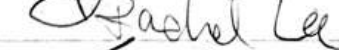

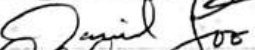

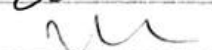

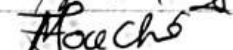
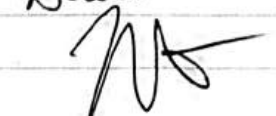
Action petitioned for: We the undersigned, are concerned citizens that the city of Los Angeles does not provide its community with enough tennis courts. We plead not to take any already existing tennis courts away and consider that at peak times there is a shortage of tennis courts.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Ron Rosegard			1-15-23
Michael Hunter			1-15-2023
Michael Parzide			11-15-2023
Bear Dupras			1/15/23
Sara Kelman			1/15/23
Nyles Lumb			11/15
JEFF CURRY			11-15
Jonathan Amico			9/15/21 11/16
David McCants			11/16/23
Jon Miller			11/16/23
Alyson Joyner			30/11/16/23
PATRICK LUMB			11/16/23
JACKMEAD			11/24/23
Marc Jackson			11/27/23
Jennifer Lee			01 11/27/23
Poppy Bartlett			11/27/23

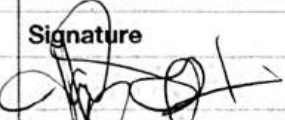





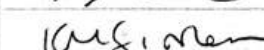
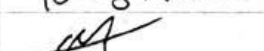
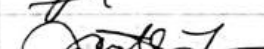


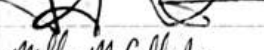
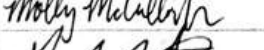



Petition to save all existing tennis courts Griffith-Park 3401 Riverside Drive tennis facilities

Petition summary and background: The city does not provide currently enough public tennis courts. At peak time people are not able to get a court. No taking away of any existing tennis courts and to find new locations for pickle ball courts. Pickle ball creates a noise nuisance with high decibels levels.

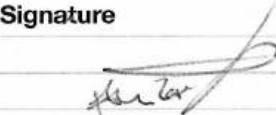

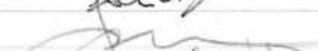







Action petitioned for: We the undersigned, are concerned citizens that the city of Los Angeles does not provide its community with enough tennis courts. We plead not to take any already existing tennis courts away and consider that at peak times there is a shortage of tennis courts.

Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
J. FARMER			12/2/2023
VICKIE OPUNUI FARMER			12/2/2023
MELVIN C. MAY			12/2/23
Barry L Wilson			12/2/23
Steve Calhoun			12/9/23
JUSTIN LEE			12-09-23
LINT LEE			12/09/23
Dennis Lee			12-09-23
Rachel Lee			12-9-23
CARLOS SERRANO			12-15-23
Daniel Loo			12/16/23
CHRISTINE CHEN			12/16/2023
Rid Hiraki			12/16/23
DAVINA H/SU			12/16/23
Martene Fouché			12/16/23
JOSH KARTZCH			12/16/23

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Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Hanna Szabo			12/13/23
Alexandra Strokal			12/13/23
Kristen Qualley			12/13/23
Colby Berlin Hankens			12/13/23
NICK OST			12/13/23
NICOLAS KELLEY			
KRIS INGRAM			12/13/23
Arin Ajamian			12/13/23
JONATHAN LYNN			12/13/23
Bill Davis			12/13/23
BRIAN MINNITI			12/13
MOLLY MCCULLOUGH			12/14
Adriana Flowers			12/14
Caleb Ray Robertson			12/14
Max Mandel			12/14
CORY MARR			12/14

Petition to save all existing tennis courts Griffith-Park 3401 Riverside Drive tennis facilities

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Action petitioned for:	We the undersigned, are concerned citizens that the city of Los Angeles does not provide its community with enough tennis courts. We plead not to take any already existing tennis courts away and consider that at peak times there is a shortage of tennis courts.		
Printed Name	Signature	Address	Date
Flourence Lafite			11/5/23
Ana Milic			11/5/23
Janelle Brown			11/12/23
Samuel N. Douglas			10/18/23
Peter Meyers			11/17/23
Myra			11/17/23
Jayson Miller			11/13/24
Cloe Mastri			11/13/24
Bryan Kammgh			11/13/24
Vincent P.ozzi			11/15/24



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Concern Regarding Tennis Court Conversion to Pickleball Courts

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 3:08 PM

To: Kevin Tijerino

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:57 PM Kevin Tijerino

wrote:

Dear Department of Parks and Recreation,

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed conversion of existing tennis courts into pickleball courts within our community. While I appreciate the growing popularity of pickleball and the desire to accommodate diverse recreational activities, I strongly believe that converting tennis courts is not the best solution and may have unintended consequences for our community.

Tennis courts are a vital resource that serve players of all ages and skill levels, offering a sport that is deeply rooted in tradition and promotes physical fitness, strategy, and lifelong engagement. Reducing the number of tennis courts could limit access for those who rely on them for regular practice, recreation, and competition.

Additionally, converting tennis courts to pickleball courts may lead to conflicts between the two groups of players, potentially creating a divide within the community rather than fostering inclusivity. It may be more effective to explore alternative solutions, such as repurposing underutilized spaces or creating new pickleball courts in areas where they will not displace existing recreational activities.

As someone who values the diverse recreational opportunities our parks provide, I urge you to consider options that address the needs of pickleball enthusiasts without diminishing resources for tennis players. Open forums, surveys, or community discussions could help identify solutions that serve everyone fairly.

Thank you for taking my concerns into account. I would be happy to participate in any discussions or planning efforts to help find a balanced approach that benefits the entire community.

Sincerely,
Kevin Tijerino



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Amendment 1 to Agreement Number 3947;

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 8:42 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, Dec 2, 2024 at 12:24 PM M. Halliday

wrote:

Dear RAC Commissioners:

Amendment 1 to Agreement Number 3947, first paragraph of Section 3 entitled "Premises", reads in part:

"The First Amendment also expands the facility's premises to include Easter Field, a field within Griffith Park generally utilized for over-flow LAEC parking and event staging purposes."

"The use of Easter Field shall be limited to use for overflow horse trailer parking during events or parking for basecamps for filming activity; any other use of Easter Field must be pre-approved by the RAP General Manager or his/her designee."

I am writing to request you modify Amendment 1 to Agreement Number 3947, first paragraph of Section 3 entitled "Premises".

The proposed language ignores the current Equine usages of Easter Field; and they should be included. These usages include but are not limited to:

- Exercising of horses, both in saddle and from the ground;
- Using the Field as a horse trail to other points within Griffith Park
- Coaching of riders, both during horse shows and at other times

Additionally, Easter Field should be restricted to horses with the exception of horse trailers or cinema related trucks and cars with issued daily permits only. Two or three wheeled vehicles should NOT be permitted, including scooters, bicycles, and tricycles, motorized or not, on Easter Field.

Many Glendale and Burbank Rancho residents, as well as LAEC boarders use Easter field daily - to work horses, lunging, riding, and hand walking. Multiple trainers use this area to give lessons, riding, roping, rails, and even low-level jumping. For those who have horses in the neighborhood, Easter Field is the pathway to the perimeter, the swinging bridge and Griffith Park.

Respectfully,

Mari Halliday



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Agenda No. 24-259

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 11:00 AM

To: William Deeb

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 Mon, Dec 2, 2024 at 6:35 PM William Deeb

wrote:

To whom it may concern.

I am writing this email in firm opposition to the passage of this item. Allowing the inclusion of Easter Field into this management agreement would potentially displace hundreds of horses who use this area for riding, exercise, walking and other activities. This field has been used by the community and for the benefit of the community for decades, including Equine Community events for Easter, Halloween, etc. Transferring management under this would create a huge disruption in the use and access of this facility by the entire community. This would be done to allow for filming companies and events to come in and use the facility for parking and staging. I envision that what used to happen maybe once or twice a year to happen as frequently as they can get them to come in an film and therefore opening up the City to immense liability from suits to displaced people, people trying to use the facility which the staging and vehicles are there (creating a huge potential liability of mixing horses with cars, trucks, vans, staging equipment, etc. which dramatically increases the chance of accidents and injuries for all parties). I genuinely hope you reconsider this and allow Easter Field to continue to be a benefit to the entire community.

Sincerely,

William S. Deeb, equine owner and Glendale Rancho Property Owner



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Easter Field

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:02 AM

To: Deborah Fidler

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 3:48 AM Deborah Fidler

wrote:

The use of this COMMUNITY Field (Easter Field) should continue to serve the COMMUNITY.

Any decisions about the use of this Field should be put on hold until an historical, environmental and community impact study is conducted.

The overreach is astonishing! To take away community use for parking and events? There are homes that abut the Field. These homes have horses and it's their only access out. The Field is used by equestrians, dog walkers, people walking and living in the community.

Thank you,

Deborah Fidler



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Regarding the LAEC and the use of Easter field.

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:20 AM

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 2:22 PM Christine Ricci

wrote:

To whom it may concern;

This an an absurd overreach from the LAEC. I am a property owner in the area. This field and public space is used by residents and horsbackers alike. people will get hurt with the activity they are proposing, riders will get hurt, city will get sued and there may become limited access to the trails in that area surround its field. I use the parks and red to please stop this from happening. It's vital for riders and horses safety alike. They use the word "control" in this amendment. The precludes EVERYONE including parks and rec's in having a voice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Christine Ricci

[Sent from the all new AOL app for iOS](#)



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Public Comment for 12/5 Rec and Parks Commissioners Mtg

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:22 AM

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 6:41 PM Catie Rossi

wrote:

Hello,

My name is Catie Rossi and I am a Burbank Rancho resident, with my horse in my backyard. I am writing to address the proposed amendment to expand LAEC to include Easter Field. **This proposition has significant potential to displace current land use, and must not be approved.**

My personal experience as a user of this land includes a safe place to exercise horses not boarded at LAEC. Many backyard horse-keepers like myself have horses whose health and safety depends upon continued free and unrestricted access to this land, without any alternate non-explicit equestrian uses going on simultaneously. Many local horses who are too sensitive for the fast paced environment of LAEC are more at ease at Easter Field. We cannot lose this safe resource for our horses.

This proposition parallels displacement trends across Rancho community horse keeping where options for boarding and safe public equestrian resources are growing scarce. Examples include the many closures of public boarding stables, and the development of condos which will inhibit safe access to the Mariposa Bridge and Griffith Park trails/Martinez Arena. The loss of Easter Field's current land use could threaten a functional elimination of this historic and special residential horse keeping community that is bigger than just LAEC. Many community stakeholders who are not affiliated with LAEC but depend upon Easter field land use may even be unaware that their continued safe access to community equine exercise facilities is currently in jeopardy.

Despite ASM Global's stated commitment to honor the local horse keeping community, the management implementation has given me pause and concern that predates this amendment proposal. I formerly depended upon LAEC facility ride-ons to exercise my horse prior to the management transition, and after multiple unanswered inquiries, was informed by security that ASM Global does not currently allow ride-ons. I did not see mention of implementation of a monthly ride on program on ASM global's list of upcoming projects either. **It would be seriously helpful and a show of support if ride-ons could be reinstated such that local backyard horse-keepers could register, presenting any and all all necessary veterinary information to be able to utilize the facilities again.** To be clear, I am suggesting a return to former access to LAEC facilities as well as unchanged use of Easter Field. I am not suggesting adding ride-ons while changing Easter field land use.

This meeting is at 9am, which is during work hours for most, so I hope that you will give emailed comments the same weight as those expressed in person. At the very least, **I urge that this issue be re-evaluated at a later meeting, and not wrapped as a side note into the meeting about current LAEC board operations.** Griffith Park was entrusted to the public as a continued resource for continued historical public recreational uses, including equestrian use, and I am asking that you honor this legacy. Thank you.

Warmly,

Catie Rossi
Burbank Rancho Resident



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: ASM proposal for Easter Field West of Bette Davis Park

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:23 AM

To: EQLuxe Magazine

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 6:51 PM EQLuxe Magazine

wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

As a Glendale Rancho multiple horse owner resident on western/riverside area I highly urge you to reject ASM Global's proposed contract extension and interest in acquiring o Easter Field (dirt public space west adjacent of Bette Davis Park)

Easter Field is a public space where our barns and homes sit adjacent to the open arena allowing equestrians to access the field to ride, socialize, and exercise our horses. The field is also the safest rideable trail to the bridge which grants equestrians access to the LAEC perimeter trails and the tunnels to Griffith Park's equestrian trails and the only other public arena in the area, Martinez which is kept by Parks and Rec.

Easter Field is used daily by the neighborhood's riding community and has hosted numerous Easter Sunday services on horseback, Halloween costume contests on horseback and is the ONLY public space for anyone West of Victory and East of Mariposa not boarding at LAEC. Hence, the problem with ASM Globals Proposal and obvious conflict of interest. By giving them run of Easter Field it will only serve their purposes not the community which is using it. Sporadic Parking usage for special events and overflow will also cause added dust, dirt and problematic traffic situations for those homes and our pools which flank the area as well. Taking away this field would be taking away the only space for equestrians who do not board at LAEC to easily exercise their horses.

Please, I implore you to deny this proposal in its entirety and reject ASM'S current proposal to further their "cash cow agenda" which has become LAEC.

Best,

Shelli Wright
Editor in Chief



Response to Board Revenue and ASM Global's Operational Oversight

1 message

Taj Sullivan

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 2:37 PM

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

Dear Board of Commissioners,

Thank you for continuing Board Report 24-259, to allow for a full review of all revenue streams.

In my previous email, I had included response to the line items that ASM Global presented regarding their support for a board increase.

Additionally, I have addressed Joe Saliaces' comments focused on revenue, as outlined below along with additional revenue opportunities that ASM Global is failing to capitalize on.

While board revenue is certainly important, there needs to be a plan as the Commission said, and part of that plan, as far as boarding fees is concerned is some certainty of costs. We had certainty of costs when the board fees were linked to the CPI, and occurred at the same time each year. What we as boarders, and I am sure you do not want to do, is have this same discussion each year.

Below are the key concerns and observations:

Overall Concerns:

1. Vacant Stalls:

- A number of rentable stalls remain empty and locked, representing an untapped revenue source.
- Several potential boarders have attempted to contact management over the last six months without receiving responses to calls or emails. This lack of communication is not only frustrating for customers but also reflects poorly on management's ability to engage with potential revenue streams.

2. Potential Boarders Leaving Due to Increased Fees:

- While Mr. Saliaces stated that a board increase would not cause people to leave, this claim is inaccurate. Many current boarders will be forced to leave if the board increase is implemented.
- While an increase in board fees can be understood, the added charge for feeding cubes is excessive. Per Mr. Saliaces' comments, which suggest the fee increase is aimed at those who do not use cubes, the real question was whether there will be a discount for those who purchase their own feed. Charging for cubes while offering no clear alternative for hay storage and feeding is a poorly thought-out plan. How will the hay be stored? Who will feed it? These questions have not been addressed.

3. Omission of Boarding-Related Revenue Streams:

- ASM Global's financial reporting omits significant boarding-related revenue streams, such as:
 - Ride-on fees
 - Trailer space rental
 - Polo seasonal boarding
 - Trainer and TES fees per horse
- This omission distorts the financial picture, leading to an inaccurate representation of revenue and profit.

4. Event-Related Revenue Streams:

- ASM Global has failed to generate substantial revenue from events. A comprehensive audit would reveal the underperformance in this area.

- While they claim that they needed to address operational issues before bringing in events, this is not true. Under previous management, numerous events, including weddings, film shoots, and corporate functions, were held regularly with no major capital investment in event spaces.
- There hasn't been one wedding this year.
- Where are the holiday parties?
- Where are the production rentals?
- ASM Global's reliance on sponsorships for events, such as those held at the Greek Theatre, is misplaced. The venue's appeal to corporate sponsors is weak, and the lack of a clear strategy here has led to missed opportunities.
- Their request for management over Easter Field, a recreational space, just proves they are grasping for anything to add to their bottom line. They have yet to have an event that even warrants spill-over parking.

5. Spending on Maintenance and Remodeling:

- A full audit of maintenance spending is required to gain clarity on expenses versus profit.
- Initial investments, such as remodeling the ASM Global office and maintenance facilities, raise questions about prioritization.
- The investment for the Blenheim show, despite no signed contract for future events, is particularly concerning.
- The ABC barn remodel is significantly behind schedule, with only half of C barn completed. There are growing concerns that there will not be enough funds left to complete the B and A barns. Furthermore, the DEF barns remain neglected, and a site visit would confirm this oversight.
- The Saloon and Rein Café remodels, which commenced prior to securing a proper liquor license, are another issue. Without a functioning liquor license or a plan for operation, the Saloon remains unused, representing a wasted investment.
- Additionally, the Rein Café sits empty. Renting this space to a third-party restaurant may be a viable solution, given the lack of a clear programming schedule for these facilities.

6. Staff Audit:

- Given the operational challenges, a staff audit is necessary to determine whether current staffing levels and roles are appropriate.
- For example:
 - **Catering:** With no active catering business and no liquor license for the Saloon, it's worth questioning whether the number of staff in this area should be reduced.
 - **Events:** If events are not a current focus, the necessity of a full-time event coordinator should be re-evaluated.
 - **Security:** The current security contractor, Allied Security, may not be the best use of funds, as their high turnover rate is concerning. Aside from one longstanding employee, Jesse, who engages with boarders, the guards appear to lack knowledge about horses and cannot identify distress in animals. They do not patrol the aisles effectively and merely make rounds in a golf cart, scanning QR codes. This raises concerns about the safety of boarders' horses. Additionally, there should be someone responsible for ensuring that stall gates are locked.

In conclusion, while ASM Global is focused on increasing board fees, they are overlooking critical areas for revenue growth and operational efficiency. The absence of events, the lack of engagement with prospective clients, and unaddressed operational inefficiencies are areas that demand immediate attention. I strongly urge the Board to consider these concerns in the upcoming discussions regarding the board increase and ASM Global's overall management strategy.

Thank you for your time and attention to these matters. I look forward to the opportunity for a more thorough review.

Taj Sullivan



Re: Board Report 24-259

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:06 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, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:01 PM Taj Sullivan

wrote:

Dear Board of Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of the LAEC boarders to formally request that the board **rejects** the proposed amendment to the ASM Global contract for a 15-month extension and **rejects** the expansion of their services to include Easter Field.

Opposition to the Proposed Assignment of Easter Field to LAEC for Parking Lot Use:

- For the proposed assignment of Easter Field to the Los Angeles Equestrian Center (LAEC) for use as a parking lot, as outlined in the proposal under item 24-259. I urge you to **vote "No"** or **continue the discussion to a future date** for further review and community input.
- The proposal includes converting Easter Field for overflow trailers during LAEC horse shows, as well as using it for movie/TV base camps without requiring permits from Recreation & Park. Additionally, the proposal could expand the parking lot's use to include non-equestrian events. This plan would have serious implications for local equestrians, pedestrians, and the broader community who rely on Easter Field as a vital public recreation space.
- Easter Field is heavily used every day by local equestrians, pedestrians, and various community groups, including minority populations, who meet and engage in recreational activities there. The loss of this space to a parking lot would displace these established user groups and reduce access to this important neighborhood amenity.
- The proposal does not appear to have included adequate community consultation or stakeholder input, which is critical for decisions that impact local residents and public spaces.
- If additional parking is needed for LAEC events, appropriate permits should be obtained for temporary use of Easter Field, rather than permanently expanding the facility's operations into an area that falls outside its original scope of management.

Opposition To The Proposed Contract Extension:

ASM Global is seeking a 15-month extension to their contract. This request is unwarranted for the following reasons:

- **Contractual Obligation:** The original contract was for two years, and ASM Global was aware of the timeline when they agreed to manage the facility. With a 15-month delay to their start date, did that reduce the two year timeframe or their contract? it is important to understand how this impacted ASM's ability to meet the agreed-upon objectives within the given timeframe. e.
- **Issues with Facility Management and Communication:**
 - **Horse Rental Operations:** The proposal to reintroduce horse rentals was raised in the first boarder meeting and should have been a priority for generating income. It is unclear when this will happen, or where the horses will be housed. This issue should have been addressed earlier and should not be delayed further.
 - **Continuity of Service to Boarders:** The implementation of QR codes for maintenance requests and the Barn Manager for invoicing are welcome additions. However, boarders still feel that communication with management is insufficient. The majority of interaction happens via the weekly newsletter, with little face-

to-face communication or proactive outreach from management. Boarders feel less prioritized than other groups, such as the horse show participants or training barns. Effective management of a facility like LAEC requires in-person communication and relationship-building on the ground.

- **Communication and Engagement:** There should be a designated point of contact between boarders and management. If no staff member is available for this role, an approved boarder could be enlisted as a liaison to facilitate communication and address concerns, questions, and complaints. This would provide a direct, ongoing channel of communication between boarders and the management team.

3. Facility and Event Management: Are ASM Global's performance in improving and managing the LAEC facilities meeting expectations?

- **Capital Improvements:** Significant investments have been made in the Equidome, the saloon, show barns, and trainer arenas. However, little has been done in DEF barns.
- **Rein Cafe:** If ASM Global cannot make the Rein Cafe a successful venue, and the lack of a liquor license is an issue, it may be best to list the space on a commercial leasing platform like Loopnet and find a suitable restaurant or operator.
- **Event Spaces:** Spaces like the Derby Room and Little White House are underutilized, with the Derby Room currently serving as a storage space for chairs. The idea that "if you build it, they will come" no longer applies. The spaces are built, but there is a lack of events. For instance, under the previous management of Calamigos, weddings were booked nearly every weekend, often with multiple events. There has been no evidence of similar success with ASM Global. Why is there no winter wedding booked this year? Where are the corporate meetings? The holiday parties? The filming events?
- **Underutilization of Banquet and Event Spaces:** The event spaces at the LAEC have not been booked, despite significant investment in their refurbishment. It is troubling that even after substantial upgrades, these spaces remain underused. The absence of revenue-generating events points to a failure in the strategic marketing or lack of promotion.
- **ABC Barns:** The renovation of the ABC Barns was a larger undertaking than anticipated, and it resulted in the displacement of horses and trainers for months. To date only half of C barn has been completed with no indication of when A and B can begin.

Underused Stalls and Lack of Boarder Communication: Many stalls remain empty, and prospective boarders have reported difficulty in reaching someone at LAEC to inquire about availability. This is a major missed opportunity for revenue and speaks to the customer service provided by ASM Global.

Thank you,

Taj Sullivan



Re: BOARDER RESPONSE TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:45 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, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:16 AM Taj Sullivan

wrote:

Dear Board of Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of the LAEC boarders to formally request a comprehensive audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, as well as the corresponding documentation, in response to their proposed board increase.

In light of the lack of accurate and transparent information provided to date, we respectfully request that the commissioners delay any decision on this proposal until all relevant information is confirmed and made available.

We reject the proposed board increase and the 15-month contract extension for the following reasons:

Overall Concerns:

- Unreliable Comparables:** Many of the "comparable" barns cited by ASM Global cannot be reasonably considered as true market comparables.
- Market Positioning:** LAEC is not currently below the market rate in this region, and thus an increase in board fees is unwarranted based on regional trends.
- Fee Increases vs. Service Reductions:** The proposed board fee increase comes at a time when certain services are being reduced, further exacerbating the value proposition for boarders.
- Unresolved Feed & Feeding Component:** The feed and feeding component has not been agreed upon, nor has it been thoroughly thought through. This, in combination with the proposed increase, pushes the overall rate increase close to 30%, which we find unreasonable.
- Omission of Boarding-Related Revenue Streams:** ASM Global's profit accounting report omits several boarding-related revenue streams (ride ons, trailer space rental, polo seasonal boarding, Trainer & TES fees per horse), which significantly affects the accuracy of the financial picture presented.
- Event-Related Revenue Streams:** Revenue from event-related activities has not come to fruition as anticipated, which calls into question the financial health of the operation.
- Deferred Maintenance:** Insufficient progress has been made to address the years of deferred maintenance. Another board fee increase cannot be justified until a clearer plan for addressing these issues is presented.
- Priority Spending on Maintenance:** There needs to be a priority review of maintenance investments, particularly for show barns and ABC barns, before any increase in fees can be considered. A thorough budget review is needed to ensure that these investments made were indeed needed and within budget.
- Saloon & Rein Café Remodel:** The remodel of the Saloon & Rein Café, which has been undertaken prior to the proper liquor license being in place, undermines the viability of the project and further calls into question the facility's overall planning and financial management.

Areas in Need of Review

Accountability & Oversight

1. **Budget Review:** We request a thorough review of the operating budget and supporting documentation, particularly the \$2,915,981 in reported expenses. How are these expenses being managed? Who is overseeing the budget, and how are expenses being monitored and validated? An audit of these expenses is necessary.
 2. **ABC Barn Expenses:** What has been spent thus far on C barn? C barn remains incomplete. Are there remaining funds allocated for the completion of B and A barns?
 3. **Saloon & Rein Café:** A significant investment was made to remodel the Saloon and Rein Café, yet there is no liquor license, no operational plan, and no programming schedule. This has resulted in a wasted investment, and Rein Cafe should be listed for lease as a restaurant if ASM Global cannot operate it as originally planned.
 4. **Staffing Needs:** An audit of staffing levels is required. Some positions may be better suited for contracted staff rather than salaried employees. Specifically, there is concern about the staffing levels for catering and event management given the lack of events, as well as the high turnover rate with security staff. We also question the efficacy of the current security provider, Allied Security, considering the high turnover rate and the lack of horse-related expertise among guards.
 5. **Expense Management:** The fiscal deficit at LAEC is not caused by boarding fees; it is due to poor budget management and investments that have yielded little to no return. For example, the investment in Blenheim was a significant expense has ASM Global converted it into profitable events? Similarly, the Saloon was designed as an event space and neighborhood bar, but cannot operate as such due to the lack of a liquor license.
-

Fiscal Impact & Projected Revenue

1. **Revenue Projections:** ASM Global's report projects a revenue increase of \$1,000,000 per year if all vacant stalls are occupied at the proposed rates. This projection places undue pressure on boarders, assuming that the primary source of income will come from boarding. However, ASM Global has been unsuccessful in generating income from other potential revenue streams like corporate events, filming, and weddings. This is a critical failure in their management of the facility as a whole.
 2. **Manure Disposal:** ASM Global continues to pay a company to remove manure, whereas previous management generated income by having it picked up by a fertilizer company. Why is this change occurring, and is it financially prudent? Additionally, there are companies that would take the manure as is without curing for free, which raises questions about the cost-effectiveness of ASM Global's current approach.
 3. **Revenue Streams Omitted:** Several existing revenue streams, such as trainers' fees, trailer space rentals, and ride-on fees, were omitted from ASM Global's profit accounting report. These should be factored into any financial analysis of the facility's profitability.
 4. **Facility Issues:** Many stalls at LAEC remain empty, and at least three potential boarders have not received responses to their inquiries in the past six months. This indicates a failure in communication and customer service, further exacerbating the financial strain on the facility.
-

Board Increase

1. **Justification for Increase:** We have seen several board fee increases over the years, yet we continue to see little improvement in the barns, particularly in the DEF barns. A reasonable rate increase may be acceptable, but the proposed increases lack solid justification and supporting documentation. The claim that boarders have agreed to the removal of cubes per feedback in board meetings is unfounded—no such agreement has been made.
 2. **Unreasonable Fee Structure:** The proposed rate increases are problematic, particularly for DEF barns, where the cost for a double stall is proposed to rise to \$1,095/month when factoring in the additional fee for cubes. This will price many boarders out of the facility, which raises the question of whether this is the intended outcome. Additionally, comparing LAEC's fees to private, or membership-based facilities like Flintridge or The Paddock is inappropriate, as their amenities and operating models differ significantly.
-

Amenities

1. **Access to Amenities:** Many amenities, such as locked round pens and private sun pens, are not available to all boarders. Additionally, trainers often have priority in the arenas, which limits access for others. The Equidome is underutilized and controlled by trainers without proper oversight, scheduling, or rule enforcement from management.
 2. **Event Spaces:** ASM Global has stated that event spaces are in disrepair, but under the previous management (Calamigos), these spaces were rented out consistently for weddings, corporate meetings, and other events. There is no reason why this should not continue, especially given the facility's prime location and existing infrastructure. The lack of winter bookings and the underutilization of the banquet rooms (e.g., Chivari chair storage in the Derby Room - first banquet room) highlights a failure in event space management.
-

Next Steps

In light of these concerns, we respectfully ask the commissioners to delay any decisions regarding the proposed board increase and ASM Global's 15-month contract extension until a full and independent audit has been conducted. It is essential that all financial, staffing, and facility issues be thoroughly reviewed to ensure that boarders are not unfairly burdened with the financial shortcomings of ASM Global's management.

Furthermore, we strongly recommend issuing an RFP for event management, as ASM Global has not shown ability to effectively run the non-horse events side of LAEC. Previous management, under Calamigos, was able to turn a profit in this area and effectively manage events, while ASM Global has failed to do so.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to a thorough review and a constructive resolution to these concerns.

Sincerely,

Taj Sullivan



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Comment Letter December 5, 2024, Agenda Item 24-259_ Amendment No. 1 tp Agreement 3947

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 11:15 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, Dec 4, 2024 at 10:48 AM

wrote:

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Gabel Luddy

December 4, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Los Angeles City Recreation and Parks Department
Office of the Board of Commissioners
P.O. Box 86328
Los Angeles, CA 90086-0328

RE: Agenda Item 24-259 December 05, 2024 Board Meeting - Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 3947 with ASM Global Area Management, LLC for the operation and management of the Los Angeles Equestrian Center

Dear Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners:

I am writing to recommend that the RAP Board of Commissioners DISAPPROVE the proposed Easter Field Expansion. That proposed annexation of additional public park land to LAEC-ASM is not transparent, it is unacceptably vaguely illustrated, and was recommended without any community engagement with Burbank and Glendale Rancho equestrian residents who have used that public park land for years.

My neighbors and I have never been engaged by ASM in a community process after they assumed operational management on February 1, 2024 even though it is a requirement of the current contract; and was supposed to have begun within 30 days of commencement of operations (see Condition #39). This is deeply disappointing. The proposed recommendation to annex Easter Field is unsupportable on its face.

As documented in this letter, the City of Los Angeles is incorrectly relying on a California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) Categorical Exemption pursuant to Article 19, Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines and Article III, and Section 1, Class 1 of the City CEQA Guidelines, for its environmental clearance of proposed Amendment No. 1 to Agreement 3947 (“Amendment” or “Project”) with ASM Global Area Management, LLC (“ASM”) for the operation and management of the Los Angeles Equestrian Center (“LAEC” or “Equestrian Center”).¹

Amendment No. 1 expands the facilities included under the Agreement to add an area of land known as Easter Field, which has not previously been part of the Equestrian Center lease. Easter Field is a field within Griffith Park used by the community for the exercising of horses as well as other recreational activities. Amendment No. 1 not only provides for the leasing the

¹ See Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Board Report No. 24-259 dated December 05, 2024 available at: <https://www.laparks.org/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2024/dec05/24-259.pdf>

Easter Field land to ASM, but allows for ASM to use the land for “overflow horse trailer parking during events or parking for basecamps for filming activity; any other use of Easter field must be pre-approved by the RAP General Manager or his/her designee.”²

As shown in Attachment A, the Easter Field Property is zoned OS-1XL-H-RIO and is within the River Implementation Overlay District. Easter Field is:³

- A public park regularly used for equestrian activities by members of the public.
- Easter Field is adjacent to Bette Davis Park.
- Easter Field is part of Griffith Park, which is Los Angeles City Historical-Cultural Monument #942.
- According to the City, the Easter Field parcel is subject to Historic Preservation Review, yet the Board Report does not indicate that this required review has occurred for the proposed Project.
- Easter Field is in an Urban Agriculture Incentive Zone;
- Easter Field is in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone;
- The parcel, that Easter Field is a part of, contains a watercourse as shown in Figure 1 which runs along the southern edge of Easter Field;



FIGURE 1 – PROXIMITY TO WATER COURSES

- Easter Field is in a Methane Zone.

² Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement No. 3947 For The Oversight and Management of the Los Angeles Equestrian Center. Attachment to Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners Board Report No. 24-259 dated December 05, 2024.

³ See **Attachment A** – City ZIMAS Report for the Project parcel.

- The parcel, that Easter Field is a part of, is in the Santa Monica Mountains Zone;
- The parcel, that Easter Field is a part of, has been identified as having Biological Resource Potential by the City. See Attachment B for a sampling of biological resources easily observed in the area.
- The parcel, that Easter Field, is a part of has been identified as having Mountain Lion Potential by the City.

These are unusual circumstances which result in the Project's potential to result in significant environmental impacts, yet the City is improperly processing the Project using a Categorical Exemption. For example, the nature of the proposed uses could result in impacts to biological resources in the Easter Field area. Introduction of a large number of vehicles onto a field in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone could result in an increase in fire risk in the area. Introduction of these uses into a park regularly used for equestrian activities could result in safety impacts due to car/truck/horse conflicts. Introduction of a large number of trucks in proximity to the watercourse and LA River could result in increased polluted runoff to the watercourse. Use of Easter Field for these purposes would result in a reduction in recreational and open space land in the area, and a significant reduction in land available to the general public for equestrian use. The City has failed to conduct appropriate environmental review and has failed to provide the community and appropriate review agencies with notice of the proposed Project.

THE PROJECT IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR A CATEGORIAL EXEMPTION UNDER CEQA

The City is relying on a Class 1 CEQA Exemption. As noted in Section 15301 of the CEQA Guidelines, actions eligible for this exemption include:

15301. EXISTING FACILITIES

Class 1 consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, **involving negligible or no expansion of existing or former use. . . The key consideration is whether the project involves negligible or no expansion of use.**

The Amendment Would Result In a Significant Change In the Use of Easter Field

Easter Field is part of Griffith Park⁴, and is used by the community for passive recreation and for the exercising of neighborhood horses as well as for an annual Easter neighborhood horse gathering. Regular use of Easter Field for overflow horse trailer parking during events or

⁴ Griffith Park is Los Angeles City Historic-Cultural Monument 942.

for parking for basecamps for filming activity would constitute a significant change in use and would displace existing recreational use of this area of Griffith Park.

There has been no showing by the City that use of Easter Field for overflow horse trailer parking during Equestrian Center events or for parking for basecamps for filming activity constitutes an existing or former use of the property and no documentation has been provided regarding the frequency of these specific uses of the property either currently or in the past on the Easter Field site. No limitations have been placed on the nature of the additional uses of Easter Field which could be approved by RAP under the agreement, so as to limit any additional uses to only uses which have occurred in the past. Since the proposed Project would result in a significant change in use, the proposed Project is therefore not eligible for a Class 1 CEQA Exemption.

The City Has Failed To Show That the Leasing of Easter Field Would Result in Negligible or No Expansion of Use

The Amendment fails to provide any limitation on the number of times per year that Easter Field can be used for overflow horse trailer parking during events or for parking for basecamps for filming activity. In addition, the Amendment provides for no limitations on the nature or number of the additional uses of the Easter Field by ASM, other than to require pre-approval for other uses by the RAP General Manager or his/her designee. The Amendment therefore does not qualify for a Class 1 CEQA Exemption since it provides for more than a negligible expansion of use, as well as for a change in use.

Unusual Circumstances Preclude the Use of A Categorical Exemption for the Project

CEQA Guidelines Section 15300.2 provides for exceptions to the use of Categorical Exemptions. Guidelines Section 15300.2(c) specifies:

- (c) Significant Effect. A categorical exemption shall not be used for an activity where there is a reasonable possibility that the activity will have a significant effect on the environment **due to unusual circumstances**.

As previously noted, there are a number of unusual circumstances that apply to the Easter Field site, and which combined with the effects of the propose Project, have the potential to result in significant effects on the environment. The courts have found that effects on aesthetics, cultural resources, water supply, health, and safety are among the effects that fall within the concept of 'unusual circumstances'. The proposed Project is not eligible for a Categorical Exception due to unusual circumstance which result in the Project's potential to result in significant impacts.

Cumulative Impacts Preclude Use of a Categorical Exemption

Guidelines Section 15300.2(b) specifies:

- (b) Cumulative Impact. All exemptions for these classes are inapplicable when the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place, over time is significant.

The change in use of Easter Fields combined with other projects in the area such as 901 S Mariposa will result in a cumulative loss of facilities for equestrian use in the Project area and reduction in days Easter Field is available for equestrian use by the public. The City must analyze this potentially significant cumulative recreational impact. Use of a Categorical Exemption is not appropriate given the potential for significant cumulative equestrian recreational impacts.

We urge the Board to reject approval of Amendment 1 as currently written and to require that Easter Field be removed from the agreement. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Emily Gabel-Luddy

Emily Gabel Luddy









cc: Joe Salaices joe.salaices@lacity.org
Stefanie Smith stefanie.smith@lacity.org

Attachments:

- A. ZIMAS Report for the Easter Field Property
- B. Bette Davis Picnic Park and Glendale Narrows Riverwalk | Trip Report 13
Jan 2024

LEGEND

GENERALIZED ZONING

-  OS, GW
-  A, RA
-  RE, RS, R1, RU, RZ, RW1
-  R2, RD, RMP, RW2, R3, RAS, R4, R5, PVSP
-  CR, C1, C1.5, C2, C4, C5, CW, WC, ADP, LASED, CEC, USC, PPSP, MU, NMU
-  CM, MR, CCS, UV, UI, UC, M1, M2, LAX, M3, SL, HJ, HR, NI
-  P, PB
-  PF


GENERAL PLAN LAND USE

LAND USE

RESIDENTIAL





-  Minimum Residential
-  Very Low / Very Low I Residential
-  Very Low II Residential
-  Low / Low I Residential
-  Low II Residential
-  Low Medium / Low Medium I Residential
-  Low Medium II Residential
-  Medium Residential
-  High Medium Residential
-  High Density Residential
-  Very High Medium Residential

COMMERCIAL






-  Limited Commercial
-  Limited Commercial - Mixed Medium Residential
-  Highway Oriented Commercial
-  Highway Oriented and Limited Commercial
-  Highway Oriented Commercial - Mixed Medium Residential
-  Neighborhood Office Commercial
-  Community Commercial
-  Community Commercial - Mixed High Residential
-  Regional Center Commercial

FRAMEWORK

COMMERCIAL

-  Neighborhood Commercial
-  General Commercial
-  Community Commercial
-  Regional Mixed Commercial






INDUSTRIAL

-  Commercial Manufacturing
-  Limited Manufacturing
-  Light Manufacturing
-  Heavy Manufacturing
-  Hybrid Industrial




PARKING

-  Parking Buffer





PORT OF LOS ANGELES

-  General / Bulk Cargo - Non Hazardous (Industrial / Commercial)
-  General / Bulk Cargo - Hazard
-  Commercial Fishing
-  Recreation and Commercial
-  Intermodal Container Transfer Facility Site



LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

-  Airport Landside / Airport Landside Support
-  Airport Airside
-  LAX Airport Northside

OPEN SPACE / PUBLIC FACILITIES
















-  Open Space
-  Public / Open Space
-  Public / Quasi-Public Open Space
-  Other Public Open Space
-  Public Facilities

















INDUSTRIAL

-  Limited Industrial
-  Light Industrial






CIRCULATION

STREET





































-  Arterial Mountain Road
-  Collector Scenic Street
-  Collector Street
-  Collector Street (Hillside)
-  Collector Street (Modified)
-  Collector Street (Proposed)
-  Country Road
-  Divided Major Highway II
-  Divided Secondary Scenic Highway
-  Local Scenic Road
-  Local Street
-  Major Highway (Modified)
-  Major Highway I
-  Major Highway II
-  Major Highway II (Modified)

-  Major Scenic Highway
-  Major Scenic Highway (Modified)
-  Major Scenic Highway II
-  Mountain Collector Street
-  Park Road
-  Parkway
-  Principal Major Highway
-  Private Street
-  Scenic Divided Major Highway II
-  Scenic Park
-  Scenic Parkway
-  Secondary Highway
-  Secondary Highway (Modified)
-  Secondary Scenic Highway
-  Special Collector Street
-  Super Major Highway

FREEWAYS

-  Freeway
-  Interchange
-  On-Ramp / Off- Ramp
-  Railroad
-  Scenic Freeway Highway




MISC. LINES























-  Airport Boundary
-  Bus Line
-  Coastal Zone Boundary
-  Coastline Boundary
-  Collector Scenic Street (Proposed)
-  Commercial Areas
-  Commercial Center
-  Community Redevelopment Project Area
-  Country Road
-  DWP Power Lines
-  Desirable Open Space
-  Detached Single Family House
-  Endangered Ridgeline
-  Equestrian and/or Hiking Trail
-  Hiking Trail
-  Historical Preservation
-  Horsekeeping Area
-  Local Street
-  MSA Desirable Open Space
-  Major Scenic Controls
-  Multi-Purpose Trail
-  Natural Resource Reserve
-  Park Road
-  Park Road (Proposed)
-  Quasi-Public
-  Rapid Transit Line
-  Residential Planned Development
-  Scenic Highway (Obsolete)
-  Secondary Scenic Controls
-  Secondary Scenic Highway (Proposed)
-  Site Boundary
-  Southern California Edison Power
-  Special Study Area
-  Specific Plan Area
-  Stagecoach Line
-  Wildlife Corridor

POINTS OF INTEREST





 Alternative Youth Hostel (Proposed)	 Horticultural Center	 Public Elementary School
 Animal Shelter	 Hospital	 Public Elementary School (Proposed)
 Area Library	 Hospital (Proposed)	 Public Golf Course
 Area Library (Proposed)	HW House of Worship	 Public Golf Course (Proposed)
 Bridge	e Important Ecological Area	 Public Housing
 Campground	 Important Ecological Area (Proposed)	 Public Housing (Proposed Expansion)
 Campground (Proposed)	 Interpretive Center (Proposed)	 Public Junior High School
 Cemetery	 Junior College	 Public Junior High School (Proposed)
HW Church	 MTA / Metrolink Station	 Public Middle School
 City Hall	 MTA Station	 Public Senior High School
 Community Center	 MTA Stop	 Public Senior High School (Proposed)
 Community Library	MWD MWD Headquarters	 Pumping Station
 Community Library (Proposed Expansion)	 Maintenance Yard	 Pumping Station (Proposed)
 Community Library (Proposed)	 Municipal Office Building	 Refuse Collection Center
 Community Park	P Municipal Parking lot	 Regional Library
 Community Park (Proposed Expansion)	 Neighborhood Park	 Regional Library (Proposed Expansion)
 Community Park (Proposed)	 Neighborhood Park (Proposed Expansion)	 Regional Library (Proposed)
 Community Transit Center	 Neighborhood Park (Proposed)	 Regional Park
 Convalescent Hospital	 Oil Collection Center	 Regional Park (Proposed)
 Correctional Facility	 Parking Enforcement	RPD Residential Plan Development
 Cultural / Historic Site (Proposed)	 Police Headquarters	 Scenic View Site
 Cultural / Historical Site	 Police Station	 Scenic View Site (Proposed)
 Cultural Arts Center	 Police Station (Proposed Expansion)	 School District Headquarters
DMV DMV Office	 Police Station (Proposed)	 School Unspecified Loc/Type (Proposed)
DWP DWP	 Police Training site	 Skill Center
 DWP Pumping Station	PO Post Office	 Social Services
 Equestrian Center	 Power Distribution Station	 Special Feature
 Fire Department Headquarters	 Power Distribution Station (Proposed)	 Special Recreation (a)
 Fire Station	 Power Receiving Station	 Special School Facility
 Fire Station (Proposed Expansion)	 Power Receiving Station (Proposed)	 Special School Facility (Proposed)
 Fire Station (Proposed)	C Private College	 Steam Plant
 Fire Supply & Maintenance	E Private Elementary School	 Surface Mining
 Fire Training Site	 Private Golf Course	 Trail & Assembly Area
 Fireboat Station	 Private Golf Course (Proposed)	 Trail & Assembly Area (Proposed)
 Health Center / Medical Facility	JH Private Junior High School	UTL Utility Yard
 Helistop	PS Private Pre-School	 Water Tank Reservoir
 Historic Monument	 Private Recreation & Cultural Facility	 Wildlife Migration Corridor
 Historical / Cultural Monument	SH Private Senior High School	 Wildlife Preserve Gate
 Horsekeeping Area	SF Private Special School	
 Horsekeeping Area (Proposed)	 Public Elementary (Proposed Expansion)	

SCHOOLS/PARKS WITH 500 FT. BUFFER

 Existing School/Park Site	 Planned School/Park Site	 Inside 500 Ft. Buffer
--	--	---

 Aquatic Facilities	 Other Facilities	 Opportunity School
 Beaches	 Park / Recreation Centers	 Charter School
 Child Care Centers	 Parks	 Elementary School
 Dog Parks	 Performing / Visual Arts Centers	 Span School
 Golf Course	 Recreation Centers	 Special Education School
 Historic Sites	 Senior Citizen Centers	 High School
 Horticulture/Gardens		 Middle School
 Skate Parks		 Early Education Center

COASTAL ZONE



 Coastal Commission Permit Area
 Dual Permit Jurisdiction Area
 Single Permit Jurisdiction Area
 Not in Coastal Zone

TRANSIT ORIENTED COMMUNITIES (TOC)






























 Tier 1	 Tier 3
 Tier 2	 Tier 4

Note: TOC Tier designation and map layers are for reference purposes only. Eligible projects shall demonstrate compliance with Tier eligibility standards prior to the issuance of any permits or approvals. As transit service changes, eligible TOC Incentive Areas will be updated.

WAIVER OF DEDICATION OR IMPROVEMENT

 Public Work Approval (PWA)
 Waiver of Dedication or Improvement (WDI)

OTHER SYMBOLS

 Lot Line	 Airport Hazard Zone	 Flood Zone
 Tract Line	 Census Tract	 Hazardous Waste
 Lot Cut	 Coastal Zone	 High Wind Zone
 Easement	 Council District	 Hillside Grading
 Zone Boundary	 LADBS District Office	 Historic Preservation Overlay Zone
 Building Line	 Downtown Parking	 Specific Plan Area
 Lot Split	 Fault Zone	 Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone
 Community Driveway	 Fire District No. 1	 Wells - Active
 Building Outlines 2020	 Tract Map	 Wells - Inactive
 Building Outlines 2017	 Parcel Map	

The Official SMBAS Online Newsletter

Bette Davis Picnic Park and Glendale Narrows Riverwalk | Trip Report 13 Jan 2024

JANUARY 16, 2024

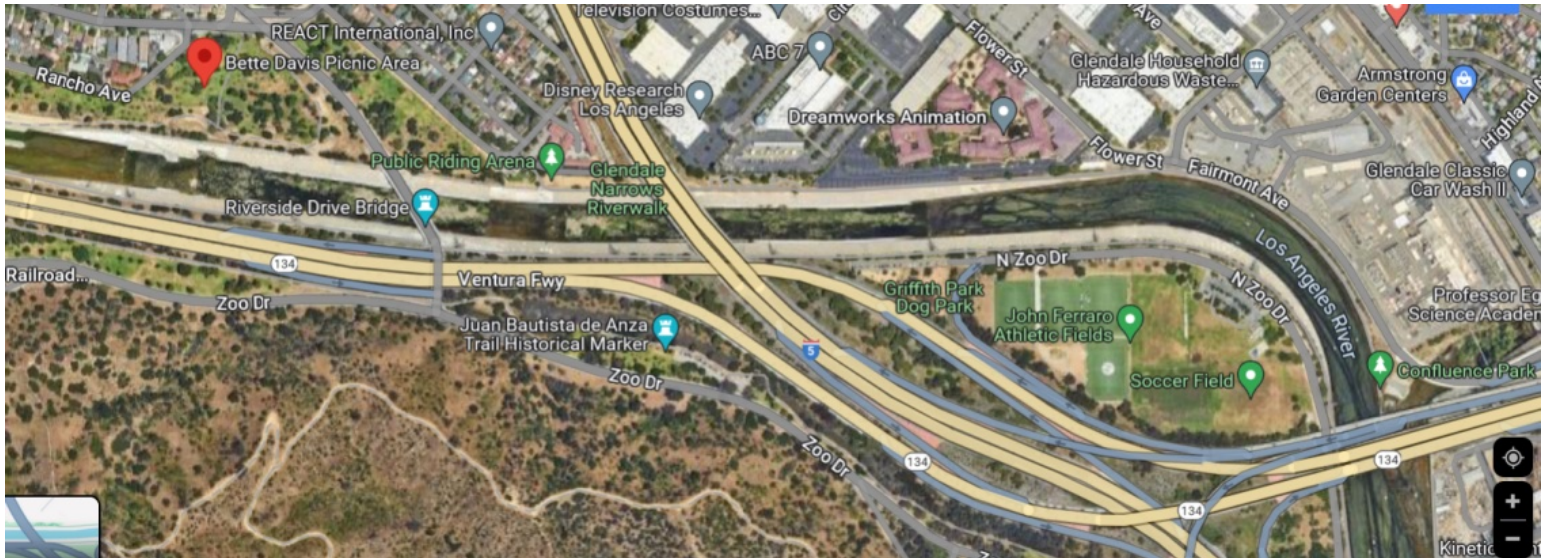
tags: Bette Davis Picnic Area, Glendale Narrows

by Chukar

[Text by Chuck Almdale, photos by Chris Tosdevin]

“Fasten your seatbelts; it’s going to be a bumpy night.”

Bette Davis in All About Eve



Nestled between the low mountains of Griffith Park, the eastern San Fernando Valley city-suburbs of Grandview and Glendale, the Los Angeles River, Riverside Drive, Victory Blvd, and – last but not least – the #134 and I-5 freeways, what could be a more quintessentially Los Angeles birding spot than Bette Davis Picnic Area, named for the major film star of not so long ago. The park was a gift to the public, carved out of her property of roughly one square mile. Jutting eastward from the southeast corner of the park is the Glendale Narrows Riverwalk. The narrows refers to the purportedly narrowish bend in the Los Angeles River where the bottom is unpaved, making it

popular with diving ducks and wading birds, especially Black-necked Stilts. You can vaguely see it in the Google satellite view above. The paved sidewalk runs alongside the river for about 1.5 miles before the path turns east alongside the Verdugo Wash. [All following quotes are **BrainyQuote** (<https://www.brainyquote.com/authors/bette-davis-quotes>)]

Old age is no place for sissies. — Bette Davis

A small group of intrepid birders – some of us old enough to know full well the truth of the above statement – gathered at the crack-of-dawn 8am starting time. We were almost immediately knocked out of our socks by really loud squawks. We quickly determined that it was a pair of parrots – Lilac-crowned Parrots *Amazona finschi* – investigating a potential next hole, located at the end of a snaggy trunk in a large sycamore tree. It featured two entrances, one below and to the side of the other. The parrots might have thought this a defect, as eggs have a way of rolling. We noted the way that all *Amazona* parrots fly – fast wingbeats in a narrow vertical range of motion – and that (generally speaking) parakeets have long pointed tails, parrots have flat blunt tails. This species turned out to be a life bird (**countable** (<https://www.californiabirds.org/checklist.asp>) by rule-conscious listers) for some of us. Awk! Beautiful plumage, eh, eh?



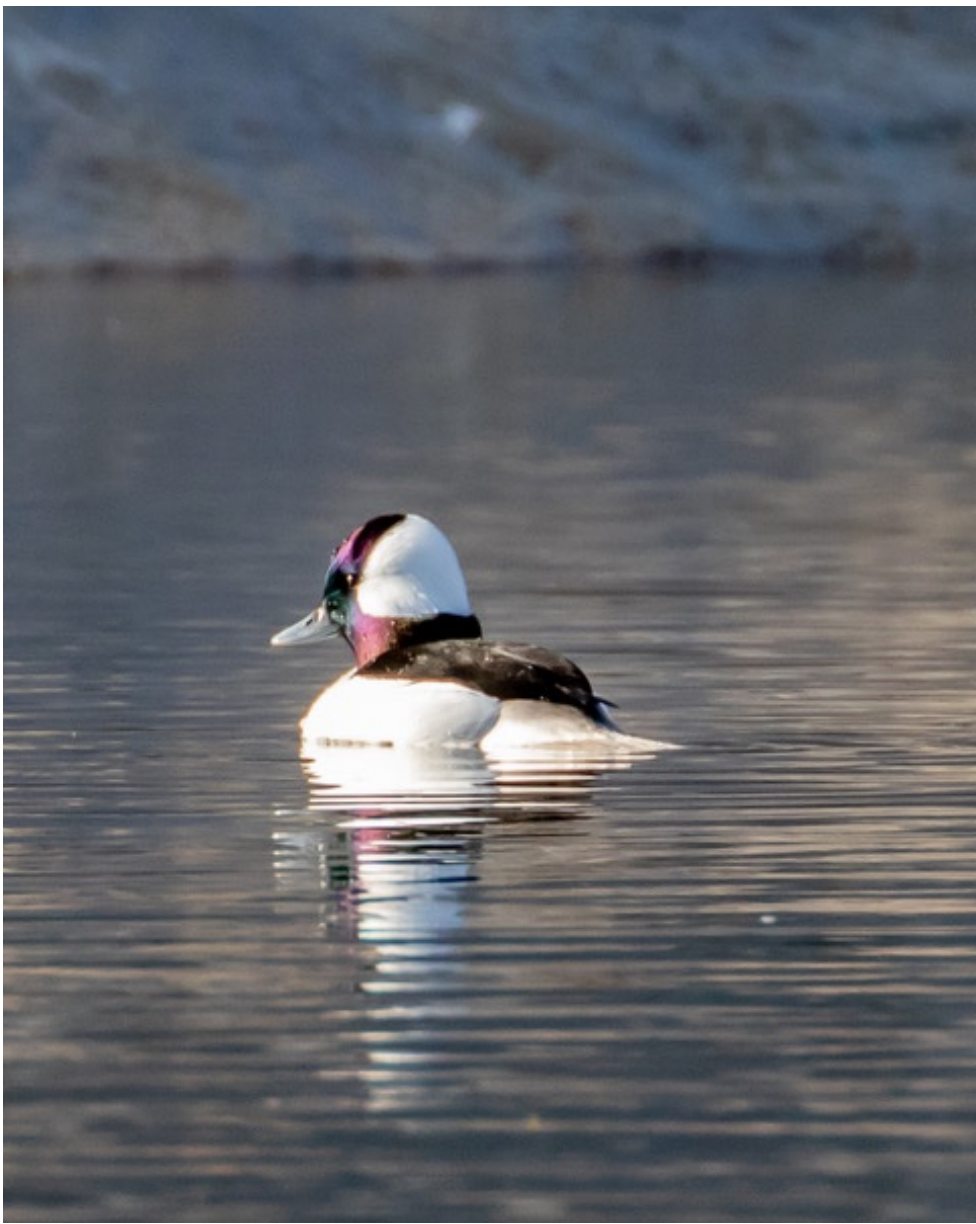
An large equestrian center is connected to the park by a bridge and riders trot by frequently.

If you've never been hated by your child, you've never been a parent. — Bette Davis



Yellow-rumped Warbler in winter (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

We birded our way through the trees, finding a lot of Yellow-rumped Warblers, then went to the river through one of the many gaps in the fence. Here we found a nice assortment of ducks and two geese, along with a lot of Black-necked Stilts, herons and egrets and a few passerines in the trash-laden river islets.



Bufflehead male, between dives (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)



Ring-necked Duck male, infamous for its rarely-glimpsed neck ring, also between dives (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)



*American Wigeons, a dabbling, diving food-thief, unlike many members of their genus *Anas* (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)*

Sex is God's joke on human beings. — Bette Davis



Common Yellowthroat male in his preferred reedy habitat (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)



Only three of the hundreds of Black-necked Stilts (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

We passed a *lot* of Black-necked Stilts. The list below records only 100, but off in the distance at both ends of the walk we could see many, many more.

Along the chain-link fence line, we ran across several of a lesser-seen sparrow species, feeding on grass seeds. In alternate plumage their caps are rustier and their supercilium whiter.



Chipping Sparrow; at 5 1/2 " one of our smallest sparrows (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

On our way back to the cars, we spotted this raptor, well hidden in a tree in a home's front yard across the street. Chris snapped this photo while it was in the process of dropping onto a hapless mammal on the lawn.



Juvenile Cooper's Hawk, also about to dive. You can just barely see the rounded end of the tail, one of the better field marks for this tricky species. (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

We hopped in our cars and drove the immense distance of nearly 1/4 mile over to the southeast corner of the park, across Victory and to the south end of Garden St. This is the major access point to the Riverwalk. As small as the portion of the picnic park located here is, it had even more birds than the larger section we'd just left. House Sparrows are typically the opposite of a big deal to birders, and I doubt that 1% of field trips reports *anywhere, ever*, bother including a photo of one, but this bird was doing something interesting.



Male House Sparrow, home-hunting or food-foraging? (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

We had four species of woodpecker in this section: Acorn, Nuttall's, Northern Flicker and Downy, the smallest of our American woodpeckers. At 6 1/2", it's not much larger than the diminutive Chipping Sparrow we'd just seen.



Downy Woodpecker male (red nape) (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

The best way to separate them from the very similar Hairy Woodpecker is the tiny bill, noticeably shorter than the front-to-back width of the head. The Hairy's bill is about the same length as its head, front-to-back.



Downy Woodpecker (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

As you can see from the photo above, Downy Woodpeckers are lighter-than-air, like tiny feathered dirigibles, and could walk upside down on your ceiling if they had a mind to. Well...maybe not. Maybe it's those clawed toes.

This has always been a motto of mine: Attempt the impossible in order to improve your work. — Bette Davis

Just before we got onto the Riverwalk proper, we found some sparrows on the shady ground, pecking away. Among them were several Lark Sparrows, one of our fancier LBJ's (Little Brown Jobs).



Lark Sparrow (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

In response to a query – “Is it a lark or a sparrow?” – we briefly discussed the presence of the word “lark” in a bird’s name. It means it has white outer tail feathers, as do the mostly Old World family of Larks (*Alaudidae*). Hence Lark Sparrows, Lark Buntings and Meadowlarks are not Larks, but are respectively members of families *Passerellidae*, *Passerellidae* (New World Sparrows) and *Icteridae* (Blackbirds).

We had the occasional raptor overhead and sitting on the very high electric wire pylons, usually at enormous distance from us. I’d hate to see this Osprey take a dive at a fish in this part of the river. It’s pretty shallow.



Osprey, fish-eater, despite the name. "Os" refers to bones, not fish. (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

We crossed underneath the I-5 or Golden State Freeway. The sound of the cars overhead – and I have omitted until now the fact that it's actually quite noisy throughout the park due to the adjacent freeways – was like walking through the now-closed tunnels under Niagara Falls (really loud and echoing). In both directions we spotted another Cooper's Hawk, the first time on one of the overpasses' supporting cables.



Adult Cooper's Hawk (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

For a special and final treat we hopped into our cars and drove several miles uphill into Griffith Park to where several rare birds had been spending the winter. Off of Griffith Park Drive, near the golf courses, we parked and walked all of 100 yds. up a curvy dirt trail and spotted the bird below, in a bare tree, catching passing flies in an interesting circular manner.



Thick-billed Kingbird (Chris Tosdevin 1-13-24)

The only place in the U.S. where one might expect to find this species is in southeast Arizona, so it's well out of its usual range.

We also looked for the Hepatic Tanager which was frequently seen in the same area, but it was elsewhere.

As you'll see from the list below, we saw 58 species at the picnic park and Riverwalk, a quite respectable number for a small area surrounded by city and road.

Bette Davis Picnic Area, Los Angeles, California, US

Jan 13, 2024 8:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Protocol: Traveling

1.5 mile(s)

Checklist Comments: Some birds also (but not only) seen at Glendale Narrows Riverwalk.

58 species

Canada Goose 3

Egyptian Goose 1

Gadwall 2 Seen by Chris Tosdevin

American Wigeon 20

Mallard 25

Ring-necked Duck 12

Bufflehead 5

Rock Pigeon (Feral Pigeon) 18

Eurasian Collared-Dove 4

Mourning Dove 6

White-throated Swift 15

Anna's Hummingbird 3

Allen's Hummingbird 1

American Coot 25

Black-necked Stilt 100 Many more seen upstream & downstream but not counted.

Killdeer 6

Spotted Sandpiper 2

Greater Yellowlegs 1 With the BN Stilts

Ring-billed Gull 1

Western Gull 5

Double-crested Cormorant 3

Great Egret 2

Great Blue Heron 1
Turkey Vulture 2
Osprey 1
Cooper's Hawk 2
Red-tailed Hawk 2
Acorn Woodpecker 8
Downy Woodpecker 1
Nuttall's Woodpecker 1
Northern Flicker 1
Lilac-crowned Parrot 2
Black Phoebe 6
Hutton's Vireo 1 Seen by Chris Tosdevin
California Scrub-Jay 2
American Crow 6
Common Raven 5
Oak Titmouse 3
Bushtit 6
Wrentit 1 Seen by Chris Tosdevin
Ruby-crowned Kinglet 4
White-breasted Nuthatch 1
European Starling 20
Western Bluebird 4
House Sparrow 5
American Pipit 1
House Finch 8

Lesser Goldfinch 4 Seen by Chris Tosdevin

Chipping Sparrow 6

Lark Sparrow 3

Dark-eyed Junco 6

White-crowned Sparrow 4

California Towhee 1

Brewer's Blackbird 8

Orange-crowned Warbler 1 Seen by Chris Tosdevin

Common Yellowthroat 3

Yellow-rumped Warbler 20

View this checklist online at <https://ebird.org/checklist/S158925929>
(<https://ebird.org/checklist/S158925929>)

from → Field Trip Reports

2 Comments leave one →

1. **ethanski** [PERMALINK](#)

January 17, 2024 11:06 am

wow

lovely report and great pictures of common species 😎

REPLY

2. **Elyse Jankowski** [PERMALINK](#)

January 16, 2024 10:50 pm

<

div dir="ltr">Ok WOW!! This stellar report left me melancholy for missing the trip and grateful for your incredib

REPLY

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[A WordPress.com Website.](#)



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Easter Field

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:25 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, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:13 PM Karin Costa

wrote:

Thank you for taking the time to
Read this email.

My concerns are safety in wanting to use Easter Field for parking.

First and foremost are the dangers humans and animals can have from debris falling from trucks. NAILS! Pieces of metal detaching from vehicles.

Many people use this as an arena for their horses. Not everyone has the luxury of a proper arena at their disposal.

People walk their dogs.

I will share some talking points that I have copied from other people more equipped than I on this matter.

I work in the Television Business. I know what Basecamp looks like. I live just down the alley from Bette Davis Park and Easter Field. I use it daily.

Please vote No or continue to a future date the question of the proposed assignment of public recreation area Easter Field to the LAEC for use as a parking lot.

If it cannot be separated from the other aspects of 24-259 in your Dec 5th meeting, please vote No.

Specified are are overflow trailers from LAEC horse shows, and the NEW usage by movie/tv basecamps without needing Rec & Park permits. Additional permits could include other parking lot uses such as for non-equestrian events.

Easter Field is used every day by local equestrians and pedestrians, including local groups for whom it is a meeting place. These existing user groups, which include minorities, could be displaced.

I live just yards away from Easter Field, and I ride in or through it almost every day, and I have worked on many movie sets. Below is a list of standard movie equipment and activities. I don't believe this is compatible with the existing user groups of Easter Field.

Community and stakeholder input has not been sought and needs to be considered. Please vote No or continue this for a full evaluation.

MOVIE/TV BASECAMP - a standard equipment list and procedures including working trucks.

Grip 40' truck

Electric 40' truck

Props 40' truck

Special Effects 40' truck

Wardrobe - 30-40' trailer and stabbed
Hair & Makeup Trailer, 25' and stakebed
Camera truck, 10 ton (maybe moved closer to shooting set)
Sound trailer, 28' and stakebed (maybe moved closer to shooting set)

Cast trailers, 28-40' with bathrooms

Catering truck, 30' and support truck/trailer
Catering tent/s for approx 50 people

40' trash bins, roll-off

Basecamp Generator with cable package
At night, raised 'freeway lights' to light up basecamp for safety and ease of use

Honeywagon - approx 70' truck & trailer with the long row of bathrooms for cast and crew to use. Every 2-3 days a 'pumper' the size of a water truck comes in to pump out the raw human sewage waste - the smell is vomit-inducing. This is disruptive to anyone downwind. They pump it from the honeywagon and all cast/producer/director trailers with bathrooms.

Stakebed-sized fuel truck to fill up all the trucks and cars at basecamp or at the set nearby.

Stakebed trucks for each cast trailer and more, that are usually unhooked to move equipment around locally.

Possible water trucks, as needed for fire protection, special effects, street wet-down (for the shiny look), and other uses as needed.

The transportation/production dept will have an additional trailer for their management purposes.

Car parking for 'above the line' people - key actors, producers, directors etc, plus additional cars per transportation.

Security and a medic will have one or more cars.

Additional tasks that may be done at basecamp: fixing vehicles, rigging camera cars/trailers to have camera mounts strapped to them for shooting purposes.

There may be building/repairing wooden items such as steps into trailers. Nails, screws and bolts are used for this, and maybe left behind in the dirt.

After the production company has left, a nail left hidden in the dirt could be stepped on by a horse, piercing its hoof. As happened by Martinez Arena not long ago, despite immediate and expensive medical care, that single nail resulted in the horse's death.

Noise:

1000-1500 amp generator running all the hours that the basecamp is operational.

Equipment leaving at wrap is especially noisy, as there is a lot of metal on metal clanging, likely yelling over the sound of engines for safety purposes and truck hookup. Transportation's job is to move them out quickly to get to the next parking location and get their drivers 'off the clock', and they will be under pressure to do this in a hurry.

Notes:

Asphalt is much preferred over dirt for basecamps. If an area is to be used regularly, production companies will likely make this request.

Hours: A shooting day for a production company is often over 12 hours, plus the additional set up and wrap before and after the shoot day period.

So an operational period of 14-16 hours to include early arrives for makeup/hair/wardrobe would be normal.

There may be traffic control needed at the entrance and exit to ensure safe driving by all.

Production-related vehicles are always in a hurry, and maybe a poor fit for a quiet residential equestrian-focused neighborhood.

From the FilmLA website:

Standard Hours: In residential areas, standard filming hours during Monday to Friday are from 7:00 AM – 10:00 PM. On weekends (Saturday and Sunday), 9:00 AM - 10:00 PM.

Does an adjacent City of Glendale residential area have these protections, if the adjacent basecamp (where no filming is taking place) is in Griffith Park, a non-residential part of Los Angeles?

Additional Production Vehicle Parking: Filmmakers may reserve posted, “no parking” areas for use by commercial production vehicles. Production vehicles may only be parked along the curb on one side of the street, however public parking on both sides of the street may be restricted for safety and clearance.

This could negatively affect Rancho Avenue residents/Bette Davis Park visitors if utilized.

Karin Costa

Sent from my iPhone



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Vote NO on Request No 24-259

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:26 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, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:24 PM Shelley McMahan

wrote:

PLEASE vote NO on the Proposed Amendments to ASM Contract Including Easter Field Being Added to LAEC!

DEMAND better accountability and improvements to their current contract!

ASM does not think of safety for the horse when booking events.

Please do not approve their requests for additional grounds & an extension to their contract until they improve!

- When there are onsite events they close one of only two gates, giving Boarders access to the perimeter trail.

That in turn, forces a rider to take their horse past event trucks and dangerous commotion on asphalt.

- Crosswalks are not monitored with personnel which creates a 'Russian Roulette' scenario with drivers who are only in a hurry to park their cars or get to the exit.

- When ASM books events, they normally use most of the horse areas onsite already. Not only do they use all the grass areas, but for the Drone event, they also used three large arenas for parking & staging.

- Riders are forced to go off property, to Easter Field, to use the dirt and grass area located there.

- If you allow ASM control of the only safe open area for equestrians; where are we to go?

- Easter Field is a public area, for private residents to use. ASM should NOT be allowed to control it.

- Who will be responsible if a horse & rider are injured in Easter Field due to an ASM event?

Past management understood the need for safety and emergency situations.

There were experienced parking personnel who coordinated a free flowing entrance & exit.

There were emergency lanes wide enough for truck and horse trailer; always unobstructed for emergency situations.

PLEASE vote NO on the Proposed Amendments to ASM Contract Including Easter Field Being Added to LAEC!

DEMAND better accountability and improvements to their current contract!

Thank you,
Shelley McMahan



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Public comment re Easter Field

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:26 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 4:31 PM Adam Baz

wrote:

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my strong disapproval of the proposal to absorb Easter field into the LAEC for overflow parking and film staging. Easter field is one of the most prominent, and beloved public arenas in the Burbank Rancho district, and it remaining open to the public is critical for the preservation of equestrian culture here. There are dozens, if not hundreds, of horse owners in Burbank, who do not have access to a private arena. So these public arenas are absolutely necessary for us to exercise and care for our Horses. Moreover, Easter field is a hub for the equestrian community to come together. We use the arena almost daily, and I have met so many other riders while gathering there. Easter field is, and should remain, a staple of the rancho equestrian community.

The proposal to absorb it into LAEC does not serve the local community. It serves a much smaller number of people at LAEC, and out of town interests during events and film shoots, etc. Please do not take one of the few remaining public arenas away from us. If the city has any interest in preserving equestrian culture here in Burbank/Los Angeles (which the city Council has pledged to do), then Easter field must remain open to public access!

Adam Baz
Burbank resident and horse owner.

Sent from my iPhone



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: 24-259 - EASTER FIELD PORTION - Vote NO

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: "Sullivan, Ben"

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:32 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 7:29 PM Sullivan, Ben

wrote:

Hi Commissioners,

My name is Ben Sullivan, a member of the Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee and a homeowner, and equestrian, who lives very near Easter Field in the Rancho and, uses it nearly 4 times per week to access Griffith Park with my Horses. In fact, Easter Field is where I first trained and learned to ride horses; many neighbors, boarders and pedestrians use Easter Field seven days a week.

To unilaterally hand it over to LAEC for use as an overflow parking lot and film and TV basecamp would destroy its intended purpose not to mention hugely disrupt the peaceful neighborhood right along Rancho Ave, Western and Riverside Dr. To put it simply, this is a terrible idea. I strongly urge you to vote NO.

And, if you'd like to see first hand just how much our community uses Easter Field every day, call me and I'll happily show you just how much it means to our beloved community.

Thank you,

Ben Sullivan



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Board Report 24-259 - Easter Field 'Change of Use'-?

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:32 PM

To: John Nagler

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 8:02 PM John Nagler wrote:

Hello Commissioners - it has been brought to my attention that there is a "Proposal" to change our Easter Field Horse Riding Area - into a Parking Lot for the likes of Events & TV Production Crews to park Vehicles. **What in the World?** Why can't they just continue to use the "acres of dirt" at the Equestrian Center for their parking needs, like it's always been.

They're already Using or Filming within the boundaries of the Equestrian Center. Logistically, why go outside of it?

I, like all of my Glendale Rancho neighbors - "use" Easter Field to exercise our backyard Horses every day. We all enter Easter Field at the end of Western Avenue at Rancho Avenue. I live 3 homes away from this entrance. Very little vehicle traffic.

There are Riding Instructors using this "Field" every day for training Horses and Riders, alike. You simply can't park unlimited cars

Or TV Production Vehicles in this "Field" and still be able to ride, lunge or even walk your Horse around such vehicles. Not possible.

Horses are not like Dogs on a leash. Anything will set them Off! The handler loses control and trust me - severe accidents will occur.

2. The only way "we" as Riders can get across the Burbank Creek and access the Trail around [and Into] the Equestrian Center property, is via the Bridge right there on the South side of Easter Field. All of us use this Bridge every day. Go have a Look.

Please do not allow our Easter Field to be turned into a Parking Lot for Events & TV Production [that is already taking place] at the Equestrian Center. There is ample parking available right on their property.

Respectfully Submitted -



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Agenda Item 24-259 Request to table Easter Field status for further review, December 5, 2024 meeting

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:32 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 8:14 PM Gene Gilbert wrote:

Since I am unable to attend the December 5, 2024 meeting, I am submitting this important comment regarding the agenda item noted.

My Name is Gene Gilbert and , although I am a current member of the Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee and a past member of the Griffith Park Advisory Board. I am contacting you as an individual.

I believe the assimilation of the area known as Easter Field into the Los Angeles Equestrian Center, a non-connected parcel, requires further study and the public outreach which has been promised when such important changes to the community are proposed.

The proposal seeks to utilize this important area, used daily by resident equestrians among many others seeking open space, into overflow parking for horse shows and other events held at LAEC, In addition, it is proposed to be used for movie/base camp heavy equipment WITHOUT Recreation and Parks permits. Event parking for events other than equestrian might also be allowed. Removing one of the very few safe and accessible park like areas, long used and appreciated, to add commercial parking when the LAEC has ample space, makes no sense at all. To do so without promised public outreach is unconscionable

Easter Field is used daily by equestrians, pedestrians, dog walkers and others including senior citizens and minorities, It is truly an area for recreational use and as such should be retained, not dismantled. The thought of turning it into a parking lot for heavy equipment makes the entire area a commercial, not a park like, space.

Any proposed changes to the use of this area should be reviewed by the Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee and the Griffith Park Advisory Board as well as during public meetings which have long been promised when such changes are proposed.

I urge you to table this item until it can be properly reviewed and , recommendations submitted to enable you to make an informed decision,

Thank you for your consideration of this important subject; I assure you it is of critical importance.

GENE GILBERT



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Easter Field

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:33 PM

To: Karen Butler

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 8:40 PM Karen Butler

wrote:

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I'm writing to implore you to reconsider your decision to turn Easter Field into what is essentially a parking lot. This historic area is the site of many equestrian and family oriented activities. Easter Field provides a safe place for my equestrian neighborhood to ride and otherwise exercise their horses. It is a great place for little ones to ride their ponies with the supervision of their parents. There are many regular events unique to the Rancho Neighborhood that occur in Easter Field. There is a Halloween horse costume party, a Christmas Caroling event, and of course the Easter non-denominational church service that takes place entirely on horseback. The people of Los Angeles do not need another parking lot, they need open spaces to build happy memories with their families.

Sincerely,

Karen Butler



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Easter Field

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:33 PM

To:

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 8:45 PM

wrote:

Dear Sirs and Madams,

As a home owner immediately across the street from Easter Field I will be severely affected by your decision. The proposed amendments to the ASM Contract include a significant expansion of activities, introduce non-equestrian activity that will displace any current equestrian use of the field and will cause severe impact on the surrounding community. Your action will destroy a treasured equestrian area where horse owners currently exercise their horses, participate in community equestrian activities and otherwise maintain a unique part of the LA community culture that has few equals. We need open space, not another parking lot, which is what Mr Griffith and Betty Davis intended when they made their now invaluable land gifts to the welfare of the citizens of Los Angeles. Please honor their contributions rather than repudiating and expropriating them.

Joe Nussbaum MD



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: BOARD REPORT 24-259 - PLEASE VOTE NO ON THE EASTER FIELD PORTION

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:36 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:54 PM Michael Ojaghian
To RAP Commissioners:

wrote:

Please see my comments below opposing any changes to the use of Betty Davis Park and Easter Field.

Using Betty Davis Park and Easter Field as a parking lot can have significant environmental impacts, particularly concerning clean air, nature, and safety. Here are some key points to consider:

Environmental Impacts

1. Air Quality Degradation:

- o **Increased Emissions:** Parking lots generate vehicle emissions, contributing to air pollution. This can lead to higher levels of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter, which negatively affect air quality and public health.
- o **Loss of Air Purification:** Parks typically contain trees and plants that help filter pollutants from the air. Converting these green spaces into asphalt reduces their capacity to purify the air, exacerbating pollution levels.

2. Loss of Biodiversity:

- o **Habitat Destruction:** Parks serve as habitats for various species of flora and fauna. Transforming these areas into parking lots displaces wildlife and can lead to a decline in local biodiversity.
- o **Fragmentation of Ecosystems:** The conversion can disrupt local ecosystems, making it difficult for species to thrive and interact. This fragmentation can lead to a decline in species populations and diversity.

3. Stormwater Management:

- o **Increased Runoff:** Impervious surfaces like asphalt contribute to increased stormwater runoff, which can lead to flooding and erosion. This runoff often carries pollutants into nearby water bodies, affecting water quality and aquatic life.
- o **Reduced Natural Water Filtration:** Parks naturally absorb rainwater and filter it through soil and vegetation. Parking lots reduce this natural filtration, increasing the risk of water pollution.

Impacts on Safety

1. Increased Traffic Hazards:

- o **Pedestrian Safety:** Parks often provide safe spaces for pedestrians and cyclists. Converting these areas to parking lots can lead to increased vehicle traffic, posing safety risks to pedestrians and cyclists.
- o **Accidents:** More vehicles in a concentrated area can lead to a higher likelihood of accidents, both in terms of vehicle collisions and pedestrian injuries.

Thank you in advance for listening to the public's comments and considering the consequences.



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: December 5, 2024 Board Report NO. 24--259

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:37 PM

To: Christy B

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 10:34 PM Christy B wrote:

Dear President Simril, Vice-President Sanchez, and Commissioners Lloyd, Hutton and Tran,

Please vote No to the request to "annex" Easterfield for the following reasons.

1. Easter Field is a public area that is shared equitably by the local community.

This is true especially on the days that local equestrians do not want to ride far. My husband and I frequently use this area as a cut through to ride the trail to Victory. During the weekdays, Easter Fields is a nice way to lengthen a short perimeter ride around the Equestrian Center.

2. LAEC used to have big horse shows; the trailer parking would naturally flow over to Easter field when LAEC was filled.

Horses are already expensive. If attendees miss out on all the amenities inside, then why charge them for a dirt field?

I appreciate your consideration,
Respectfully,

Christy Blakman



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Easter field

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:38 PM

To: Paula MacLean

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 11:11 PM Paula MacLean

wrote:

Please do not expand LAEC premises to Easter Field. The back of homes face Easter Field. These homes are homes to horses, pets and children. Equestrians use this field to practice riding skills. Children learning to ride horses use this field. We see this as a dangerous situation if LAEC takes over this property. Please keep Easter Field strictly within Griffith Parks historic recreation use for horses and pedestrians. Keeping this property safe, secure and damage free.

Thank You,

Paula MacLean



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: La equestrian center

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 11:00 AM

To: Cindy Guagenti

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 Mon, Dec 2, 2024 at 7:00 PM Cindy Guagenti

wrote:

TO: RAP.COMMISSIONERS@LACITY.ORG

Renata Simril, President
 Luis Sanchez, Vice President
 Fiona Hutton, Member
 Marie Lloyd, Member
 Benny Tran, Member
 Takisha Sardin, Board Secretary
 Jimmy Kim, RAP General Manager
 Matthew Rudnick, RAP Executive
 Cathie Santo Domingo, Assistant General Manager
 Chinyere Stoneham, Acting Assistant General Manager
 Brenda Aquirre, Assistant General Manager
 Joe Salaices, RAP Special Projects
 Stefanie Smith, Superintendent-Griffith Park
 Rachel Ramos, Concessions

FR:

RE: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase.

Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed.

We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

- Many of their barn comparables cannot be considered comparables
- LAEC is not below the market rate in the region

- Board is being raised & services are reduced
- The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase to close to 30%
- Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report
- Event and horse show related revenue streams have not come to fruition
- Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase
- Priority spending so far has been on projects not related to boarding.
- Saloon was remodeled with no liquor license, therefore not able to operate as planned

With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable. Boarders do not agree with the proposed increase. It is not fair, reasonable, or equitable and does not have verifiable supporting documentation.

The requested board increase is too high. It is especially high considering that ASM proposes to remove feed and feeding from the boarding contract. (Feed/feeding: providing the food horses eat and the service of feeding what they eat.) This is contrary to the contract recently signed by boarders upon ASM's assumption of control of LAEC. Standard board includes an enclosure, bedding, food/feeding, fresh water, and stall cleaning (mucking) labor. These are the basics.

While it appears that they are raising rates 5-7.5%, this is without food/feeding. With food/feeding added back in, using their own numbers, the rate increase comes to between 20-29%. That is unaffordable and unacceptable. The board is being raised AND services are being reduced. .

LAEC's rates are **NOT** below the market rate in the region. The comps provided by ASM are inaccurate and the facilities are not comparable. ASM only included comps supporting their request to raise rates and did not consider comps supporting LOWERING the rate. Comps did not account for extra services given by other facilities, nor the usable amenities offered.

Increasing the board as proposed is discriminatory and will price out independent and lower income boarders.

Boarders are not responsible for offsetting the costs of 10 plus years of deferred maintenance and neglect. It was represented in meetings that there was a budget to cover the projects needed to return the Center to its former glory.

Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be "fun with numbers," as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings.

Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable.

We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal.



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: LAEC/Proposed board increase

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:25 PM

To: Pam Moeck

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 12:56 PM Pam Moeck

wrote:

RAP Commissioners

I sincerely ask you to vote no on ASM Globals request to raise board and eliminate the inclusion of daily rations for the horses. Obviously eliminating feed for the horses will cause some horses not to be fed daily as paying for cubes will raise the board to over \$1000. That does not fit with any actual comps in our area.

The comps given by ASM are ridiculous and absolutely not comparable.

Flintridge riding club is a club. There are dues and it is privately run. In addition included in their board cost is blanketing, feeding hay 3 times a day, grooming and daily turnouts. Available to all boarders.

The Paddock as well is privately owned. Its stalls are \$895. That includes cubes 2 times a day. Stalls cleaned two times a day.

The closest comp to us would be San Pasquale in Pasadena. The board there is \$785, with cubes fed twice a day.

The fact that ASM has taken on a facility that the previous stewards ran into the ground is not the boarders responsibility. We as boarders have supported the city with every effort as ASM was trying to get in to LAEC. We as boarders were so excited that finally after years of paying for services and experiencing money grab after money grab from the previous management company we would finally see this incredible facility brought back to life. We were told time and time again that they had a budget to fix the decay and that they would not need to raise board. Enough is enough. The dangerous idea of eliminating feed and the outrageous idea that we as boarders are responsible for bringing the facility to code is not acceptable. Please vote no. Having horses in Burbanks equestrian community is a privilege but paying for the mishandling of your facility is not something we should have to take on.

Thank you

Pam Moeck

Sent from my iPhone



Re: Proposed board increase at LAEC

1 message

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

Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 11:01 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 Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 8:09 AM Pam Moeck <RAP.COMMISSIONERS@LACITY.ORG>
wrote:

wrote:

TO: RAP.COMMISSIONERS@LACITY.ORG
Renata Simril, President
Luis Sanchez, Vice President
Fiona Hutton, Member
Marie Lloyd, Member
Benny Tran, Member
Takisha Sardin, Board Secretary
Jimmy Kim, RAP General Manager
Matthew Rudnick, RAP Executive
Cathie Santo Domingo, Assistant General Manager
Chinyere Stoneham, Acting Assistant General Manager
Brenda Aquirre, Assistant General Manager
Joe Salaices, RAP Special Projects
Stefanie Smith, Superintendent-Griffith Park
Rachel Ramos, Concessions

BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase.

Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed.

We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

- Many of their barn comparables cannot be considered comparables
- LAEC is not below the market rate in the region
- Board is being raised & services are reduced
- The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase to close to 30%
- Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report
- Event and horse show related revenue streams have not come to fruition
- Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase
- Priority spending so far has been on projects not related to boarding.
- Saloon was remodeled with no liquor license, therefore not able to operate as planned

With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable. Boarders do not agree with the proposed increase. It is not fair, reasonable, or equitable and does not have verifiable supporting documentation.

The requested board increase is too high. It is especially high considering that ASM proposes to remove feed and feeding from the boarding contract. (Feed/feeding: providing the food horses eat and the service of feeding what they eat.) This is contrary to the contract recently signed by boarders upon ASM's assumption of control of LAEC. Standard board includes an enclosure, bedding, food/feeding, fresh water, and stall cleaning (mucking) labor. These are the basics.

While it appears that they are raising rates 5-7.5%, this is without food/feeding. With food/feeding added back in, using their own numbers, the rate increase comes to between 20-29%. That is unaffordable and unacceptable. The board is being raised AND services are being reduced. .

LAEC's rates are NOT below the market rate in the region. The comps provided by ASM are inaccurate and the facilities are not comparable. ASM only included comps supporting their request to raise rates and did not consider comps supporting LOWERING the rate. Comps did not account for extra services given by other facilities, nor the usable amenities offered.

Increasing the board as proposed is discriminatory and will price out independent and lower income boarders.

Boarders are not responsible for offsetting the costs of 10 plus years of deferred maintenance and neglect. It was represented in meetings that there was a budget to cover the projects needed to return the Center to its former glory.

Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be "fun with numbers," as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings.

Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable.

We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal.

Sincerely

Boarder in Barn A

Sent from my iPhone



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 11:01 AM

To: Sam Kirkeby

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 Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 10:33 AM Sam Kirkeby

wrote:

Dec 3, 2024

Dear RAP ~

No one except the super-rich can afford the board that is being proposed. The LAEC is part of a municipal city PARK. Board fees should be kept affordable to the general public as that was the intent of the original Griffith Park land grant. A place for the public to enjoy nature. The proposed increases are WAY beyond what would be considered reasonable in the greater Los Angeles area. In Los Angeles I have paid within the last 4 years \$400-\$650 for horse board at other public facilities which have INCLUDED 2-3x daily fresh alfalfa hay.

Please reject this huge increase and allow the LAEC to be a park of Griffith Park's commitment to being a place devoted to the public trust and for public enjoyment & benefit as it was always intended.

Sam Kirkeby



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:16 AM

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 12:01 PM madliene haim

wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

As a Burbank homeowner and owner of four horses at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center (LAEC), I urge you to reject ASM Global's proposed board increase and 15-month contract extension request.

We request a thorough audit of ASM's budget by an expert in equestrian facilities. The proposed increase is based on inaccurate comparables and insufficient justification, making horse keeping and riding at LAEC unsustainable.

Key concerns include:

- Many comparables are not true comparables.
- LAEC's rates are not below the regional market rate.
- Board rates are increasing while services are reduced.
- The rate increase, when including feed and feeding, is up to 29%.
- Omitted revenue streams in accounting.
- Inadequate progress in addressing deferred maintenance.

This proposal is unfair and inequitable. I implore you to continue this matter until accurate information is confirmed and reject the current proposal.

Sincerely,
Madliene Haim
Proud Burbank Resident and LAEC Boarder



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:19 AM

To: Gary Clowry

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 12:45 PM Gary Clowry

wrote:

Dear Commissioners

As a Burbank homeowner and owner of horses at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center (LAEC), I urge you to reject ASM Global's proposed board increase and 15-month contract extension request.

My concerns include:

- Underutilized permanent admin and marketing staff at LAEC which are unnecessary and costly.
- The rate increase is not actually 5%, when including feed and feeding, is up to 30%.
- Currently, supplied feed cubes are stored in a central location. However, if boarders need to use bales of hay or other types of feed, there are numerous areas lacking adequate storage facilities. Where will all this additional feed be stored by the boarders?
- LAEC's rates are not below the regional market rate. There was already a sizable rate increase in recent years.
- Omitted revenue streams in accounting.
- Inadequate progress in addressing deferred maintenance.

We request a thorough audit of ASM's budget by an independent expert in equestrian facilities. The proposed increase is based on inaccurate comparables and insufficient justification, making horse keeping and riding at LAEC unsustainable.

This proposal is unfair and inequitable. There are many ways to generate revenue at the LAEC but punishing the core horse boarders is wrong. I implore you to continue this matter until accurate information is confirmed and reject the current proposal.

Sincerely,

Gary Clowry

Proud Burbank Resident and LAEC Boarder



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:37 AM

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Dec 3, 2024 at 10:08 PM Madison Matuszewski <

wrote:

LAEC Equestrians and borders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by an individual with equestrian knowledge and experience, in response to their proposed board increase.

Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed.

We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

Many of their barn comparables cannot be considered comparables

LAEC is not below the market rate in the region

Board is being raised & services are reduced

The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase to close to 30%

Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report

Event and horse show related revenue streams have not come to fruition

Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase

Priority spending so far has been on projects not related to boarding.

Saloon was remodeled with no liquor license, therefore not able to operate as planned

With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable. Boarders do not agree with the proposed increase. **It is not fair, reasonable, or equitable and does not have verifiable supporting documentation.**

Personally as a young equestrian, the LAEC is one of the main reasons I have moved to the area. It has been my life's goal to keep my own horse at the LAEC one day however, with these changes, this will simply never be possible for me financially. It is clear from the recent events and agenda of ASM Global that the LAEC's long standing residents are not at the forefront of their thoughts. For the sake of preserving this historical facility and its people. I employ you to please consider this case.

Sincerely,

The next LA equestrian generation -

Madison Matuszewski

Madison Matuszewski



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Boarder rebuttal to ASM / RAP board increase request NO 24-254

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 10:09 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, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:48 AM Chris Himes

wrote:

Dear Honorable Commissioner's,

I, as a 15 year boarder at LAEC, am joining the request to an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase. Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this review until accurate information is confirmed.

The comps provided by ASM are inaccurate and the facilities are not comparable. Curiously, ASM did not include Stoney Point Ranch in their comps list. Which is also a City owned equestrian center. ASM only included comps supporting their request to raise rates and did not consider comps supporting LOWERING the rate. Comps did not account for extra services given by other facilities, nor the usable amenities offered. The comps provided by ASM all include feed of some sort which is standard for boarding facilities. Whether it's in various types of hay or in cubes as is currently being fed at LAEC. So their proposal and their comps do not match whatsoever. Plus, how can they raise the rates while taking away the essential and standard service of feed?

In response to an extension of their initial contract, that also should be declined. It makes no difference if they were able to take over the operation of the property immediately or 15 months later while the lawsuit played out. They are 10 months in on their initial 2 year contract and have done very little in repairs or improvements that impact the general equestrian community at LAEC.

Examples of prioritizing non equestrian projects that occurred immediately upon their start included gutting and rebuilding The Little White House, gutting and redecorating the main offices, gutting and rebuilding the Rein Cafe, gutting and redecorating The Saloon, repainting the red or yellow curbs and re striping the office parking lots (but not the barn parking lots). Meanwhile, the wooden rail fence along the entry driveway as well as around the arena's are visibly and dangerously rotten in many places. When boards do finally get replaced, many are simply left unpainted. The driveway, parking lots and arena's have quite a few burnt out lights. When asked if these can be fixed, we're told they have no money and they need to submit a replacement proposal to the City. We're asking for a burnt out light bulb to be replaced, not the entire lighting system to be completely replaced. Replace or upgrade the burnt out light now and submit a system wide proposal for future replacement.

They started the repair of the lighting in Barn C in August. At the time we were told it would be a 4 to 6 week project. All we wanted is the lights replaced with ones that don't short out and catch on fire when it rains. The project is now in its 5th month with a projection of completion of February. We were told that the City will be bringing in a licensed contractor to repair and upgrade the barns in order to bring everything up to code. Well a licensed electrical contractor has been brought in for the lighting. But any structural repairs are being done by ASM's own employees. The employees they inherited from the previous management company and the same unskilled labor that got us into the condition we're in today. Many of us have concerns about the patch's being done on supporting structural posts. Is this bringing it up to code? We've also asked if they are going to patch the leaky roofs and they said it's not in their plan at this time. Wouldn't it be prudent to patch the roofs now while there are no horses in the barns? An elastomer coating would be a quick and easy repair to the barn roofs.

In conclusion, I recommend that the Board of Commissioners rejects this proposal of a rate increase, reduction of services (feeding) and an extension of their initial 2 year contract. In fact, I recommend that the City puts a request for proposal out 6 months prior to the expiration of their contract. Simply handing a company a contract without

competitive bidding was a mistake. ASM Global doesn't have the qualifications to operate an equestrian center of this magnitude.

Thank you,

Chris J. Himes

Sent from my iPad



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Vote NO on Request No 24-254

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 11:40 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, Dec 4, 2024 at 11:28 AM Shelley McMahon

wrote:

***PLEASE vote NO on the ASM Proposed Board Increase at LAEC!
DEMAND better accountability and accurate information before considering any rate increase!***

ASM's accounting charts use inaccurate information and should not be trusted.
The charts **do not** compare LAEC facilities to comparable equine facilities.

- ASM's **Current** Rate Scenario includes cubes (**yet ONLY 38% of Boarders use Cubes**). They must be making a profit now on all stalls with no cubes?
- ASM's **Comparable** Properties Chart **use Properties that currently feed Hay**.
- ASM's **Proposed** Rates include NO cubes and NO hay.
Board always has included feed & should continue to do so.
- There are two nearby feed stores which sell hay to Boarders
 - Why not buy hay by the ton (cheaper) & offer feeding hay to Boarders?
 - The facility next door to LAEC offers this; there must be a profit.
- Polo Area stalls are ONLY 10 x 10. ASM's comparable 10 x10 box stalls are \$700. **including Hay.**

Barn Management Issues:

LAEC is in dire need of a Barn Manager. ASM has not demonstrated positive experience in Barn Management. Their specialty appears to be event & social gatherings.

They do not effectively communicate Rules and there is NO enforcement; thus rule-breakers continue with their behavior since there are no consequences.

They are misrepresenting their Projects List. Some examples below:

Establishment of Pest Control Program:

- Numerous horses have suffered wounds and damage due to their hooves being chewed by rats. Boarders have to endure vet bills and treatment programs; at their own expense.
- There are dangerous holes and underground tunnels throughout the Polo Barn area and worse, in the sun pens. Sooner or later, a horse is going to get injured stepping in a hole.

- In Polo area, at least **SEVEN Boarders have experienced car damage with repairs ranging from hundreds to thousands of dollars** (not including tow truck bills) from parking their cars in their assigned parking area. Rats and squirrels have crawled up into the engine area & chewed wire harness wires. Since ASM refuses to manage the problem; all Polo area Boarders need to park elsewhere.

Note: this is a new issue, never a problem, with previous management.

Boarders have recommended solutions to ASM; but they have been ignored.

December 4, 2024

RAP Commissioners

Page 2

- **Disabled Boarders have NO access to ADA-Compliant Parking.**

- **Created A New Maintenance Submittal Process:**

Their **ONLY** form of communication is through email and texting, with a 24-48 hour usual response time, IF you EVER get a response.

You are unable to reach them in person or over the phone, even though there are employees who have offices and are onsite.

- **Implemented 24-hour Security Coverage:**

One of the main needs for night security, is for the horses to be monitored. The Allied Guards have no horse knowledge. They do not know the signs of a horse in distress.

There is **NO secure perimeter fencing**. Repairs have never been made, (when tractors pushed the manure piles against the chain link fence which collapsed it).

I have witnessed coyotes and unauthorized people gain access to the grounds.

There have been numerous instances where ‘homeless’ people get access and use the restroom, showers and walk the property.

- ***PLEASE vote NO on the ASM Proposed Board Increase at LAEC!***

DEMAND better accountability and accurate information before considering any rate increase!

Thank you,

Shelley McMahan



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:27 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 6:21 PM Lisa Hanawalt

wrote:

Forwarding the below letter. Adding that I'm personally disappointed in the new management. They've been unresponsive and unhelpful to anyone who isn't a fancy trainer. As an independent boarder, it's a struggle to have the most basic needs (which are included in the monthly board) met.

I agree increasing the board as proposed is discriminatory and will price out independent and lower income boarders. This barn should be aiming to be more accessible to citizens, not less. ASM is trying to run it like a private country club, not a city-owned amenity.

RE: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase.

Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed.

We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

- Many of their barn comparables cannot be considered comparables
- LAEC is not below the market rate in the region
- Board is being raised & services are reduced
- The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase to close to 30%
- Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report
- Event and horse show related revenue streams have not come to fruition
- Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase
- Priority spending so far has been on projects not related to boarding.
- Saloon was remodeled with no liquor license, therefore not able to operate as planned

With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable. Boarders do not agree with the proposed increase. It is not fair, reasonable, or equitable and does not have verifiable supporting documentation. The requested board increase is too high. It is especially high considering that ASM proposes to remove feed and feeding from the boarding contract. (Feed/feeding: providing the food horses eat and the service of feeding what they eat.) This is contrary to the contract recently signed by boarders upon ASM's assumption of control of LAEC. Standard board includes an enclosure, bedding, food/feeding, fresh water, and stall cleaning (mucking) labor. These are the basics.

While it appears that they are raising rates 5-7.5%, this is without food/feeding. With food/feeding added back in, using their own numbers, the rate increase comes to between 20-29%. That is unaffordable and unacceptable. The board is being raised AND services are being reduced. .

LAEC's rates are NOT below the market rate in the region. The comps provided by ASM are inaccurate and the facilities are not comparable. ASM only included comps supporting their request to raise rates and did not consider comps supporting LOWERING the rate. Comps did not account for extra services given by other facilities, nor the usable amenities offered.

Increasing the board as proposed is discriminatory and will price out independent and lower income boarders.

Boards are not responsible for offsetting the costs of 10 plus years of deferred maintenance and neglect. It was represented in meetings that there was a budget to cover the projects needed to return the Center to its former glory. Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be "fun with numbers," as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings. Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable.

Thank you, Lisa



Re: LAEC BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:34 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 8:48 PM Regina Varolli wrote:

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase. Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed.

We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

- Many of their barn comparables cannot be considered comparables
- LAEC is not below the market rate in the region
- **Board is being raised & services are reduced**
- **The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase to close to 30%**
- **Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report**
- Event and horse show related revenue streams have not come to fruition
- **Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase**
- **Priority spending so far has been on projects not related to boarding.**
- Saloon was remodeled with no liquor license, therefore not able to operate as planned

With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable. Boarders do not agree with the proposed increase. It is not fair, reasonable, or equitable and **does not have verifiable supporting documentation.**

The requested board increase is too high. It is especially high considering that ASM proposes to remove feed and feeding from the boarding contract. (Feed/feeding: providing the food horses eat and the service of feeding what they eat.) This is contrary to the contract recently signed by boarders upon ASM's assumption of control of LAEC. Standard board includes an enclosure, bedding, food/feeding, fresh water, and stall cleaning (mucking) labor. These are the basics.

While it appears that they are raising rates 5-7.5%, this is without food/feeding. With food/feeding added back in, using their own numbers, the rate increase comes to between 20-29%. That is unaffordable and unacceptable. The board is being raised AND services are being reduced.

LAEC's rates are NOT below the market rate in the region. The comps provided by ASM are inaccurate and the facilities are not comparable. ASM only included comps supporting their request to raise rates and did not consider comps supporting LOWERING the rate. Comps did not account for extra services given by other facilities, nor the usable amenities offered.

Increasing the board as proposed is discriminatory and will price out independent and lower income boarders.

Boarders are not responsible for offsetting the costs of 20 plus years of deferred maintenance and neglect. It was represented in meetings that there was a budget to cover the projects needed to return the Center to its former glory.

Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be "fun with numbers," as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings.

Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable.

We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal and to release the financial records from LAEC.

Regina Varolli -- a boarder at LAEC



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:34 PM

To: Erin B

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:21 PM Erin B wrote:
BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

I, Erin Ballew, board 1 horse at LAEC. He's a retired sport horse. He is in the pipe corrals in the back of the property where most retired, old, trail horses, and/or lesson horses are boarded. My two children and I care for our horse, and enjoy the park with him. We ride by Travel Town and wave at the little kids going on the train ride and we stop to let kids pet our horse - he enjoys the attention too. We are keeping the joy of horses alive in Griffith Park as Mr.Griffith wanted it.

I believe our LAEC independent boarder community is most impacted by the large board increases being proposed. **With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable to average, blue collar and middle-class people.**

Pipe corral stalls and feeding of cubes are the **most basic** and **cheapest-type boarding** structure and feed offered.

I was displaced from Circle K Stable, which was sold for condos. In 2022, they charged \$570 - \$600 for pipe corrals and alfalfa hay fed twice a day. They also fed lunch (a 3rd feeding time) at no extra charge if I provided hay - again, there was no extra charge for this service. I had a walk in tack room and a place for extra feed. The board went up from \$500 due to the high cost of hay during the pandemic. Hay is superior to compressed cube feed as it's more natural for horses to eat. Cubes are the cheapest and most basic feed.

I moved to Triple R in mid-2023. LAEC management was not correct in the data they provided on the amount and service offered by Triple R. Triple R offers larger box stalls. They have 4 rates for different stalls. I paid \$656/month for a box stall, walk in tack room, and 2 times a day feed of cubes, and I left there in December 2023. They also offered the cubes to be wet as a free added service to make it easier for the horses to eat.

Again, LAEC is the most basic offering of pipe corral stall, dry cubes twice a day, and a small box for keeping tack. The older, retired, and lesson horses that mostly populate the barns D, E, and F do not need the show and jumping facilities used by the horses who are fancy show horses.

The new LAEC management spends a great deal of money for security. This is not necessary for the old, retired, and lesson horses at the back of the property. This is a waste of money, which is driving high costs for the basic pipe stalls. Perhaps this is needed for the expensive sport horses in barns A to C, then the burden of cost should be put where it is required.

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase.

Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed. We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

- Many of their barn comparables cannot be considered comparables and I have given examples from my personal experience
- LAEC is not below the market rate in the region
- Board is being raised & services are reduced
- The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase to close to 30%

- Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report
- Event and horse show related revenue streams have not come to fruition
- Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase
- Priority spending so far has been on projects not related to boarding
- Saloon was remodeled with no liquor license, therefore not able to operate as planned

With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable to average, blue collar and middle-class people. Boarders do not agree with the proposed increase. It is not fair, reasonable, or equitable and does not have verifiable supporting documentation.

The requested board increase is too high. It is especially high considering that ASM proposes to remove feed and feeding from the boarding contract. (Feed/feeding: providing the food horses eat and the service of feeding what they eat.) This is contrary to the contract recently signed by boarders upon ASM's assumption of control of LAEC. Standard board includes an enclosure, bedding, food/feeding, fresh water, and stall cleaning (mucking) labor. These are the basics.

While it appears that they are raising rates 5-7.5%, this is without food/feeding. With food/feeding added back in, using their own numbers, the rate increase comes to between 20-29%. That is unaffordable and unacceptable. The board is being raised AND services are being reduced.

LAEC's rates are NOT below the market rate in the region. The comps provided by ASM are inaccurate and the facilities are not comparable. ASM only included comps supporting their request to raise rates and did not consider comps supporting LOWERING the rate. Comps did not account for extra services given by other facilities, nor the usable amenities offered.

Increasing the board as proposed is discriminatory and will price out independent and lower income boarders.

Boarders are not responsible for offsetting the costs of 10 plus years of deferred maintenance and neglect. It was represented in meetings that there was a budget to cover the projects needed to return the Center to its former glory.

Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be "fun with numbers," as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings.

Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable. **We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal.**

Thank you for your consideration.

-Erin Ballew



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: No Board Increase

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: Diane Bernert-Shanman

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:35 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 9:50 PM Diane Bernert-Shanman

wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase. Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed.

We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

- Many of their barn comparables cannot be considered comparables
- LAEC is not below the market rate in the region
- **Board is being raised & services are reduced**
- **The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase to close to 30%**
- **Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report**
- Event and horse show related revenue streams have not come to fruition
- **Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase**
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- Saloon was remodeled with no liquor license, therefore not able to operate as planned

With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable. Boarders do not agree with the proposed increase. It is not fair, reasonable, or equitable and **does not have verifiable supporting documentation.**

The requested board increase is too high. It is especially high considering that ASM proposes to remove feed and feeding from the boarding contract. (Feed/feeding: providing the food horses eat and the service of feeding what they eat.) This is contrary to the contract recently signed by boarders upon ASM's assumption of control of LAEC. Standard board includes an enclosure, bedding, food/feeding, fresh water, and stall cleaning (mucking) labor. These are the basics.

While it appears that they are raising rates 5-7.5%, this is without food/feeding. With food/feeding added back in, using their own numbers, the rate increase comes to between 20-29%. That is unaffordable and unacceptable. The board is being raised AND services are being reduced.

LAEC's rates are NOT below the market rate in the region. The comps provided by ASM are inaccurate and the facilities are not comparable. ASM only included comps supporting their request to raise rates and did not consider comps supporting LOWERING the rate. Comps did not account for extra services given by other facilities, nor the usable amenities offered.

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Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be "fun with numbers," as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings.

Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable.

We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal and to release the financial records from LAEC.



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:36 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 10:03 PM Weston Deboer

wrote:

BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

I, Weston DeBoer, board a retired sport horse at LAEC, housed in the basic pipe corrals alongside older, retired, trail, and lesson horses.

The proposed board increase disproportionately impacts independent boarders like me. These hikes make horse-keeping unaffordable for middle-class families and fail to reflect the minimal services provided in the pipe corrals.

Key Concerns:**1. Inaccurate Comparisons**

ASM's comps do not reflect LAEC's limited amenities. Nearby facilities offer better services, including walk-in tack rooms, alfalfa hay, and additional feedings, often at lower rates.

2. Reduced Services, Increased Costs

The proposed increase removes feed and feeding from board contracts, effectively hiking costs by 20–29%, not the claimed 5–7.5%. This reduction is unacceptable and unfair.

3. Mismanagement of Funds

Investments prioritize unnecessary security and non-boarding projects like the saloon remodel, while deferred maintenance continues to impact facilities.

4. Lack of Transparency

Boarders demand an audit of ASM's budget, including equestrian expertise, to verify claims and ensure accurate data informs decisions.

5. Equity and Accessibility

These increases will price out independent boarders and blue-collar families, contradicting LAEC's role as an accessible community resource.

Request to Commissioners:

We urge the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal. The increases are not substantiated, fair, or sustainable. LAEC's board rates are not below market, and ASM's handling of deferred maintenance costs should not burden boarders.

Without accurate and transparent data, this request is arbitrary and inequitable. Please prioritize fair treatment for all boarders and ensure the sustainability of equestrian activities at Griffith Park.

Thank you for your consideration.

Weston Deboer



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: LAEC BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 5, 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 Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 10:09 PM Gretchen

wrote:

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase. Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed.

We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

- Many of their barn comparables cannot be considered comparables
- LAEC is not below the market rate in the region
- **Board is being raised & services are reduced**
- **The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase to close to 30%**
- **Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report**
- Event and horse show related revenue streams have not come to fruition
- **Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase**
- **Priority spending so far has been on projects not related to boarding.**
- Saloon was remodeled with no liquor license, therefore not able to operate as planned

With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable. Boarders do not agree with the proposed increase. It is not fair, reasonable, or equitable and **does not have verifiable supporting documentation.**

The requested board increase is too high. It is especially high considering that ASM proposes to remove feed and feeding from the boarding contract. (Feed/feeding: providing the food horses eat and the service of feeding what they eat.) This is contrary to the contract recently signed by boarders upon ASM's assumption of control of LAEC. Standard board includes an enclosure, bedding, food/feeding, fresh water, and stall cleaning (mucking) labor. These are the basics.

While it appears that they are raising rates 5-7.5%, this is without food/feeding. With food/feeding added back in, using their own numbers, the rate increase comes to between 20-29%. That is unaffordable and unacceptable. The board is being raised AND services are being reduced.

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Boarders are not responsible for offsetting the costs of 20 plus years of deferred maintenance and neglect. It was represented in meetings that there was a budget to cover the projects needed to return the Center to its former glory.

Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be “fun with numbers,” as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings.

Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable.

We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal and to release the financial records from LAEC.

Gretchen Joseph-- a lessee/boarder at LAEC

Sent from my iPhone



Re: Board Report Dec 5, 2024 No. 2-254

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:37 PM

To: Christy B

Good afternoon,

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

On Wed, Dec 4, 2024 at 10:13 PM Christy B

wrote:

Dear President Simril, Vice-President Sanchez, and Commissioners Lloyd, Hutton and Tran,

Please vote No on Board Report No. 24-254 regarding the proposal to raise LAEC boarding rates due to unreasonable pricing and lack of transparency, and No to the request for a 15 month extension for accountability.

1. On September 21, 2024, boarders were presented with new board rates.

- They ranged from **20 to 27% higher** than our current board rates; **and, were 35 to 50% higher than what was presented to RAP back on July 18, 2024, Board Report No. 24-165.**
- When questioned about their numbers, we were told they are just *"fun numbers", "made-up numbers", or "numbers that fit"*, then promised to look into it. ***These dismissals made everything suspect!***

2. At an October 23, 2024 boarder meeting, we found that the proposed board price and cited expenses were **Unchanged** from the September boarder meeting. One thing different is that:

- **ASM eliminated LAEC's standard feeding (alfalfa cubes)**, thus calculating what looked like a lower proposed boarding rate, then trying to sell it as if we asked for it. We DID NOT.
- **Removing the standard feeding of cubes would be in breach of our Boarder Contract that ASM made us sign in February.**
- The loss of food makes our boarding a quasi-dry stall type of board, yet they ask to raise us for premium rates while citing non-existing improvements such as, improved show barns.

3. The expense cited for double stall is bogus. Prior management discovered back in 2019/2020 that double stalls were actually profitable, whereas the single pipe corrals were not. A horse is a horse regardless of the size of the stall. The added cost is the price of a dry stall, that is covered under current rates. Upon discovery, the former Stable Manager, Dale Perkins, wanted to convert all the Pipe corrals into Doubles because they made \$50 vs lost \$50. We argued that LAEC would be pricing out lower incomes options which would not align with Mr. Griffith's gift intention.

- **Using ASM's September presented monthly expense, I get an average cost of \$789 per horse. If I currently pay \$908/month for a double stall → Profitable (+\$119)**
- **Using ASM's monthly expenses presented in October with food removed, I get an average cost of \$656 per horse. Combined with a higher Double stall rate proposed at \$976/month → Even more Profitable (+\$320)**
- **Double stalls are profitable. Increasing to greater than 30% profit is Unreasonable and Unequitable**

ASM presents numbers claiming they lose money on Doubles to justify their unreasonable price hikes. My bottom-up estimate shows doubles are profitable, whereas single pipe corrals are not. This aligns with estimates by previous management with many years of facilities and stable operations experience.

The table below shows the three versions of proposed boarding rates from ASM.

- You can see how rates skyrocketed for doubles during the first request back in July. Currently, we have 46 filled doubles.
- The light blue mid section shows you how the rates shared first in September were higher for the singles than in the earlier July proposal
- You can see how this current request is made to look reasonable, but is still too high AND unreasonable. It ignores the shifted food cost. Dropping standard feeding reduces expenses more than \$582K annually
- Boarders will be able to backfill food at the cube price because of retail pricing and additional service wrapped costs.

Source	AS M "Fun Numbers"	Shows	Trails	Show/Polo	Trails	Show/Polo
		Barns ABC Box Stalls	Barns DEF Single	Polo Barns Single	Barns DEF Double	Polo Barns Double
July 18, 2024, Board Report NO 24-165						
	Current Board	831	635	658	908	908
	Proposed Board Rates Iteration #1	914	699	735	1,206	1,459
Disapproved	Change\$	\$83	\$64	\$77	\$298	\$551
	Change%	10%	10%	12%	33%	61%
Sep '24 Boarder Meeting #1						
	Current Board	831	635	658	908	908
* Justified with mismatched Comps	Proposed Board Rates Iteration #2	997	751	776	1,153	1,153
	Change\$	\$166	\$116	\$118	\$245	\$245
	Change%	20%	18%	18%	27%	27%
Iteration #1	July 18, 2024 No 24-165	914	699	735	1,206	1,459
Iteration #2	Sep 21, 2024 Boarder Meeting	997	751	776	1,153	1,153
* 2 nd proposed rates are even higher?	Change\$	\$83	\$52	\$41	-\$53	-\$306
	Change%	50%	45%	35%	-22%	-12.5%
October 23, 2024 Boarder Meeting #2 / Dec 5, 2024 Board Report NO 24-254						
	Current Board	831	635	658	908	908
* Removed cube food from September rates	Proposed Board Rates Iteration #3	875	667	691	976	976
	Change\$	\$44	\$32	\$33	\$68	\$68
* Boarders asked for hay options or cube credit—NOT removal	Change%	5%	5%	5%	7%	7%
	ASM Alfalfa Cube Feed Removal Values (Expense)	121	121	121	191	191
* Single horse in double stall does not eat more. Inflated expense						
	ASM Total Monthly per Stall Change Impact \$	165	153	154	259	259
	ASM Total Monthly per Stall Change Impact %	20%	24%	23%	29%	29%

This proposal would cost boarders an additional \$800K a year. This is a hardship for many boarders, including me. The increase on a double adds at least another \$3,1K a year. To pay fairly, "Yes, sign me up." To be equitably charged, "No".

The goal post keeps moving on what is expected from boarding. The current board prices that ASM came into were balanced among many considerations. We had a total of four boarder meetings this year with the last two pertaining to the board increase. While boarding by itself is generally not profitable, the equestrian life creates an ambiance, a buzz, and excitement that make the boarding venues attractive. And those revenue streams are what make the facility profitable. This is not happening for LAEC. Can we get management focused on events?

While focusing on a potential board increase and food removal, it seems no one is asking about the General Ops stream. What is it? And why is it so expensive \$2.9M. I read that RAP paid ASM for transition costs prior to contract start, and they have Capital money for capital projects. We request management be transparent about how they are creatively bundling and categorizing costs to then assert unprofitability. May we request an independent audit. I volunteer to assist. Others might too.

Regarding the 15 month extension: The unreasonable board increase without substantiation, the weak forecast in other revenue streams, the priorities implemented, as others have likely articulated better in their emails, these summarize why I ask you to Vote No on the 15 month extension.

I apologize for the late send. In preparing for this meeting I have not ridden a horse for the past 6 days.

Respectfully,

Christy Blackman



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Compare and contrast LAEC prices to Trail Canyon Equestrian Center.

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:38 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 12:34 AM Colleen Stratton

wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

LAEC is currently the most expensive boarding stable in the Rancho Equestrian neighborhood.

The plan to raise rates and eliminate feeding horses is outrageous and a stab in the back to all boarders, especially those of us who were in contact with RAP, informing RAP about the conditions at LAEC.

That's the equivalent of a hospital requiring patients to bring their own food.

RAP's plan will force horse owners of modest means to move. It will make it harder for people to maintain their beloved pets in the Rancho Equestrian neighborhood. Borders will be forced to compete for a limited number of stalls in smaller facilities in nearby areas. The rate increase at LAEC will influence the rates at boarding stables in the Burbank in Glendale area. This dramatic rate increase will have a devastating effect on the equestrian community.

More importantly, boarding stables in nearby areas are available to stay in business and provide better care for less money.

In 2022, after 20 years of boarding at LAEC, my horse passed away. I could not afford to buy another horse and board at LAEC.

Toward the end of my horse's life, in January of 2022, I paid around \$900 for a double stall in E-barn. Plus, \$150 to have my horse fed. Plus, approximately \$250 to \$300 a month for hay. Total: \$1350 per month in 2022.

Nine months later, I moved my current horse to Trail Canyon Equestrian Center in Tajunga.

When I first moved in the rates were \$700 per month. The rates went up after the pandemic because hay prices increased.

Compare and contrast:

In 2024 the rates are: \$850 per month - which included an extra fee for higher priced hay than the hay that was included in the board.

Price Includes:

12 x 12 box stall with 12 x 24 paddock.

Horses are fed 4 times a day: Timothy and Alfalfa Hay twice a day. Timothy Pellets and carrots twice a day.

Horses are turned out two for hours a day - six days a week.

All stalls include:

Cameras

Stall mats

Stalls are cleaned daily.

New shavings twice a week.

All boarders are provided with a built-in locker in the tack room.
The ranch is meticulously clean and well maintained.

Two large arenas. Two round pens.
Multiple Sun pens. Wash rack. Trails nearby.
Dressage trainer Claudia Roberts.

Sincerely,
Colleen Stratton

Sent from my iPhone



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: LAEC BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:38 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 7:39 AM Share Stallings

wrote:

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase. Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed.

We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

- Many of their barn comparables cannot be considered comparables
- LAEC is not below the market rate in the region
- **Board is being raised & services are reduced**
- **The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase to close to 30%**
- **Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report**
- Event and horse show related revenue streams have not come to fruition
- **Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase**
- **Priority spending so far has been on projects not related to boarding.**
- Saloon was remodeled with no liquor license, therefore not able to operate as planned

With the proposed increase, horse keeping and riding at LAEC will become unsustainable. Boarders do not agree with the proposed increase. It is not fair, reasonable, or equitable and **does not have verifiable supporting documentation.**

The requested board increase is too high. It is especially high considering that ASM proposes to remove feed and feeding from the boarding contract. (Feed/feeding: providing the food horses eat and the service of feeding what they eat.) This is contrary to the contract recently signed by boarders upon ASM's assumption of control of LAEC. Standard board includes an enclosure, bedding, food/feeding, fresh water, and stall cleaning (mucking) labor. These are the basics.

While it appears that they are raising rates 5-7.5%, this is without food/feeding. With food/feeding added back in, using their own numbers, the rate increase comes to between 20-29%. That is unaffordable and unacceptable. The board is being raised AND services are being reduced.

LAEC's rates are NOT below the market rate in the region. The comps provided by ASM are inaccurate and the facilities are not comparable. ASM only included comps supporting their request to raise rates and did not consider comps supporting LOWERING the rate. Comps did not account for extra services given by other facilities, nor the usable amenities offered.

Increasing the board as proposed is discriminatory and will price out independent and lower income boarders.

Boarders are not responsible for offsetting the costs of 20 plus years of deferred maintenance and neglect. It was represented in meetings that there was a budget to cover the projects needed to return the Center to its former glory.

Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be “fun with numbers,” as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings.

Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable.

We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal and to release the financial records from LAEC.

Regina Varolli -- a boarder at LAEC



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Reject the proposed board increases at LAEC

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 1:39 PM

To: Zhen

Good afternoon,

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

On Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 8:37 AM Zhen

wrote:

Good morning,

Please reject the proposed board increases at LAEC.

Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be "fun with numbers," as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings. The management team stated that those number on the spreadsheet are inaccurate.

Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable.

D.E.F barn are more of self cleaning barns. Every evening I spend over an hour to clean my own stall. Each stall will filled up an entire mucking cart. Pictured attached.

ASM does not provide adequate amount of shavings. We have to buy our own shaving. Picture attached.

Price of board should not be increase if ASM plans to stop providing food for our horses.

We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal and to release the financial records from LAEC.

Sincerely,
Vanness Zhen



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: AGAINST BOARD INCREASE!!!

1 message

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

Fri, Dec 6, 2024 at 7:38 AM

Good morning,

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

On Thu, Dec 5, 2024 at 5:05 PM erin skold

wrote:

RE: BOARDER REBUTTAL TO ASM / RAP BOARD INCREASE REQUEST NO 24-254

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase.

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We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request, due to the following reasons:

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While it appears that they are raising rates 5-7.5%, this is without food/feeding. With food/feeding added back in, using their own numbers, the rate increase comes to between 20-29%. That is unaffordable and unacceptable. The board is being raised AND services are being reduced. .

LAEC's rates are **NOT** below the market rate in the region. The comps provided by ASM are inaccurate and the facilities are not comparable. ASM only included comps supporting their request to raise rates and did not consider comps supporting LOWERING the rate. Comps did not account for extra services given by other facilities, nor the usable amenities offered.

Increasing the board as proposed is discriminatory and will price out independent and lower income boarders.

Boarders are not responsible for offsetting the costs of 10 plus years of deferred maintenance and neglect. It was represented in meetings that there was a budget to cover the projects needed to return the Center to its former glory.

Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be "fun with numbers," as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings.

Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted in the accounting. The comps presented are not comparable.

We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal.

Erin Sköld



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: ASM Board increase 24-254

1 message

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

Tue, Dec 10, 2024 at 7:43 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 Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 11:19 AM Shelly Morita
Commissioners,

wrote:

LAEC boarders are requesting an audit and review of ASM Global's operating budget, and review of corresponding back up by someone with equestrian knowledge, in response to their proposed board increase. Without accurate information we ask the commissioners to continue this until accurate information is confirmed. We reject the proposed board increases & 15 month contract extension request.

LAEC is not below the market rate in the region
Board is being raised & services are reduced
The feed & feeding component has not been agreed to, and brings the rate increase close to 30%

Multiple boarding related revenue streams have been omitted in the profit accounting report.
Not enough progress has been made to rectify the years of maintenance deferment to warrant another board increase
Priority spending so far has been on projects not related to boarding.

The requested board increase is too high. It is especially high considering that ASM proposes to remove feed and feeding from the boarding.

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Without accurate information this increase is arbitrary. The numbers remain assertions and not facts. This should not be "fun with numbers," as was stated by ASM in one of the meetings.
Many questions remain unanswered. Some of the information presented is inaccurate. Revenue streams have been omitted.

We implore the Board of Commissioners to reject this proposal.

Thank you,
Shelly Morita



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Dorothy and Benjamin Smith Park- Concerned Citizens

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
To: "Stermen, Michael"

Fri, Dec 6, 2024 at 11:26 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 Fri, Dec 6, 2024 at 9:51 AM Stermen, Michael

wrote:

Also in addition to the below, please see attached. The transients are cutting the fence from the outside to access the walkways in our building to do drugs and are trespassing. We would like the city to come out and fix this for us and create something more secure. Please advise

Michael Stermen

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division

Marcus & Millichap

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From: Sterman, Michael
Sent: Friday, December 6, 2024 9:23 AM
To: Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
Cc: Anais Gonzalez <anais.gonzalez@lacity.org>; Kylie Jansen <kylie.jansen@lacity.org>; Hector Vega <hector.vega@lacity.org>; Patrick Mooney <patrick.mooney@lacity.org>; Fred Sterman <fred.sterman@lacity.org>; Stacey <stacey@lacity.org>; councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org; joe.losorelli@lacity.org
Subject: RE: Dorothy and Benjamin Smith Park- Concerned Citizens

Hello following up on this again. Yesterday we had a group of transients from the park sitting in front of our building at 1784 N Sycamore making threats to our tenants walking in and out of the building and smoking crack. The cops were called and did not show up. How do we get this park fenced? Have there been any discussion with your group about what to do with this park? The neighborhood does not feel safe with this free for all in the park. Please let me know how we can take this to the next level. Nothing good will ever arise out of the park the way it is as no sane individual would go there in the condition that it is in and the crowd that it attracts

Michael Sterman

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division

Marcus & Millichap

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From: Sterman, Michael
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2024 11:10 AM
To: Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>
Cc: Anais Gonzalez <anais.gonzalez@lacity.org>; Kylie Jansen <kylie.jansen@lacity.org>; Hector Vega <hector.vega@lacity.org>; Patrick Mooney <patrick.mooney@lacity.org>; Fred Sterman <fred.sterman@lacity.org>; Stacey <stacey@lacity.org>; councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org; joe.losorelli@lacity.org
Subject: RE: Dorothy and Benjamin Smith Park- Concerned Citizens

Hello following up on this again. Will anyone respond here?

Michael Sterman

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division

Marcus & Millichap

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From: Sterman, Michael

Sent: Wednesday, August 28, 2024 10:50 AM

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

Cc: Anais Gonzalez <anais.gonzalez@lacity.org>; Kylie Jansen <kylie.jansen@lacity.org>; Hector Vega <hector.vega@lacity.org>; Patrick Mooney <patrick.mooney@lacity.org>; Fred Sterman <fred.sterman@lacity.org>; Stacey <stacey@lacity.org>; councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org;

joe.losorelli@lacity.org

Subject: RE: Dorothy and Benjamin Smith Park- Concerned Citizens

Again following up on this. We have groups of transients in front of our building at 1784 N Sycamore Ave that are overflowing from the park and the Inside Safe residence across the street at 7047 Franklin. They sit in front of our building doing drugs and scaring our tenants. We have tenants that are not able to leave the building because they are scared for their well being.

Is anyone going to do anything about this? Why is having this open air drug facility (the park) more important than the safety and well being of tax paying citizens. Who can I talk to to get this matter escalated? There is no purpose for this park until something permanent can be figured out.

Michael Sterman

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division

Marcus & Millichap

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From: Sterman, Michael

Sent: Monday, August 26, 2024 3:52 PM

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

Cc: Anais Gonzalez <anais.gonzalez@lacity.org>; Kylie Jansen <kylie.jansen@lacity.org>; Hector Vega <hector.vega@lacity.org>; Patrick Mooney <patrick.mooney@lacity.org>; Fred Sterman

<joe.losorelli@lacity.org>; Stacey <councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org>

Subject: RE: Dorothy and Benjamin Smith Park- Concerned Citizens

Following up on the below email. The petition is now at 222. Please take a look at the comments of the concerned citizens

<https://www.change.org/p/petition-to-fence-and-gate-dorothy-benjamin-smith-park-located-at-7020-franklin-ave-c16bffa6-1b32-44af-86ff-e2d0a49ad23a>

Michael Sterman

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division

Marcus & Millichap

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From: Sterman, Michael

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 11:09 AM

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

Cc: Anais Gonzalez <anais.gonzalez@lacity.org>; Kylie Jansen <kylie.jansen@lacity.org>; Hector Vega <hector.vega@lacity.org>; Patrick Mooney <patrick.mooney@lacity.org>; Fred Sterman <fred.sterman@lacity.org>; Stacey <stacey@lacity.org>; councilmember.soto-martinez@lacity.org; joe.losorelli@lacity.org

Subject: RE: Dorothy and Benjamin Smith Park- Concerned Citizens

Thank you for your email. You mention a few facts here:

1. There are many unhoused individuals who frequent the park and stay overnight
 - a. Per an additional email below "Yes, lots of vandalism and illegal activity at the park. "
2. A resident was concerned regarding the safety of the park as it has been overtaken by the unhoused
3. Maintenance staff will do their best with "limited staff"

“Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.” – Albert Einstein

You are acknowledging that the city is doing everything it can with its "limited staff" and clearly it is not producing any results. LAPD, 311, and other city services come to the park to tell the unhoused to leave or stop doing drugs only for the cycle to continue the next day. Why waste the city's valuable and limited resources over and over again on something that is not working? Per the resident you mentioned, the unhoused have taken over the park meaning that other residents are not using it. Since the park is no longer used for a recreational park, it seems that the most logical solution is to do something that was already done before and WORKED. The park should be fenced which will prevent many of the residents in the area from fear of walking their pets down the road or even taking a stroll down the street. No longer will the unhoused have a safe haven to blast music and do drugs in the park (most of them are coming from the Inside Safe residence across the street at 7047 Franklin) . Most importantly, the city will no longer be wasting time and money on something that doesn't work! The fence is a one time fixed cost that solves all problems! This park is not used any longer by the normal citizens of this community so what is the purpose of keeping it available? There is no more use for this park and it should be fenced, it is a win win for every normal and functioning person in society.

Please let me know what has to be done to make this happen.

Michael Sterman

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division

Marcus & Millichap

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From: rosa.cartagena@lacity.org <rosa.cartagena@lacity.org> **On Behalf Of** Rap Commissioners

Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2024 9:55 AM

To: Sterman, Michael

Subject: Re: Dorothy and Benjamin Smith Park- Concerned Citizens

Good Morning,

Please see response from staff:

Yes, there are many unhoused individuals who frequent the park and at times stay overnight. A concerned neighbor was in contact with our Metro Maintenance Principal yesterday and expressed concerns regarding safety as the park is overtaken by the unhoused. The concerned neighbor stated he has reached out to many agencies including the council office.

Maintenance staff and the HRST team will continue to do our best to keep the park in presentable conditions with limited staff.

The most important component is enforcement. +[Joe Losorelli](#) for awareness and coordination with LAPD SLO for the area.

On Mon, Aug 19, 2024 at 8:37 AM Sterman, Michael

wrote:

Following up on the below. I just drove by the park again and there are various groups of transients loitering in the park clearly doing drugs. There has to be something we can do. Please let me know who I can discuss with

Michael Sterman

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division

Marcus & Millichap

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On Aug 7, 2024, at 10:14 AM, Sterman, Michael

wrote:

Please see below link to petition to fence the park

<https://www.change.org/p/petition-to-fence-and-gate-dorothy-benjamin-smith-park-located-at-7020-franklin-ave-c16bffa6-1b32-44af-86ff-e2d0a49ad23a>

Residents do not feel safe to use the park so what is the point of it if it just houses illegal activity and an eye sore? It was fenced previously how do we do this again until the city can figure out a solution to prevent vandalism and illegal activity? It would seem to me that the most cost effective solution would be to fence the park rather than keep sending staff and spending city resources to have someone come to the park to try and alleviate the issue, only for the next day to have all the same issues happen again.

Is there anyone on the board that I can have a phone call with to discuss this further? This park is not a public asset or resource. It is a liability and it is only a matter of time before something happens there. Please let me know how we can discuss further

Michael Sterman

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division

From: rosa.cartagena@lacity.org <rosa.cartagena@lacity.org> **On Behalf Of** Rap Commissioners
Sent: Wednesday, August 7, 2024 8:37 AM
To: Sterman, Michael
Subject: Re: Dorothy and Benjamin Smith Park- Concerned Citizens

Good Morning,

Please see the responses from the staffs:

I had staff check for encampments in the park today, and none were reported. The last encampment removal was on 7/10/24.

Yes, lots of vandalism and illegal activity at the park.

Definitely a challenge for staff to keep up, but nonetheless, Construction Div. and Maintenance Op. Will continue to do their best.

On Tue, Aug 6, 2024 at 4:57 PM Sterman, Michael

wrote:

Hello I am following up on the below

Michael Sterman

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division

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On Jul 31, 2024, at 9:02 AM, Sterman, Michael
wrote:

Dear All,

I am copying members from the Office of Councilmember Hugo Soto-Martinez that I have been in communication with as well as the commissioners of the Department of Recreation and Parks.

I hope all is well with you. I am contacting you regarding the Dorothy and Benjamin Smith park. This park has been a constant nuisance ever since the fence was removed and before the fence was put up. The park attracts numerous transients that use the park for drug use, camping, and various other activities that prevent it from being a resource for the community members to enjoy. Without constant supervision, this park will ultimately end up the same way it was prior to the park being fenced (it is already getting close to that point).

This park is no longer a park. All of the vegetation is brown, all the trees and walls surrounding the park have been graffiti tagged, and every day tens of transients from the project room key across the street use this park to circle up and do drugs, play loud music, act erratically towards anyone that enters the park, and on numbers cases have threatened members of the community for being in the park. When you call LAPD it takes them 2 days to come out and the CIRCLE team will temporarily ask them to leave for the people to either leave and come right back or just say no. What is the point of this park if it is a constant eye sore and just used for illegal activities? The park should be fenced again until the city departments can figure out a better use for it as it is clear that the city services cannot prevent the above mentioned issues with its current use. Countless community members are too scared to use the park and there are countless vacancies for buildings in the immediate area due to the growing problem. No one wants to live next to a park like this that will eventually turn into a large encampment again.

Another petition has been started to fence this park by community members living in the area. There has to be a solution as the current one is not working. I encourage you all to drive by the park and take a look for yourselves. There has to be a better way. The police and CIRCLE teams just tell the unhoused to move out of the park only for them to return hours later. It is a bandaid fix to an everlasting problem.

See below link

<https://www.change.org/p/petition-to-fence-and-gate-dorothy-benjamin-smith-park-located-at-7020-franklin-ave-c16bffa6-1b32-44af-86ff-e2d0a49ad23a>

Thank you for your time

Michael Sterman

Senior Vice President Investments

Director, Multi Housing Division



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Urgent: Concern Regarding Racial Harassment and Player Safety at City Sports Events

1 message

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

Fri, Dec 6, 2024 at 3:20 PM

Good afternoon,

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

On Fri, Dec 6, 2024 at 3:05 PM Karen Keen

wrote:

Dear Los Angeles Parks and Recreation Department

I am writing to express my serious concerns regarding an incident that occurred during my son's recent flag football game and to request a discussion about ensuring the safety and well-being of all players during city-sponsored sports events.

The game in question took place on Tuesday, December 5, at 8 PM. My son, Maverick Valadez, plays for the Glassell Park All-Stars Majors team, and they were competing against the Ramon Garcia Recreation Center team. During this game, my son, the only African-American player on the field, was subjected to repeated harassment by two boys on the opposing team, who called him the "N-word" multiple times.

Maverick immediately alerted the referee about this unacceptable behavior. However, despite his repeated attempts to bring this to the referee's attention, the harassment continued. Maverick has unfortunately encountered this racial slur before and is familiar with the nuances of "smack talk" in sports, but this incident felt different and targeted, which prompted him to report it right away.

In the fourth quarter, the situation escalated when one of the boys physically assaulted Maverick without provocation, followed by a second boy joining in to hit him. Scared and acting in self-defense, Maverick struck each boy once to protect himself and get away. I witnessed the entire incident, and it was clear that Maverick's actions were solely in self-defense.

After the altercation, the game was paused, and all involved players were pulled out. However, as the teams shook hands at the end of the game, multiple players from the Ramon Garcia team made monkey noises at Maverick as they passed him. Additionally, after the game, the two boys involved in the fight, along with at least one other team member, were waiting for Maverick to walk across the field. Fortunately, members of the staff noticed this and instructed the Glassell Park team to wait until the Ramon Garcia players had cleared out before leaving. I also went to retrieve my car and parked it near the field for Maverick's safety. Several of Maverick's teammates accompanied him as he walked to the parking lot.

That night I was informed that Maverick might face suspension, even though by every account, he did nothing wrong. Ultimately, I learned that the Parks Department decided not to suspend Maverick but only suspended the two boys involved for one game. I find this decision deeply concerning, as it fails to address the seriousness of their actions and the impact on Maverick's safety and well-being. Considering that all players and parents signed a code of conduct, it is unclear why these boys were not removed from the All-Stars team entirely.

I am also troubled by the apparent lack of a protocol for referees to address and de-escalate such situations before they turn physical. This creates a hostile and unsafe environment, not only for my son but for other players, including my younger son, who may face similar challenges in the future.

I respectfully request that the Parks Department contact me to discuss what steps can be taken to ensure the safety of all children during city-sponsored sports events. This includes establishing clear protocols for referees to address and prevent harassment, as well as implementing more serious consequences for players who violate the code of conduct, especially when their actions involve racial harassment and physical violence.

I look forward to hearing from you soon. You can reach me at _____ or this email address,
Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,
Karen Keen



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: 12/9/24, New Updates; Chats Pk North

1 message

Bill Lopez Jr. <bill.lopez.jr@lacity.org>

Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 2:19 PM

To: 17A23 LAPD Community Watch

Cc: Renee Martinez <renee.martinez@lacity.org>, Vahid Khorsand <vahid.khorsand@lacity.org>, RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org, Joe.losorelli@lacity.org, Karen.bass@lacity.org, ben.pak@lacity.org, Councilmember Lee <Councilmember.Lee@lacity.org>, Josh Yeager <josh.yeager@lacity.org>, RAP.COMMISSIONERS@lacity.org, LAFDrequest@lacity.org, Efren Corral <35472@lapd.online>

Thank you for the information. We are scheduled to remove the encampments on 12/17. We frequent Chatsworth Park North as often as possible however the encampments repopulate the moment we leave the park clear of PEH's (people experiencing homelessness).

**Bill Lopez Jr.**

Principal Grounds Maintenance Supervisor II

City of Los Angeles | Department of Recreation and Parks

Homeless Related Services Team

Mail Stop: 656

[3900 Chevy Chase Dr. Los Angeles, CA 90039](#)

Phone: (213) 241-9303

On Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 2:12 PM 17A23 LAPD Community Watch

wrote:

Dear all - I hope this email finds you well. My name is Georgia. I am a community volunteer. I am writing to bring to your attention an ongoing matter of great importance that is negatively affecting Chatsworth Park North located at 22300 Chatsworth St., Chatsworth, CA 91311 (CD12 boundary) and surrounding neighborhoods. There are multiple active tents/campsites, and encampments within Chatsworth Park North.

Bulky items, trash, shopping carts, drug evidence, bedding, clothes, LARGE tents, and more are being used and stored within Chatsworth Park North. People are living in the park. Additionally, there are many locations showing evidence of outdoor fires being used here. Most (except 1 encampment, which is just inside the Germain St. gates) of these areas are located towards the rear of the park, at and around the picnic table areas, oak trees and bathrooms. I've attached photos here. These photos were taken today, in the AM on 12/9/2024.

I am including multiple agencies and jurisdictions on this email to request assistance from all of you in addressing these important issues. You each have the power and influence to pull together a team to make a real difference to both house and offer services to the homeless, and to also clear, clean and remove the public nuisance that they have created. Camping in a public park is not permitted, and no one should be living and burning fires inside our city parks. I believe that your support can help bring about a positive resolution to this matter.

I would be grateful if you could arrange for a team to assess the situation (I know many of you are already aware, but it is worse now) and take the necessary steps to completely resolve these issues and prevent them from happening in the future. Cameras, foot patrol, drive through patrols, and locked gates at night, *I think*, would be a start. I have been told that staff and budgets are short, and that I why I propose that we all team together to resolve this problem. I would be happy to meet with you (and I know so would other volunteers) and provide more details and more information about the situation, if needed.

Chatsworth Park North was recently renovated, and the community goal is to keep this park safe for ALL to visit, and not to be used as a campground or a place to sell or do illegal drugs. We need to improve the quality of life for all who visit this park and live around it. Neighbors are currently afraid to bring their kids and pets to use this park. Park employees are afraid to be attacked, again, by homeless. People are afraid to use the public restrooms. Children, pets, sports teams, families, etc. all deserve to enjoy this park in a safe environment.

Thank you for your consideration and in taking feasible solutions and actions to resolve and improve the threats and conditions that currently exist at Chatsworth Park North.

Sincerely,

Georgia



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: 12/9/24, New Updates; Chats Pk North

1 message

LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 2:16 PM

To: 17A23 LAPD Community Watch

Cc: "Bill Lopez Jr." <bill.lopez.jr@lacity.org>, Renee Martinez <renee.martinez@lacity.org>, Vahid Khorsand <vahid.khorsand@lacity.org>, Joe.losorelli@lacity.org, Karen.bass@lacity.org, ben.pak@lacity.org, Councilmember Lee <Councilmember.Lee@lacity.org>, Josh Yeager <josh.yeager@lacity.org>, RAP.COMMISSIONERS@lacity.org, LAFDrequest@lacity.org, Efren Corral <35472@lapd.online>

Hello,

Thank you for reaching out. Your input is appreciated.

I forwarded your email to our maintenance team and the area supervisor.

Thank you and have a great day!

Neyda

On Mon, Dec 9, 2024 at 2:12 PM 17A23 LAPD Community Watch

wrote:

Dear all - I hope this email finds you well. My name is Georgia. I am a community volunteer. I am writing to bring to your attention an ongoing matter of great importance that is negatively affecting Chatsworth Park North located at 22300 Chatsworth St., Chatsworth, CA 91311 (CD12 boundary) and surrounding neighborhoods. There are multiple active tents/campsites, and encampments within Chatsworth Park North.

Bulky items, trash, shopping carts, drug evidence, bedding, clothes, LARGE tents, and more are being used and stored within Chatsworth Park North. People are living in the park. Additionally, there are many locations showing evidence of outdoor fires being used here. Most (except 1 encampment, which is just inside the Germain St. gates) of these areas are located towards the rear of the park, at and around the picnic table areas, oak trees and bathrooms. I've attached photos here. These photos were taken today, in the AM on 12/9/2024.

I am including multiple agencies and jurisdictions on this email to request assistance from all of you in addressing these important issues. You each have the power and influence to pull together a team to make a real difference to both house and offer services to the homeless, and to also clear, clean and remove the public nuisance that they have created. Camping in a public park is not permitted, and no one should be living and burning fires inside our city parks. I believe that your support can help bring about a positive resolution to this matter.

I would be grateful if you could arrange for a team to assess the situation (I know many of you are already aware, but it is worse now) and take the necessary steps to completely resolve these issues and prevent them from happening in the future. Cameras, foot patrol, drive through patrols, and locked gates at night, *I think*, would be a start. I have been told that staff and budgets are short, and that I why I propose that we all team together to resolve this problem. I would be happy to meet with you (and I know so would other volunteers) and provide more details and more information about the situation, if needed.

Chatsworth Park North was recently renovated, and the community goal is to keep this park safe for ALL to visit, and not to be used as a campground or a place to sell or do illegal drugs. We need to improve the quality of life for all who visit this park and live around it. Neighbors are currently afraid to bring their kids and pets to use this park. Park employees are afraid to be attacked, again, by homeless.

People are afraid to use the public restrooms. Children, pets, sports teams, families, etc. all deserve to enjoy this park in a safe environment.

Thank you for your consideration and in taking feasible solutions and actions to resolve and improve the threats and conditions that currently exist at Chatsworth Park North.

Sincerely,

Georgia

**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: Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 15-0989-S37

1 message

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

Tue, Dec 10, 2024 at 7:28 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 Sat, Dec 7, 2024 at 1:42 PM LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com> wrote:

A Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement (CIS) has been successfully submitted to your Commission or City Council. We provided information below about CISs and attached a copy of the CIS.

We encourage you to reach out to the Community Impact Statement Filer to acknowledge receipt and if this Community Impact Statement will be scheduled at a future meeting. Neighborhood Council board members are volunteers and it would be helpful if they received confirmation that you received their CIS.

The CIS process was enable by the to Los Angeles Administrative Code §Section 22.819. It provides that, "a Neighborhood Council may take a formal position on a matter by way of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) or written resolution." NCs representatives also testify before City Boards and Commissions on the item related to their CIS. If the Neighborhood Council chooses to do so, the Neighborhood Council representative must provide the Commission with a copy of the CIS or rResolution sufficiently in advance for review, possible inclusion on the agenda, and posting on the Commission's website.Any information you can provide related to your agenda setting schedule is helpful to share with the NC.

If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *listed on the Commission's agenda*, during the time the matter is heard, the designated Neighborhood Council representative should be given an opportunity to present the Neighborhood Council's formal position. We encourage becoming familiar with the City Councils rules on the subject. At the Chair's discretion, the Neighborhood Council representative may be asked to have a seat at the table (or equivalent for a virtual meeting) typically reserved for City staff and may provide the Neighborhood Council representative more time than allotted to members of the general public. They are also permitted up to five (5) minutes of time to address the legislative body. If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *not listed on the agenda*, the designated Neighborhood Council representative may speak during General Public Comments.

We share this information to assist you with the docketing neighborhood council items before your board/commission. If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at empowerla@lacity.org.

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

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: North Westwood

Name: Jacob Wasserman

Email:

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(10) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 12/04/2024

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 12/07/2024

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number: 15-0989-S37

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The North Westwood Neighborhood Council strongly supports the motion to establish Activation Zones throughout Los Angeles for the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. These Zones would allow all Angelenos—regardless of economic status or location—to experience Olympic events and activities in public spaces, ensuring that the Games are accessible to the entire City. Modeled after Paris 2024's "Clubs," Activation Zones would provide live screenings, athlete meet-and-greets, and cultural programming, extending the Olympic experience beyond the stadiums. Creating these Zones in every Council District will foster inclusivity, community engagement, and pride, while promoting equitable access to public space. This initiative also aligns with the City's goals for future global events like the 2026 FIFA World Cup and NBA All-Star Game. Activation Zones would not only celebrate the Olympics but create lasting community hubs for future events and civic engagement. We urge the City Council to support this motion and begin identifying sites and funding sources for Activation Zones throughout Los Angeles, including in North Westwood, ensuring the 2028 Games are a shared celebration for all.

Ref:MSG11538340



- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -

Council File: [15-0989-S37](#)

Title: 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games (LA 2028) / Activation Zones / City-Owned Sites / Non-Venue Sites

Position: For

The North Westwood Neighborhood Council strongly supports the motion to establish Activation Zones throughout Los Angeles for the 2028 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games. These Zones would allow all Angelenos—regardless of economic status or location—to experience Olympic events and activities in public spaces, ensuring that the Games are accessible to the entire City.

Modeled after Paris 2024's "Clubs," Activation Zones would provide live screenings, athlete meet-and-greets, and cultural programming, extending the Olympic experience beyond the stadiums. Creating these Zones in every Council District will foster inclusivity, community engagement, and pride, while promoting equitable access to public space.

This initiative also aligns with the City's goals for future global events like the 2026 FIFA World Cup and NBA All-Star Game. Activation Zones would not only celebrate the Olympics but create lasting community hubs for future events and civic engagement.

We urge the City Council to support this motion and begin identifying sites and funding sources for Activation Zones throughout Los Angeles, including in North Westwood, ensuring the 2028 Games are a shared celebration for all.



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 15-0989-S38

1 message

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

Tue, Dec 10, 2024 at 10:08 AM

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Dec 10, 2024 at 9:45 AM LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com> wrote:

A Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement (CIS) has been successfully submitted to your Commission or City Council. We provided information below about CISs and attached a copy of the CIS.

We encourage you to reach out to the Community Impact Statement Filer to acknowledge receipt and if this Community Impact Statement will be scheduled at a future meeting. Neighborhood Council board members are volunteers and it would be helpful if they received confirmation that you received their CIS.

The CIS process was enable by the to Los Angeles Administrative Code §Section 22.819. It provides that, "a Neighborhood Council may take a formal position on a matter by way of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) or written resolution." NCs representatives also testify before City Boards and Commissions on the item related to their CIS. If the Neighborhood Council chooses to do so, the Neighborhood Council representative must provide the Commission with a copy of the CIS or rResolution sufficiently in advance for review, possible inclusion on the agenda, and posting on the Commission's website.Any information you can provide related to your agenda setting schedule is helpful to share with the NC.

If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *listed on the Commission's agenda*, during the time the matter is heard, the designated Neighborhood Council representative should be given an opportunity to present the Neighborhood Council's formal position. We encourage becoming familiar with the City Councils rules on the subject. At the Chair's discretion, the Neighborhood Council representative may be asked to have a seat at the table (or equivalent for a virtual meeting) typically reserved for City staff and may provide the Neighborhood Council representative more time than allotted to members of the general public. They are also permitted up to five (5) minutes of time to address the legislative body. If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *not listed on the agenda*, the designated Neighborhood Council representative may speak during General Public Comments.

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

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: North Westwood

Name: Jacob Wasserman

Email:

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(10) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 12/04/2024

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 12/10/2024

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number: 15-0989-S38

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The North Westwood Neighborhood Council supports the motion to establish free viewing parties and activations across Los Angeles for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. As Los Angeles prepares to host the Games for the third time, it is essential that all Angelenos—regardless of location—have access to the Olympic experience. With over 50 Olympic and Paralympic sports in 80 venues, many Angelenos may not have the opportunity to attend events in person. Free viewing parties and activations in every Council District will ensure that communities across the City, including the San Fernando Valley and Harbor, can engage with the Games. These activations will provide spaces for residents to watch events, participate in Olympic activities, and feel connected to the Games, regardless of cost or venue access. We support the motion's call for at least 28 locations across the City, including non-City owned spaces, to host these events. These public spaces will foster a Citywide celebration, bringing Angelenos together to share in the excitement of the 2028 Games. The North Westwood Neighborhood Council urges the City and LA28 to move forward with planning these accessible, inclusive activations, including in North Westwood, to ensure the Olympics are a true celebration for all.

Ref:MSG11548051



- COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT -

Council File: [15-0989-S38](#)

Title: 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games (LA 2028) / Citywide Viewing Party Locations

Position: For

Summary:

The North Westwood Neighborhood Council supports the motion to establish free viewing parties and activations across Los Angeles for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. As Los Angeles prepares to host the Games for the third time, it is essential that all Angelenos—regardless of location—have access to the Olympic experience.

With over 50 Olympic and Paralympic sports in 80 venues, many Angelenos may not have the opportunity to attend events in person. Free viewing parties and activations in every Council District will ensure that communities across the City, including the San Fernando Valley and Harbor, can engage with the Games. These activations will provide spaces for residents to watch events, participate in Olympic activities, and feel connected to the Games, regardless of cost or venue access.

We support the motion's call for at least 28 locations across the City, including non-City owned spaces, to host these events. These public spaces will foster a Citywide celebration, bringing Angelenos together to share in the excitement of the 2028 Games.

The North Westwood Neighborhood Council urges the City and LA28 to move forward with planning these accessible, inclusive activations, including in North Westwood, to ensure the Olympics are a true celebration for all.



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: SYCAMORE GROVE PARK CD1 LA COUNCIL HERNANDEZ

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Dec 10, 2024 at 7:37 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 and staff.

On Sat, Dec 7, 2024 at 2:25 PM Garcia Incareal

wrote:

DECEMBER 7-24

Council member Eunisses Hernandez

There is a motor home parked in front of the park for 3 weeks.

It does not have license plates

I have called Parking Enforcement

They can not do anything unless you put a request.

Attach pictures.

Mauro Garcia







Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Riverside Bridge Home Temporary Shelter

1 message

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

Tue, Dec 10, 2024 at 7:39 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 Sat, Dec 7, 2024 at 5:01 PM Louis Wenzlaff

wrote:

December 7, 2024

City of Los Angeles
Department of Recreation & Parks
221 N. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Board of Rec & Parks Commissioners,

I want to thank you for taking seriously the ongoing health and safety concerns regarding the Bridge Home shelter. The requirement by the Rec & Parks Commission of Council District for a written and oral report about the proposed Ambassador Program (initially due August 2024) and a report from the City's CAO (Chief Administrative Officer) relative to the operations and performance of Bridge Home shelter (due December 20, 2024) as required at the (date) meeting were a step in the right direction.

Interestingly enough, recently, there have been multiple complaints by Riverside Bridge Home shelter residents about staff behavior, facility cleanliness and safety, and lack of programmatic goals (defined as necessary steps to housing) at Bridge Home shelter. Residents of the shelter have been there at a minimum of a year with many staying up to 3 years now. Additionally, many of the residents' historical complaints were going unanswered and have now been filtering through operator People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) yet the temporarily as built structure, per Bureau of Engineering, was only meant to last 5 years and is deteriorating.

The answer lies in housing the people at the facility and closing it as the building is well past the intended lifespan. The temporary facility was inappropriately placed on public parkland in a recreation space, and has not been successful in housing homeless (10% over 4 years), while property crimes in the area have increased exponentially, causing more harm than providing any good.

We look forward to the Commission following up on the long overdue mandated written report about the Ambassador Program and the CAO report (due December 20, 2024) about the shelter efficacy that we expect to include community input (not simply the viewpoint of CD4 and PATH).

Sincerely,
Dr. Suzanne Wenzlaff



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Riverside Drive Bridge Home shelter

1 message

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

Fri, Dec 13, 2024 at 9:02 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 Thu, Dec 12, 2024 at 7:55 PM D Chew

wrote:

Dear Board of Rec & Parks Commissioners,

We want to thank you for taking seriously the ongoing health and safety concerns regarding the Riverside Drive Bridge Home shelter. The requirement by the Rec & Parks Commission of Council District 4 for a written and oral report about the proposed Ambassador Program (initially due August 2024) and a report from the City's Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) relative to the operations and performance of Bridge Home shelter, (due December 20, 2024) as required at the June 2024 RAP meeting, were a step in the right direction.

Interestingly enough, recently, there have been multiple complaints by Riverside Bridge Home shelter residents about staff behavior, facility cleanliness and safety, and lack of programmatic goals (defined as necessary steps to housing) at Bridge Home shelter. Residents of the shelter have been there at a minimum of a year with many staying up to 3 years now. Additionally, many of the residents' historical complaints were going unanswered and have now been filtering through operator People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) yet the temporarily as built structure, per Bureau of Engineering, was only meant to last 5 years and is truly deteriorating.

The answer lies in housing the people at the facility and closing the facility as the building is well past the intended lifespan. The "temporary facility" was inappropriately placed on public parkland in a recreation space, and has not been successful in housing homeless (10% over 4 years), while property crimes in the area have increased exponentially, causing more harm than providing any good.

We look forward to the Commission's follow up on the long overdue mandated written report about the Ambassador Program and the CAO report (due December 20, 2024) about the shelter efficacy and that we expect to include community input (not simply the viewpoint of CD4 and PATH).

Please agendize the Riverside Bridge Home shelter at the next RAP Commission Board meeting of December 19, 2024 or the January 2, 2025.

Thank You for your time and efforts.
Sincerely,

Dennis Chew (Resident of Los Feliz)



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Public Comment

1 message

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

Wed, Dec 11, 2024 at 8:51 AM

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Dec 10, 2024 at 8:14 AM Ron Bitzer

wrote:

Date: December 10, 2024

TO: RAP Commissioners

FROM: Ron Bitzer, North Hollywood

RE: Public Comment on Report 24-255

Please accept the following public comment.

The proposed City contract for a City Park Needs Assessment (Report 24-255) states:

ARTICLE 4.1.1 The purpose of CONTRACTOR's work under this Agreement is to develop a Citywide Park Needs Assessment (PNA). CONTRACTOR will provide, for the DEPARTMENT's sole and independent consideration, the PNA documents that evaluate the current and potential future uses and projects for the park or specified plan area, (Emphasis added).

Question

Under California law, public agencies cannot shield public records from disclosure by routing them through contractors.

Records do not have to be in the physical custody of an agency to qualify as "prepared, owned, used or retained" by an agency. Records in the possession of a public agency's consultant can be public records if the agency's agreement with the consultant provides that the agency owns or controls the records. *City of San Jose v. Superior Court* (2017) 2 Cal. 5th 608, 623.

Please notify me in a timely manner if you disagree with or will seek an exemption to the above. Thank you.



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Illegal parking

1 message

Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 12, 2024 at 7:57 AM

To: Rudy Ramirez

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, Dec 11, 2024 at 12:14 PM Rudy Ramirez

wrote:

Sent from my iPhone I'm sending this complaint of one of your employees who is sitting in a restaurant having breakfast and is parked illegally on the Red of the curb it's on it's an older ford Taurus station wagon white in color car number I have a photo but I don't know how to upload it



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Venice Dunes Project - meeting request

1 message

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

Thu, Dec 12, 2024 at 7:58 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, Dec 11, 2024 at 12:15 PM Alexandra Tower

wrote:

Hello everyone,

It has come to my attention that some City staff may not have seen this correspondence from September 2024. A full description of the project materials available and a link to them are below.

Many thanks for your attention on this. Warm regards,

Alex

Alexandra Tower, PhD*Coastal Adaptation Program Director*

Pronouns: she/her/hers

—

The Bay Foundation

From: Alexandra Tower

Sent: Thursday, September 26, 2024 1:18 PM

To: Darryl Ford <darryl.ford@lacity.org>; sarah.bryson@lacity.org; laura.macpherson@lacity.org; RAP.COMMISSIONERS@LACITY.ORG; Cathie SantoDomingo <cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org>; jimmy.kim@lacity.org; takisha.sardin@lacity.org; chinyere.stoneham@lacity.org; Brenda Aguirre <brenda.aguirre@lacity.org>

Cc: sean.silva@lacity.org; Jeff Khau <Jeff.Khau@lacity.org>; Juan Fregoso <juan.fregoso@lacity.org>; Tom Ford <tford@santamonibay.org>; Ordower, Aaron <AOrdower@bos.lacounty.gov>; Gaidzik, Zachary <ZGaidzik@bos.lacounty.gov>

Subject: Venice Dunes Project - meeting request

Dear LA City staff members and RAP Commissioners:

You are receiving this email because you have been recommended as a contact for the following project. I appreciate you reading on.

I am the Director of the Coastal Adaptation Program at The Bay Foundation (TBF). We currently have funding from the Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to install almost 5-acres of coastal vegetation on an underutilized portion of Venice Beach. We have the support of several entities in Venice, including the Venice Neighborhood Council, as well as from the office of Traci Park. We have installed dunes in other coastal cities, and we are very much interested in introducing the Venice community to the idea of co-existing with such a coastal dune field.

I understand that the City of LA's Planning department is currently working on revising its Land Use Plan (LUP), which has a full chapter dedicated to climate adaptation and coastal resilience. Because of the threat of sea level rise to coastal erosion and local infrastructure, the use of nature-based solutions, such as naturally developed sand dunes, for enhancing coastal resilience will be seen as a very important component of future planning. As such, we hope that this is perfect timing to move forward on the proposed Venice project.

We have created a folder with resources for you so that you can have access to the full scope of the project and the work that has been completed up until now. This folder includes examples of presentations and footprint iterations, as well as a list of our supporters and partners, and the narrative that we have drafted for the Coastal Development Permit application. Also included is a folder of images of existing projects so that you can see the outcome that we expect in Venice.

You'll find the folders and documents have self-explanatory titles, but I suggest that you start with the introductory letter that I have written to you.

The link is here: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1jPv5cp5gfwHEAngbzLYfRyfhsjFvjMBt?usp=drive_link

We would be grateful for the opportunity to present our ideas to you so that we can listen to your feedback and ask for your guidance on next steps for a successful project.

I very much look forward to meeting with you in small or large groups, as may be more suitable for your schedules. Please let me know your availability in the next two weeks and how you would like to proceed for setting up a meeting, either in person or online.

All the best, Alex

Alexandra Tower, PhD

Coastal Adaptation Program Director

Pronouns: she/her/hers

—

The Bay Foundation

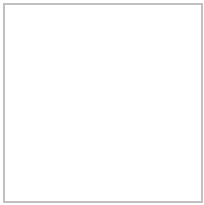


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Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Re: Your Community Impact Statement Submittal - Council File Number: 24-0602

1 message

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

Fri, Dec 13, 2024 at 8:00 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 Thu, Dec 12, 2024 at 3:25 PM LA City SNow <cityoflaprod@service-now.com> wrote:

A Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement (CIS) has been successfully submitted to your Commission or City Council. We provided information below about CISs and attached a copy of the CIS.

We encourage you to reach out to the Community Impact Statement Filer to acknowledge receipt and if this Community Impact Statement will be scheduled at a future meeting. Neighborhood Council board members are volunteers and it would be helpful if they received confirmation that you received their CIS.

The CIS process was enable by the to Los Angeles Administrative Code §Section 22.819. It provides that, "a Neighborhood Council may take a formal position on a matter by way of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) or written resolution." NCs representatives also testify before City Boards and Commissions on the item related to their CIS. If the Neighborhood Council chooses to do so, the Neighborhood Council representative must provide the Commission with a copy of the CIS or rResolution sufficiently in advance for review, possible inclusion on the agenda, and posting on the Commission's website.Any information you can provide related to your agenda setting schedule is helpful to share with the NC.

If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *listed on the Commission's agenda*, during the time the matter is heard, the designated Neighborhood Council representative should be given an opportunity to present the Neighborhood Council's formal position. We encourage becoming familiar with the City Councils rules on the subject. At the Chair's discretion, the Neighborhood Council representative may be asked to have a seat at the table (or equivalent for a virtual meeting) typically reserved for City staff and may provide the Neighborhood Council representative more time than allotted to members of the general public. They are also permitted up to five (5) minutes of time to address the legislative body. If the CIS or resolution pertains to a matter *not listed on the agenda*, the designated Neighborhood Council representative may speak during General Public Comments.

We share this information to assist you with the docketing neighborhood council items before your board/commission. If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at empowerla@lacity.org.

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

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Reseda

Name: Jamie York

Email:

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(12) Nay(1) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 12/09/2024

Type of NC Board Action: For if Amended

Impact Information

Date: 12/12/2024

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees, Climate Emergency Mobilization Commission, Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number: 24-0602

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Reseda Neighborhood Council supports the motion in CF 24-0602 if amended to begin a transition away from artificial turf. The Reseda Neighborhood Council supports a ban on artificial turf in both public and private spaces due to the consequences of artificial turf installations in Los Angeles. Now that California's SB 676 has been signed into law, cities across the state are considering banning artificial turf, and the City of Los Angeles has an opportunity to be a leader in this area. Artificial turf has been a distraction from our environmental goals of making more sustainable landscaping choices. There are several cost efficient alternatives to artificial turf such as native plants and grasses. False promises of water savings have come instead with great expense, in addition to increased urban heat island effect; loss of water permeability; toxic runoff pollution of PFAS and other toxic chemicals into our drinking and other water supplies; increased microplastics in our lakes, rivers, and ocean; sports injuries; and devastating loss of urban habitat during the greatest biodiversity crisis in human history. Also, artificial turf is a petroleum-based product at a time when we need to be moving away from fossil fuels.

Ref:MSG11567072



Council File [24-0602](#)

Synthetic Grass / Artificial Turf / Polyflouroalkyl Substances (PFAS) / Forever Chemicals /
Health and Environmental Risks / Drought-Friendly Landscaping

Support if amended

The Reseda Neighborhood Council supports the motion in [CF 24-0602](#) if amended to begin a transition away from artificial turf. The Reseda Neighborhood Council supports a ban on artificial turf in both public and private spaces due to the consequences of artificial turf installations in Los Angeles. Now that [California's SB 676](#) has been signed into law, cities across the state are considering banning artificial turf, and the City of Los Angeles has an opportunity to be a leader in this area. Artificial turf has been a distraction from our environmental goals of making more sustainable landscaping choices. There are several cost efficient alternatives to artificial turf such as native plants and grasses. False promises of water savings have come instead with great expense, in addition to increased urban heat island effect; loss of water permeability; toxic runoff pollution of PFAS and other toxic chemicals into our drinking and other water supplies; increased microplastics in our lakes, rivers, and ocean; sports injuries; and devastating loss of urban habitat during the greatest biodiversity crisis in human history. Also, artificial turf is a petroleum-based product at a time when we need to be moving away from fossil fuels.

This community impact statement was passed in a meeting compliant with the Brown Act on December 9, 2024 with a vote of 12 yes, 1 no, 0 abstain, and 0 recused