


INFORMATIONAL BOARD REPORT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

MAY 07, 2026

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. Jane Dean comments regarding Men's Restroom at Pacific Palisades Rec Center	#10084a	Referred to General Manager
2. Jennifer Ware comments regarding Telescope Policy at Griffith Observatory	#10094a	Referred to General Manager
3. Sydney Taggart comments regarding Pickleball at Westwood Recreation Center	#10095	Referred to General Manager
4. Linda Blank comments regarding Pickleball at Westwood Recreation Center	#10095a	Referred to General Manager
5. Nishant Jayant Gilatar comments regarding Pickleball at Westwood Recreation Center	#10095b	Referred to General Manager
6. Joerg von dem Bruch comments regarding Pickleball at Westwood Recreation Center	#10095c	Referred to General Manager
7. Debra Sunshine comments regarding Pickleball at Westwood Recreation Center	#10095d	Referred to General Manager
8. Christine Rufolo comments regarding Tiny Homes at Valley Plaza (Alexandria Park) BR 26-075	#10096	Referred to General Manager

9. Diann Corral comments regarding Tiny Homes at Valley Plaza (Alexandria Park) (BR 26-075)	#10096a	Referred to General Manager
10. Linda Cordeiro comments regarding AltaMed Project (BR 26-030)	#10097	Referred to General Manager
11. Jens Midthun comments regarding AltaMed Project (BR 26-030)	#10097a	Referred to General Manager
12. Lisa Napoli comments regarding AltaMed Project (BR 26-030)	#10097b	Referred to General Manager
13. Cassy Horton comments regarding AltaMed Project	#10097c	Referred to General Manager
14. Adriana Alcantara Aquino comments regarding Sanitation and Safety Concerns at Aidan's Place Playground at Westwood Recreation Center	#10098	Referred to General Manager
15. Jack Marshall comments regarding Revenue Share Concession Proposal for RAP Golf Facilities	#10099	Referred to General Manager
16. Tess Dunne comments regarding the Venice Flying Carousel	#10100	Referred to General Manager
17. Amos Marvel and the Reseda Neighborhood Council comments regarding expanding the Community School Parks program within Reseda	#10101	Referred to General Manager
18. Alejandro Caselis comments regarding Field Reservation Policies for LA Youth	#10102	Referred to General Manager
19. Jessica comments regarding Policy of the Use of Shade Tents at Soccer Fields	#10103	Referred to General Manager
20. Gary Pearl and the Venice Neighborhood Council comments regarding the support of the historical restoration of the Ocean Front Walk Pagodas	#10104	Referred to General Manager

21. Ian Bakanov comments regarding Fraudulent Activity at Lanark Park	#10105	Referred to General Manager
22. Windy O'Malley comments regarding the Poor Water Quality and Invasive Water Lettuce at Echo Park Lake	#10106	Referred to General Manager

Prepared by Rosa Cartagena, RAP Commission Office



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

**Re: Pacific palisades rec center**

1 message

**Jane Dean**

Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 4:24 PM

To: Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

Cc: Jimmy Kim &lt;jimmy.kim@lacity.org&gt;, Sonya Young-Jimenez &lt;sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org&gt;, Chinyere Stoneham &lt;Chinyere.Stoneham@lacity.org&gt;

In my disgust I forgot to attach photos. Here you go. Maybe Jimmy should start doing the cleaning.

On Fri, Apr 10, 2026 at 4:22 PM Jane Dean wrote:  
New photos from today. The sludge near the floor drain has been there 3 days. They aren't cleaning. Why don't you get up from behind your desk Jimmy and start going here every day. Clearly no one is checking up on these people. You disgusting pigs.

On Tue, Mar 24, 2026 at 7:41 AM Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org> wrote:

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Mar 23, 2026 at 8:58 PM Jane Dean

wrote:

No. Maybe they should be but they are not clean. The urine sludge appears daily. They need to bleach the floors and do it well daily.

On Mon, Mar 23, 2026 at 8:48 PM Jimmy Kim <jimmy.kim@lacity.org> wrote:

Good morning,

The restrooms are cleaned every morning before 9 a.m., seven days a week. Staff also check them after lunch to restock and provide additional cleaning as needed. I am also adding +Sonya Young-Jimenez Superintendent of the Region to work with the Director to ensure they check on the restrooms.

On Mon, Mar 23, 2026 at 6:40 PM Jane Dean

wrote:

Clearly they need to clean the floor with. Bleach every day.

On Sun, Mar 22, 2026 at 6:38 PM Jane Dean

wrote:

New pics from Sunday afternoon. You still aren't cleaning this place you disgusting pigs. I will follow up with the health dept.

On Thu, Mar 12, 2026 at 10:25 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 and staff.

On Thu, Mar 12, 2026 at 9:18 AM Jane Dean

wrote:

Attached are photos of the men's room. I called the exec office 3 times and the west office once about this and nothing has been done. There is sludge under both urinals, under the soap dispenser, grime on the walls and the floor is sticky.

The other day a guy walked in there with his dog and just after I saw him cleaning the dog's feet. Everyone here knows this is a health hazard. It's disgusting and you all who ignore it, including those who work there in addition to those the offices who ignored it, are disgusting.

I reported it to the health dept this morning. Shame on all of you.

--

City of Los Angeles  
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
Figueroa Plaza  
[221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300](https://www.laparks.org)  
[Los Angeles, CA 90012](https://www.laparks.org)

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

--

**Jimmy Kim**  
**General Manager**

City of Los Angeles  
Department of Recreation and Parks

--

City of Los Angeles  
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
Figueroa Plaza  
[221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300](https://www.laparks.org)  
[Los Angeles, CA 90012](https://www.laparks.org)

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

---

### 3 attachments



**IMG\_4313.jpeg**  
3144K



**IMG\_4314.jpeg**  
7353K



**IMG\_4315.jpeg**  
6605K









Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Independent Telescopes at Griffith Observatory**

1 message

**Jennifer Ware**

Sat, Apr 18, 2026 at 5:43 PM

To: Capri Maddox &lt;capri.maddox@lacity.org&gt;

Cc: Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;, Civil and Human Rights Department &lt;civilandhumanrights@lacity.org&gt;, Claudia Luna &lt;Claudia.Luna@lacity.org&gt;, Kim.Kasrelivich@lacity.org, "E. C. Krupp" &lt;eckrupp@earthlink.net&gt;, Brenda Aguirre &lt;brenda.aguirre@lacity.org&gt;, Mark Pine &lt;mark.pine@lacity.org&gt;, Vanessa Alarcon &lt;vanessa.alarcon@lacity.org&gt;, David Seidel &lt;david.seidel@lacity.org&gt;

Hello Capri,

I'm not really trying to file a claim, per se, though I may have to.

**What I seek most is the simple right to bring my mini-telescope to Griffith Observatory to relax with and use.**

Eye piece scopes, if misused, can burn the eye—instantly—making them a safety risk. But my SeeStar S50 has NO eyepiece. It WIFIs to my phone. I just look at my phone.

Krupp agrees my phone not a safety hazard.

The problem is he asserts that if someone does bring a scope, then conversation/information might not be up to Observatory standards...so a scope cannot be brought.

That is nonsense. He's controlling speech by prohibiting scopes.

I don't know what is up, but the face of this is nonsense. He has a problem with telescopes.

**My rights are being violated. LA City Gov may say no, but a private attorney will see the case.****QUESTION****Why would LA City test the loss of Griffith Park back to the heirs of Mr. Griffith...to keep my non-hazardous scope away?**

What is seen that is so tragic in this charming scope?





It looks like the reason is bogus, a matter of control...not wanting the Director's decision challenged.

But to me, it's like RBG said, trying to get the government's foot off her neck.

My discussions, with or without a scope, are not required to be to any standard. I am kind. I'm a former forensic psychiatric social worker, avd former NSA. I strive to do what is right.

But I don't give away my rights to avoid advocating.

Jennifer Ware

On Sat, Apr 18, 2026 at 3:47 PM Capri Maddox <[capri.maddox@lacity.org](mailto:capri.maddox@lacity.org)> wrote:

I am sorry you feel your Civil rights were violated, but your claim might not be evaluated for a civil rights violation. Unfortunately, our department cannot handle cases involving any government entity. Therefore, for that reason alone, we won't be able to move forward with your case. However, I have sent your matter to our investigators for a formal review. They'll likely give you the same answer in a few days, but I wanted to offer a courtesy response. Thank you for understanding!

**Capri Maddox, Esq., MPA**

*pronouns: she/her/hers*

Executive Director / General Manager

250 East 1st St, Suite 1000

Los Angeles, CA 90012

P: (213) 978-1845

<http://laisforeveryone.com/>

Follow @lacivilrights on [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)



On Fri, Apr 17, 2026, 9:39 AM Jennifer Ware

wrote:

Hello Capri Maddox, et al

LA Civil + Human Rights and Equity Department

RE: Violation of Constitutional Rights at Griffith Observatory, U.S. Constitution 1st Amendment.

I have been denied the ability to bring my micro-smart telescope to Griffith Observatory grounds. The Director, Dr. Krupp, admits my tiny scope is not a hazard.

Here is my tiny scope, by my foot for size (I wear a ladies 10 shoe), and also showing it at Universal Studios. It's 10" tall and weighs 5 lbs. See it here <https://www.seestar.com/products/seestar-s50>





But he says all personal scopes are prohibited (see below) as if someone brings a personal telescope, conversation might not be up to Griffith Observatory standards.

That is the violation of the 1st Amendment. Another person and I have the right to discuss as we please. I am not talking about shouting "Fire" in a theater or anything else that would hurt someone. Though it need not be, my orientation is pretty much inline with modern astronomical theory and practice. I'm a fan. I just enjoy looking at the stars.

E. C. Krupp <eckrupp@earthlink.net>

Apr 9, 2026, 6:06 PM (3 days ago)



to me, Brenda, Mark, Vanessa, David ▾

Dear Ms. Ware:

Thank you for your email message dated 9 April 2026 to the executive management of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, and thank you, too, for your earlier correspondence with Griffith Observatory Foundation. Yoseline Gutierrez sought guidance from the Observatory and responded on behalf of the Foundation to communicate to you Griffith Observatory telescope policy, which has been posted on the Griffith Observatory website since its inauguration

**(The SeeStar S50 I requested to bring)**

Although your instrument is not an optical hazard, Griffith Observatory is solely responsible for managing the astronomical information and astronomical experience for visitors to Griffith Observatory. Through that agency, the Observatory ensures the authenticity of those experiences and the accuracy of that information. For that reason, Griffith Observatory restricts instruments on the grounds to those owned and operated by Griffith Observatory. In addition, on special occasions only, the Observatory partners with experienced astronomical organizations, such as the Los Angeles Astronomical Society. These are solely organizations with which the Observatory has a defined relationship. They provide additional telescopes for public viewing on those occasions, and their operators are vetted.

We encounter proposals for independent telescope operation frequently, and permitting them would undermine the Observatory's ability to provide a visitor experience consistent with Observatory standards. As a matter of longstanding policy and practice—and to ensure the quality of the visitor experience—Griffith Observatory is the agent of all programming on Observatory property. To operate effectively for the public, the Observatory must guarantee that astronomical experiences at Griffith Observatory are provided by informed and trained personnel. Allowing the operation of any independent telescope on Observatory grounds means allowing all independent telescopes on the grounds. If visitors see telescopes randomly and unofficially deployed on Observatory grounds, they will assume the site is open for all such activity and other unofficial programming. The burden of ensuring the safety of the operation of independent telescopes, ensuring the civility, capability, and knowledge of their operators, and ensuring public understanding of their independence is beyond Observatory resources.

Griffith Observatory does not review, permit, or endorse independent astronomical activity on its grounds any more than it reviews, permits, or endorses independent astronomical interpretation inside the building or at its instruments. Unlike the environment at Universal Studios, which is not chartered to provide reliable astronomical information, Griffith Observatory was designed, built, and operated for that purpose.

Best celestial wishes,

E.C. Krupp

Dr. E.C. Krupp  
Director  
Griffith Observatory  
2800 East Observatory Road  
Los Angeles, California 90027

e-mail [eckrupp@earthlink.net](mailto:eckrupp@earthlink.net)

phone (213) 473-0824

fax (213) 473-0816

WWW <http://www.GriffithObservatory.org>

On Col. Griffith's donation to Los Angeles, the land is to FOREVER be used as a park for the benefit of Citizens of Los Angeles (I am), for "...pleasure, amusement, recreation..."

What I asked was to bring my SeeStar S50, sit and lounge with it, while having a sandwich (bought at the cafe below) and a soda pop. It's about pleasure, amusement, recreation (page 2, paragraph 2, of Deed). That is specified in the Deed.

FURTHER, the Deed says, "...if the [land] shall cease to be used as a park...for pleasure, amusement, recreation...the land shall revert to said parties of the first part or to their heirs" (Deed to LA, Page 2, paragraph 2).



- people talk all the time about astronomy and its related subjects at Griffith Observatory, inside, outside, on the steps of, while dining, sitting or walking, breathing...
- even professional astronomers disagree on major issues related to astronomy, such as the age, size, scope, breadth...of the universe, speed of light issues, distance to stars, the nature of black holes, etc., and
- I see no reason why discussion would be problematic if my little SeeStar is present.

I've asked what he means by information not being up to Observatory standards. I've asked for examples of what is okay, or not okay...but I get no information from him about that. Just an intellectualized and baseless prohibition.

I ask again for the prohibition in policy of all personal telescopes be amended to allow mini-scopes **that have no eye piece** (so can't damage the eye if misused). Admitting one kind of scope does not mean a need to admit all kinds. One can make that amendment based on safety. Dr. Krupp says mine is not a hazard.

I will take this to the top. I am a stakeholder in Griffith Park and Griffith Observatory. I don't need to give up my rights to use them.

Please advise him to make the change and allow my SeeStar S50.

Thank you

Jenna Ware  
Resident of Los Angeles  
Stakeholder in the Park (which includes Griffith Observatory)

On Tue, Apr 14, 2026 at 7:38 AM Rap Commissioners <[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)> wrote:

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 4:57 PM Jennifer Ware wrote:

Commissioners  
Brenda Aguirre  
E C Krupp  
Mark Pine  
Vanessa Alarcon  
David Seidel  
Sam Wen

So, E C Krupp has admitted my micro-scope, SeeStar S50, is not a safety risk. I agree.  
<https://www.seestar.com/products/seestar-s50>

But he says that if a private telescope is present at Griffith Observatory, conversation might not be up to Observatory standards, therefore the tiny scope prohibited. ???

He never says what that standard is or how he would even know what two people at a distance were talking about.

He just violates the Constitution, 1st Amendment, at will with the assumption that conversation might not be okay.

Can he give an example of what he's talking about?

It sounds to me like a controlling personality, not a precaution against unreasonable discussions.

I've brought my scopes to Griffith Observatory many times, at star parties, never a problem. Dr. Krupp doesn't explain why it would be a problem now that my scope is smaller.

This is one of my earlier scopes, at Griffith Observatory—looking at the sun spots with a proper filter—and below it is a photo I took with it one night of the Orion Nebula (30 second time exposure):



In fact, if you read below, you can see me refute—one by one—all of the assumptions Dr Krupp made and his insults.

This is my micro-SeeStar S50 at Universal Studios. Charming.



Can you please ask E Krupp what would be tragic about me sitting with this SeeStar while lounging through a lovely afternoon with a sandwich—as opposed to lounging there WITHOUT the SeeStar?

What magical difference would the SeeStar make that made discussing hazardous?

What would I discuss with it that would be so bad, that I wouldn't discuss without it?

Jenna Ware, MSW, LCSW, ATP

On Thu, Apr 9, 2026 at 7:43 PM Jennifer Ware

wrote:

Dr. Krupp,  
Observatory Leadership  
Park Leadership

I've always liked you, Dr. Krupp, but I, reluctantly, must say that a lot of what you say is just not true. Blatantly false, even insulting.

| Although your instrument is not an optical hazard

**So public safety is not the issue—good—but discussion of astronomy if I bring it is the real risk.**

**You don't want discussion if someone has a telescope there? The telescope makes discussion a problem?**

You do know we sit and discuss speed of light problems on Observatory front steps? How relativity differs from human 3D perceptions? How it could be? How measuring astronomic distances is done? But all that is a problem if we bring a scope?

| Griffith Observatory is solely responsible for managing the astronomical information and astronomical experience for visitors to Griffith Observatory.

False. That's just not true. The 1st Amendment allows people to discuss, and you don't get to restrict our discussions.

And People discuss astronomy all the time there. Since always. We like it. Often people are wrong, sometimes right, but people are responsible for what they say. You are not responsible for their words, ever. You may feel you want to be, but you're not.

| Through that agency, the Observatory ensures the authenticity of those experiences and the accuracy of that information. For that reason, Griffith Observatory restricts instruments on the grounds to those owned and operated by Griffith Observatory.

You mean if you own the telescope, then the information you share is correct?

You do know scientists strongly disagree on various aspects of astronomy, don't you?

—What's inside a Black Hole,  
—whether the universe will eventually evaporate,  
—how large is the universe, considering the shored of light, expansion, etc...

Saying only you can talk about astronomy, means you don't want people to learn. Discussing is part of it. Any teacher knows this. It's like saying people can't discuss math at Caltech, law at UCLA. Only their authorized people can. The premises to which you leap are unfounded.

It's just false that you may regulate discussion of a private telescope is present.

Or is it that you want to be held "the teacher," regardless?

| In addition, on special occasions only, the Observatory partners with experienced astronomical organizations, such as the Los Angeles Astronomical Society.

I was a life member of LAAS. Then a member indicated he was going to batter me, beat me up. He looked like he was going to do it. I was deeply hurt. Other members relate other problems with women. The president of LAAS at the time called me, said that man was in therapy for PTSD...asked me to forget the horrible incident "for the good of the club." I refused to forget, had to and did tell the Board, because other women may be at risk. They need to weed out some bad eggs. (I used to work in Forensics with felons.) Then I was vilified as crazy, to protect the club.... I stayed away ever since. Finally, I quit the club remaining vilified. This is common

for women abused in life, to be vilified so as to be disbelieved. Then other members of LAAS told stories on the list about problems with women at LAAS...

Do you mean that LAAS?

That's your upstanding club?

LAAS never told you that, did they? You only heard some botched version that differs? Or nothing?

That kind of club is better than someone who actually tells the truth?

And...and so...then, as a former LAAS life member, I am an experienced telescope operator. I also greet people in 39 languages, so I can connect with people.

However, I'm NOT talking about holding Star parties; **I'm talking me, a soda pop, a sandwich from your cafe, lounging on the patio of the cafe, or lawn, enjoying the view my S-50 puts on my phone, a private experience.**

| These are solely organizations with which the Observatory has a defined relationship.

You really should re-think that.

| They provide additional telescopes for public viewing on those occasions, and their operators are vetted.

Then I am a vetted one, too.

But don't put LAAS on a pedestal. They aren't what you think.

| We encounter proposals for independent telescope operation frequently,

And you block all that? You know Griffith Park, of which the Observatory is a part, is meant for all the people. Don't your numerous other requests for a policy change tell you anything?

If many people want to bring their scope, then what does that tell you?

| and permitting them would undermine the Observatory's ability to provide a visitor experience consistent with Observatory standards.

No. False. That's just something to say.

In reality, that's an effort to be a sole teacher, to tie the tongues of other interested parties.

All of us are stakeholders in both the Observatory and the Universe. We're also stakeholders.

Some people who come may regard themselves your students. But others want to talk, discuss. That is NOT BAD. It's just part of human beings sharing, talking. It's cruel to try to stop them.

| As a matter of longstanding policy and practice—and to ensure the quality of the visitor experience—Griffith Observatory is the agent of all programming on Observatory property.

This isn't about programming. It's about a soda pop, a sandwich, and my view of the heavens.

| To operate effectively for the public, the Observatory must guarantee that astronomical experiences at Griffith Observatory are provided by informed and trained personnel.

False. As I pointed out before, you have no business telling two people how to talk. They can be there even if they still think Ptolemy was right, with his geocentric model, Earth is at the center...

You are saying—overall—that they must talk to your standard if one of them has a telescope. What does that have to do with it? They can also talk without one. Should they seek your guidance? Agree with you, against other dissenting scientists?

| Allowing the operation of any independent telescope on Observatory grounds means allowing all independent telescopes on the grounds.

False. Only allow models you consider safe, not a public risk...like

- one without an eyepiece, as is used wrong during the day can cause blindness
- one without a large tripod that can be tripped over
- one that doesn't block the sidewalk
- one that is small

Don't allow kinds that may be a public safety risk.

If visitors see telescopes randomly and unofficially deployed on Observatory grounds, they will assume the site is open for all such activity and other unofficial programming.

No. Set limits, as I've shown. Put a sign on the fence, etc., publish guidelines on the website.

The burden of ensuring the safety of the operation of independent telescopes, ensuring the civility, capability, and knowledge of their operators,

You mean like LAAS?

Sitting in a chair, looking at my phone at the image from my scope (the way my scope is used) is civil, peaceful, studious. It's not a riot, hon.

and ensuring public understanding of their independence is beyond Observatory resources.

I'm an old former psychotherapist, forensic social worker. **You're building this incorrect-info-thing into chaos that isn't there. Your predictions are not realistic.**

Griffith Observatory does not review, permit, or endorse independent astronomical activity on its grounds any more than it reviews, permits, or endorses independent astronomical interpretation inside the building or at its instruments.

Wow. So looking at my phone is so wrong? You are mistaken.

You allow large cameras. You allow binoculars. But 1/2 a binocular is a problem. Can you put the pieces of all the together?

Can you see that the problem is not in the personal telescope but in your fears?

I've been coming 46 years.

Taking about astronomy is Not the problem you think it is.

Unlike the environment at Universal Studios, which is not chartered to provide reliable astronomical information, Griffith Observatory was designed, built, and operated for that purpose.

Then you should have everyone wear a gag to make sure they don't say something you dont like.

Dr. Krupp,

You really don't understand people, human behavior, how they talk, disagreements between scientists on a whole range of astronomical issues, etc. You're rationalizing and intellectualizing whole ways trouble happens from that mini-scope, that soft drink, and that sandwich.

It's time you retire.

Get a scope and lounge some afternoons at Griffith Observatory,

Cosmic best wishes.

Jenna Ware

Best celestial wishes,

E.C. Krupp

Dr. E.C. Krupp  
Director  
Griffith Observatory  
2800 East Observatory Road  
Los Angeles, California 90027

e-mail [eckrupp@earthlink.net](mailto:eckrupp@earthlink.net)  
phone (213) 473-0824  
fax (213) 473-0816  
WWW <http://www.GriffithObservatory.org>

On Thu, 9 Apr 2026 at 11:07, Jennifer Ware

wrote:

Hello  
Commissioners  
Jimmy Kim, General Manager Parks  
Cathie Santo Domingo, Assistant GM  
Brenda Aguirre, Special Operations  
I would have been pleased to include Dr. Krupp, but I don't have his email address.

Please let me share with you a problem I found per outdated policies at Griffith Observatory. The policy appears to have been instituted before modern technology (see below).

The no-telescope policy now makes it look like Griffith Observatory lives in the 20th century. With modern technology, it appears to throw the baby out with the bathwater, so to speak...to toss out the safe scopes with the older possibly-hazardous ones.

Binoculars are welcome; that's two scopes side-by-side. So why are they okay and miniature electronic scopes such as mine (below) are not? Purses, shopping bags, large cameras with telephoto lenses, etc. The Observatory just refuses

- miniature electronic scopes,
- tripods or other accessories,
- don't want us to look up, and
- don't want us to talk to each other about astronomy.

Griffith Observatory Foundation has told me, per my question, what is on this page at the bottom, <https://griffithobservatory.lacity.gov/visit/calendar/star-parties/>

<Screen Shot 2026-04-09 at 10.19.58 AM.png>

PUBLIC SAFETY? With the behemoth below, yes. But my scope HAS NO EYEPIECE, is smaller than many purses or cameras. I carry it in my rucksack. It's about the size of my foot (see pic below).

ACCURACY OF INFORMATION? I've been to Griffith Observatory a thousand times since 1980. People talk about astronomical issues all the time. It's always been alright to talk with others there. But not if I have a scope present?

Where did the scope prohibition come from?

What if I wear a note on my chest that says, "I do not work here."

I am guessing this policy of no scopes outside an invitation with a recognized group **was instituted BEFORE modern technology**, when a person might have brought large set-ups like this below. This is from the 20th century.

**BAD if public doesn't know how to be around them:**

<Screen Shot 2026-04-09 at 10.23.05 AM.png>

There is a risk to safety with this kind of setup. EYE DAMAGE. If looking at the sun with no filter, or with an improper filter, then the sun's energy can focus on the retina and burn it. Also, someone may trip over something, etc.

But better than that, is my modern, 21st century electronic telescope that

1. **has no eye piece to look through**, as it's electronic and wifis to my phone. I just look at my phone for the image, so I CANNOT burn the retina,
2. **does not need a tripod**. There is one for it, a few inches high, but it is not needed. <https://www.seestar.com/products/seestar-s50?srsftid=AfmBOooycvGkZxMciPKWh6P9vVOLrHbUSrq2vRTZsjbwCYo-PTliXQkS>
3. **I just sit in the grass, or out-of-the-way patio..., and enjoy the view on my phone**, pecefully. I can shop on Amazon on my phone, but not see the image my scope provides?

**See here by my foot for scale. It is 10 inches high, and weighs 5 lbs., about the size of my foot.**

## **GOOD, harmless to the public.**

<Screen Shot 2026-04-09 at 10.06.43 AM.png>

Nothing about the prohibition makes sense in this modern age.

To me, this is a peaceful afternoon. I'd go down to the cafe and get some refreshments, sit and watch through my scope. It could even sit beside my chair. Nice.

### **SUGGESTION**

Because of possible retina damage if using a scope with an eyepiece, if no proper solar filter, tripping hazard over tripod, and size, then **change the policy to read**

- "...only use electronic telescopes that will fit in a purse,
- with no supporting equipment, such as a tripod, which one could trip over, and
- that have no eye piece, which if misused could harm an eye."

### **CONCLUSION**

I think the Observatory should be modern and accessible, encouraging people to learn more about astronomy, and it could if policies are brought into the 21st century.

Please don't give the impression that the Observatory is behind the times. Please allow such as this small, electronic scope.

Jenna Ware

--

City of Los Angeles  
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
Figueroa Plaza  
[221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300](https://www.laparks.org)  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

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



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

**Re: A Personal Note in Support of Our Westwood Pickleball Community**

1 message

**Chinyere Stoneham** <chinyere.stoneham@lacity.org>

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 7:59 PM

To: Sydney Taggart

Cc: mariana.valdivia@lacity.org, sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org, juan.aynat@lacity.org, rap.publicinfo@lacity.org, rap.commissioners@lacity.org, Brenda Aguirre &lt;brenda.aguirre@lacity.org&gt;

Hello,

Thank you for your email and for sharing your personal perspective.

We will note your concerns and comments as we move forward. We appreciate you taking the time to reach out to us.

Best,

On Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 11:45 AM Sydney Taggart

wrote:

Dear Mr. Aynat, Ms. Valdivia, Ms. Stoneham, and Ms. Young-Jimenez,

My name is Sydney Taggart, and I am a regular member of the Westwood Recreation Center pickleball community. I understand you have already been in contact with Dr. Bobby Ko on our behalf, and I am grateful for that. I'm writing independently because I feel strongly that you should hear from as many of us as possible — because what we stand to lose is not just court time. It is something far more personal than that.

I want to tell you what Sunday mornings at Westwood Rec actually look like. There is a warmth to this group that is hard to put into words. People who would never otherwise cross paths — different ages, different backgrounds, different abilities — show up week after week and genuinely look out for one another. I have watched friendships form between people with nothing in common except a love of this game and this community. In a city where so many people feel invisible or disconnected, that is not a small thing. That is everything.

The research on loneliness — particularly among older adults and minorities — is heartbreaking. But what gives me hope is that we have already built, right here at Westwood Rec, exactly the kind of community that addresses it. No funding required. No complex program. Just a \$5 contribution, a shared set of courts, and people who genuinely want to be there for each other.

That is why the prospect of a private concessionaire taking over with significantly higher fees is so devastating to contemplate. It would not just raise prices — it would erase the very thing that makes us who we are. The accessibility. The openness. The simple fact that anyone can walk up on a Saturday morning and belong.

I know you have been working hard on our behalf, and I want you to know how much that means to our community. We see your efforts and we are truly grateful. I'm writing not to add pressure, but to add my voice — one more person asking you to please keep fighting for us.

This community has quietly changed lives. I hope you will help us protect it.

With heartfelt thanks,  
Sydney Taggart

--  
Chinyere Stoneham



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Westwood Park pickleball**

1 message

**Chinyere Stoneham** <chinyere.stoneham@lacity.org>

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 8:07 PM

Cc: "uan.aynat@lacity.org" <uan.aynat@lacity.org>, "mariana.valdivia@lacity.org" <mariana.valdivia@lacity.org>, "sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org" <sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>, "rap.commissioners@lacity.org" <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, "rap.publicinfo@lacity.org" <rap.publicinfo@lacity.org>, Brenda Aguirre <brenda.aguirre@lacity.org>

Hello Ms. Blank,

Thank you for your email regarding the pickleball courts at the Westwood Recreation Center.

We have noted your concerns and comments as we move forward with this matter. We appreciate you taking the time to share your feedback with us.

Best,

On Sat, Apr 11, 2026 at 4:53 PM linda blank

wrote:

Dear city of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks officials,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal of sharing the public Pickleball courts at the Westwood recreation Center with a private concessionaire.

As an active participant in the local Pickleball community I rely on these public facilities to stay active. Public parks are meant to serve the community and privatizing the spaces even partially restricts access for every day players and harms the vibrant inclusive environment we have built here in Los Angeles. Keeping these courts 100% public ensures that everyone has an equal opportunity to play and connect with their neighbors without facing pay walls or reduced court availability.

The current allows people of all ages and skill levels to enjoy roundrobin play without the pressure of finding a game or waiting to be included in an existing game. It is created a community of players which exemplifies exactly what a public park should do. No one is excluded because of skill level, financial constraints. A private concessionaire has a different agenda.

I urge you to reject any agreements that would hand over our public court time to private interest. Thank you for your time service and dedication to keeping our public spaces truly public.

**Linda M. Blank**

--  
Chinyere Stoneham



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Westwood Pickleball**

1 message

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 8:28 AM

To: Nishant Jayant Gilatar

Cc: "juan.aynat@lacity.org" &lt;juan.aynat@lacity.org&gt;, "mariana.valdivia@lacity.org" &lt;mariana.valdivia@lacity.org&gt;, "chinyere.stoneham@lacity.org" &lt;chinyere.stoneham@lacity.org&gt;, "sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org" &lt;sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org&gt;, "RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org" &lt;RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org&gt;

Good morning,

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

On Mon, Apr 13, 2026 at 8:01 AM Nishant Jayant Gilatar

wrote:

Dear city of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks officials,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal of sharing the public Pickleball courts at the Westwood recreation Center with a private concessionaire.

As a new participant in the local Pickleball community I rely on these public facilities to stay active. Public parks are meant to serve the community and privatizing the spaces even partially restricts access for every day players and harms the vibrant inclusive environment we have built here in Los Angeles. Keeping these courts 100% public ensures that everyone has an equal opportunity to play and connect with their neighbors without facing pay walls or reduced court availability.

I urge you to reject any agreements that would hand over our public court time to private interest. Thank you for your time service and dedication to keeping our public spaces truly public.

Thank you,  
Nishant J Gilatar.

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

## Re: Please Help Us Protect Our Pickleball Community at Westwood Recreation Center

1 message

Chinyere Stoneham &lt;chinyere.stoneham@lacity.org&gt;

Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 8:10 PM

To: Joerg von dem Bruch

Cc: mariana.valdivia@lacity.org, sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org, juan.aynat@lacity.org, rap.publicinfo@lacity.org, rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Hello Joerg,

Thank you for your email. We will note your concerns and comments as we move forward. We appreciate you taking the time to reach out.

On Sun, Apr 12, 2026 at 10:33 AM Joerg von dem Bruch

wrote:

Dear Mr. Aynat, Ms. Valdivia, Ms. Stoneham, and Ms. Young-Jimenez,

My name is Joerg, and I am a regular player at the Westwood Recreation Center pickleball community. I'm writing to you because I know you are already familiar with our situation through Dr. Bobby Ko's outreach — and because I want you to hear directly from one more member of this community how much is at stake.

Every Saturday and Sunday, our group gathers at Westwood Rec and **something genuinely remarkable happens**. Look around any given morning and you'll see a retired teacher rallying next to a college student, a grandmother laughing with someone half her age, people of every background, race, and fitness level sharing a court and a common joy. In many ways, **our little pickleball community is a mirror of what this city and this country are supposed to be — a genuine melting pot**, not as an ideal but as a lived, weekly reality.

That matters deeply in **a city facing an epidemic of loneliness**. Research is unambiguous: social isolation is one of the greatest health threats facing older adults and minorities in urban communities. What we have built at Westwood Rec is a direct, grassroots antidote to that. For many of our players — especially older members and those who may not otherwise find easy community — these sessions are a lifeline for both physical and mental well-being.

We make it work simply: each person pays \$5, we pool our resources, provide setup, paddles, and balls, and run it ourselves. **No profit. No gatekeeping. Open to everyone**. That \$5 price point is not incidental — it is the whole point. It is what makes this community genuinely inclusive rather than just aspirationally so.

I want to sincerely thank each of you for the time and care you have already given to working with Dr. Ko and our community. Your engagement has meant a great deal to us, and we do not take it for granted.

**And yet I would be doing this community a disservice if I didn't also say plainly:** if the Department moves forward with a private concessionaire at significantly higher fees, **our community disbands. It is that simple**. The people who show up every weekend — the seniors, the beginners, the regulars who have found friendship and belonging here — cannot absorb those costs. What took years to build would be gone.

I hope you will continue to champion our cause. We are counting on you, and we are deeply grateful.

Warm regards,  
Joerg

—

--  
Chinyere Stoneham  
Assistant General Manager



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Preserve Community**

1 message

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Apr 29, 2026 at 8:41 AM

To: Debra Sunshine

Cc: juan.aynat@lacity.org, mariana.valdivia@lacity.org, chinyere.stoneham@lacity.org, sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org, rap.publicinfo@lacity.org

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Apr 28, 2026 at 7:54 PM Debra Sunshine wrote:

I understand that the City is considering renting out the far western courts at Westwood Rec Center to a private concessionaire, possibly TNT.

During the pandemic, I took up Tennis after many years and it became a lifeline to get through very dark times. Later on I started playing pickleball and was amazed how it could bring people together. I was able to finally meet and play with members in my community that I had only seen your dogs, at the post office, etc.

While I'm a strong advocate for both sports, the Westwood Pickleball Community is exceptionally generous and inviting and needs to remain as a public group. When TNT operated in the Palisades, there were numerous complaints over management style— especially for women and minorities. I would not want to see this company in particular takeover our public courts for their own profit. The Westwood Pickleball Community is very special and should continue to get to use the courts. Westwood has other tennis courts available for tennis, but the west courts should remain Pickleball for the community—not for the profit of a few.

Thank you,  
Debra Sunshine

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Tiny Homes in Laurel Grove Neighborhood**

1 message

---

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

Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 8:29 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, Apr 14, 2026 at 10:57 PM Christine

wrote:

**RAP Commissionioners:**

As a resident of Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association and home owner, I have lived in this area since 1989. Homelessness has steadily increased in our area since the 1994 earthquake, with little support from the City to redevelop the Valley Plaza area hit hard by this event. The decision to take existing park land away from a community still struggling since the 1994 earthquake only added to our frustrations.

Since 2020, the temporary pallet homes, also known as Tiny Homes project, has been installed at 6099 Laurel Canyon, Parcel #2334-002-900, Valley Plaza, aka Alexandra Park, for five years; that is 2 years longer than the original plan. The current mandate states because there is a housing emergency that continues to exist, this project should be extended one more year.

So, now I would like to ask what has been done to mitigate the homelessness in our neighborhood during the past five years?? We still continue to see homelessness, in fact it has increased because the tiny homes have allowed other unhoused individuals to continue to congregate in the area surrounding the tiny homes, and also includes the park by the freeway all the way up to Victory Blvd.

Tiny homes are a revolving door for individuals who do not follow the rules set for them. There is a constant movement of new people moving in, as the others are expelled for non-compliance to the rules. What is not evident is a comprehensive report listing the number of individuals who have transitioned from the Tiny Homes to a more permanent housing situation. However, if one exists, **please** make this report available to the Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association. Share their success with those of us who want all people to succeed in our community.

In the meantime, I will continue to object to the extension of this contract for one year longer, mainly because I have not seen consistent comprehensive monitoring to protect the members of our neighborhood from existing drug deals, occasional fires in the parks, and increased encampments in the park outside the tiny homes. There are not sufficient supportive services to address the needs of this unhoused population. Meanwhile, there are fewer open spaces for residents to walk, and enjoy...especially as we compare our available park areas to other neighboring communities, such as Sherman Oaks, and Studio City.

**Christine Rufolo**

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

**Re: Recreation and Parks Report 26-075**

1 message

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 7:43 AM

To: D C

Cc: "Adrin Nazarian, Councilmember District 2" <councilmember.nazarian@lacity.org>, "CD2 - Jocelyn Cardenas, District Director" <jocelyn.cardenas@lacity.org>, "CD2 - Ben Kwok, Field Deputy Valley Glen & Valley Village" <ben.kwok@lacity.org>, "CD2 - Tiffany Zeytounian, Planning Deputy" <tiffany.zeytounian@lacity.org>

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 9:54 PM D C

wrote:

Please include the attached letter regarding Recreation and Parks Report 26-075.

Thank you,  
Diann

*Diann Corral, President  
Laurel Grove Neighborhood Association*



--

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

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

# Laurel Grove

## Neighborhood Association

April 14, 2026

By email: [rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)

Board of Commissioners, Department of Recreation and Parks

Re: Recreation and Parks Report 26-075  
CD2 Pallet Housing Project – Valley Plaza Park (Alexandria Park) North Hollywood

Dear Commissioners,

We are writing to oppose the 1 year extension of the temporary homeless shelter at Valley Plaza (Alexandria Park) and ask that the Commission implement a plan to relocate the shelter off park land. In 2020, our community was assured that this facility would not remain in place for more than 3 years. It has now been 5 years, and on April 2, 2026, the Commission approved a 6<sup>th</sup> year. With no clear plan or commitment to relocate the shelter off park land.

During this time, residents of Laurel Grove and the surrounding neighborhoods, both east and west of the Hollywood Freeway have continued to bear disproportionate impacts from the City's ongoing homeless crisis. While our community is sympathetic to the needs of the unhoused individuals and supports humane, effective measures to improve their living conditions, we cannot ignore the reality that some individuals decline services, while others choose to remain in vehicles or encampments. The shelter village has served as a magnet for individuals preferring motorhome living, those opting to live in tents, and those preferring to live in automobiles. Creating conditions that threaten the health, safety, private and public property, and quality of life of nearby residents.

These ongoing issues include:

- Blocked sidewalks due to tents, belongings and trash, restricting access for both able-bodied and disabled residents
- Discharge of firearms
- Menacing and threatening behavior toward residents in the neighborhood and park
- Trespassing onto private property
- Public urination, defecation, and improper waste disposal leading to health concerns

Page 2 of 2

April 14, 2026

Re: Recreation and Parks Report 26-075  
CD2 Pallet Housing Project – Valley Plaza (Alexandria Park) North Hollywood

- Fires, both intentional and accidental, endangering homes and worsening respiratory illnesses
- Late-night and early morning disturbances
- Oversized vehicles parked on public streets, obstructing visibility and signage
- Graffiti and accumulation of large amounts of rubbish
- Vandalism of resident vehicles
- Loss of street and park lighting due to wire theft and illegal tapping into streetlight circuits

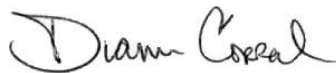
We were told that parking restrictions would be enforced, that tents and campers would not be permitted within a 1-mile radius of the park, and that the surrounding neighborhoods would receive enhanced sanitation services, regular comprehensive cleanings, and increased police patrols. Yet despite a recent cleanup, these issues continue to plague our community, with no end in sight.

The City already suffers from a shortage of neighborhood parks. The temporary homeless shelter currently occupies 1.72 acres of the 5.43 acres at Alexandria Park, and although the shelter itself does not cover the entire site, the associated impacts extend throughout the full park area. We urge the Commission to take leadership by developing and implementing a plan to relocate the shelter off park land within the coming year, and to transition unhoused individuals into dignified, long term housing solutions that include built in treatment and support services.

Our community has waited decades for the redevelopment of Valley Plaza. Once the shelter is relocated, we ask that Recreation and Parks partner with a developer to integrate the 5.43 acres of park land at Alexandria Park into a new project through a joint use agreement, ensuring that the community does not lose park space, but instead gains a safe, usable, and well maintained park within the redevelopment.

We request your assistance in restoring the 5.43 acres of Alexandria Park to the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diann Corral". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Diann Corral, President



**Re: AltaMed/RAP Agreement - BR 26-030**

1 message

**Takisha Sardin** <takisha.sardin@lacity.org>  
To: Linda Cordeiro  
Cc: rap.commissioners@lacity.org

Received, thank you.

**Takisha Sardin**  
Board Secretary  
Department of Recreation and Parks  
Office of the Board of  
Recreation and Park Commissioners  
Office: (213) 202-2640  
F: (213) 202-2610  
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
[Takisha.Sardin@lacity.org](mailto:Takisha.Sardin@lacity.org)

**Park Proud LA**



PARKPROUDLA



On Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 6:04 PM Linda Cordeiro  
Commissioners,

wrote:

Please see the attached letter, serving as Public Comment on the above-referenced Board Report item. (Corrected for Ms.Sardin.)

Thank you.

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

[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)

DATE: April 15, 2026

RE: ALTAMED/RAP AGREEMENT FOR 1<sup>ST</sup> AND BROADWAY (FAB) – BR 26-030

Dear Commissioners,

As property owners and residents of Downtown Los Angeles, we appreciate the desire to finally activate the long-dormant lot at 1st and Broadway. However, the above-referenced agreement between AltaMed and the Department of Recreation and Parks raises serious concerns about both process and substance.

The manner and speed by which this “temporary” lease agreement has advanced is troubling. Sidestepping the usual regulatory routes and community outreach implies that the real intention is to establish a foothold for something more permanent before the public has been given a legitimate opportunity to weigh in. This failure to engage downtown Los Angeles stakeholders until this late stage sadly reflects a pattern that our community knows all too well.

In addition, the project plans presented thus far are too vague and underdeveloped, which is surprising, given that AltaMed began exploring museum plans in 2018, and has been considering this specific site since at least 2024.

The current proposal also falls far short of the vision originally associated with this site in accordance with the 2013 Grant Deed and subsequent plans. The public was promised something much closer to a true state-of-the-art park. What is now being described instead is a limited-access, fenced-off space with temporary structures, artificial turf, minimal landscaping, and wellness/recreational programming that is primarily aimed at a narrow user group — RAP related youth athletes, their families, and RAP staff — rather than benefitting the broader public.

Finally, the low lease fee is questionable; based on a calculation tied to prior temporary film-related revenue and at a time when the City is facing major budget pressures and actively discussing ways to better monetize public assets.

This is not how city approval for the establishment of a private project of this scale, on very valuable public land, should be managed.

This arrangement warrants much closer scrutiny, and the people of Los Angeles and the residents of DTLA deserve better.

We urge you to slow this process down, and require a more transparent and inclusive public process before this proposal moves any further. At a minimum, AltaMed and the Department of Recreation and Parks should be expected to conduct broader outreach and return with plans that are more concrete, more inspiring, and more worthy of this important public site.

Thank you,

Anita To (The Douglas)

Jeff Sommerville (The Douglas)

Josh Gray-Emmer (The El Dorado)

Linda Cordeiro (Pan American Lofts)

Lauren Pettit (The Rowan)

cc:

Takisha Sardin, Board Secretary

[Takisha.Sardin@lacity.org](mailto:Takisha.Sardin@lacity.org)



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Board Report 26-030: AltaMed Museum of Chicano and Mexican Art / Design and Operation of the El Corazón Art Park Project (1st and Broadway Civic Center Park)**

1 message

---

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

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 7:44 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, Apr 15, 2026 at 5:06 PM Jens Midthun wrote:

Dear community partners,

At our regular public meeting on April 14, 2026, the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Board of Directors voted to send the following letter in regards to the AltaMed Museum of Chicano and Mexican Art / Design and Operation of the El Corazón Art Park Project (1st and Broadway Civic Center Park) .

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

--

**Jens Midthun****President****Area Wide Director**City of Los Angeles  
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
Figueroa Plaza  
221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, CA 90012Telephone: (213) 202-2640  
Fax: (213) 202-2610  
Mail Stop: 625/15  
Website: [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org)

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



## DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL OFFICERS

JENS MIDTHUN  
PRESIDENT

TERESA Y. HILLERY  
VICE PRESIDENT OF ADMINISTRATION

DAMION WAGNER  
VICE PRESIDENT OF  
OUTREACH & COMMUNICATIONS

TERIN NGO  
SECRETARY

TATHEER ADNAN  
TREASURER



WWW.DLANC.COM

EMAIL: INFO@DLANC.COM

April 14, 2026

### **RE: Board Report 26-030: AltaMed Museum of Chicano and Mexican Art / Design and Operation of the El Corazón Art Park Project (1st and Broadway Civic Center Park)**

To Whom It May Concern:

At a public meeting on April 14, 2026, the Board of Directors of the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council ("DLANC") voted to provide the following comments below:

Due to a lack of information regarding the applicant's specific programming intentions and the lack of clarity regarding the provided scope of work, the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council is **unable to take a position** at this time. While DLANC supports organizations investing in the Downtown Los Angeles community, and supports the concept of activating the park site, we encourage our city partners to provide additional time for all parties to engage in meaningful dialogue before rendering a decision on this matter.

The 1st and Broadway site (FAB Park) holds immense civic importance for the City of Los Angeles. Following the 1976 earthquake-related demolition of the former 13-story State office building, the parcel remained vacant for over thirty-five years. Its acquisition in 2013, as authorized by [Board Report 13-072](#), was a cornerstone of the ["50 Parks Initiative."](#) intended to provide much-needed open space in a community that lacks sufficient recreational services.

The critical nature of this site is underscored by the [Los Angeles Park Needs Assessment](#) (PNA), which identifies Downtown Los Angeles (DTLA) as a high-need community where increasing density and population have intensified the demand for accessible green space. Specifically, the PNA recognizes the urgent need for facilities in the "Per Square Mile-Downtown" area. Given this high-need designation, ensuring the meaningful and appropriate stewardship of remaining park land is a matter of community equity. Every square foot of dedicated park space in DTLA must be protected against uses that do not align with the PNA's goal of providing accessible, publicly managed recreational facilities for all residents and visitors. This situation underscores the urgent need for comprehensive management of parkland, land use, and other City assets within the Civic Center, aligned with broader revitalization efforts in the greater DTLA area, including the

Civic Center Master Development Plan (CCMDP) and [DLANC's letter regarding the CCMDP](#) as a more expansive vision for open space and public assets in our community.

Regarding the development of the FAB park site, the community has historically experienced a profound lack of follow-through. Despite several attempts to develop the site over the decades, the 2013 acquisition promised a permanent civic resource that has yet to be fully realized. Crucially, the [Grant Deed recorded on June 5, 2013](#), explicitly mandates in Clause 1 that the Real Property shall be used for **parks or open-space purposes** for a period of not less than 25 years following the Close of Escrow. The deed includes a reverter clause specifying the property shall revert back to the Grantor should the use change to anything other than public recreation, enjoyment of scenic beauty, or conservation. Furthermore, the Certificate of Acceptance and [Board Report 13-072](#) designated that the site be set apart and dedicated as park property in perpetuity.

While DLANC is grateful for AltaMed's willingness to activate this site, the method in which this process has unfolded has created an appearance of intransparency. Although the AltaMed team has had clear intentions since August 2025, the lack of meaningful engagement with DTLA stakeholders suggests an effort to avoid public scrutiny. DLANC previously submitted a [request for continuance on February 2, 2026](#), due to significant concerns regarding transparency and the excessive speed at which this project was advancing without adequate public oversight. DLANC ultimately withdrew these continuance requests under the explicit assurance from City staff that broad and meaningful community outreach would be included in the advancing months. However, the current lack of transparency suggests these assurances have not been fully met.

Furthermore, while DLANC is supportive of temporary activations, the scope presented, including significant site alterations and "temporary" structures, far exceeds the standard definition of a temporary activation. We hold specific concerns regarding the "wellness center" scope, which lacks alignment with the core mission of park and open-space uses as defined in the Grant Deed. The current proposal lacks DTLA-based community programming and fails to address the specific needs of the communities immediately surrounding the site.

Therefore, DLANC requests that AltaMed, the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners, and the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) consider the following modifications to the proposed project scope:

### **Community Outreach & Engagement**

- **Coordinated Outreach:** AltaMed, in coordination with Council District 14 (CD14), RAP, and the Mayor's Office, shall coordinate a community engagement strategy.
- **Public Meetings:** This engagement must include a formal public community meeting to present project details to the broader constituency.
- **Stakeholder Inclusion:** Conduct targeted outreach to additional community-based stakeholders in the immediate adjacent area.

- **Neighborhood Council Coordination:** Facilitate a dedicated coordination and working session with the Neighborhood Council, with direct involvement from RAP and CD14, to address specific community concerns.

### Site Design and Access

- **Site Accessibility:** Modify the design to provide direct park access from the 1st Street and Spring Street corner.
- **Regional Connectivity:** Ensure the site allows for seamless connections to Grand Park (Gloria Molina Park) and coordinate this approach with the Grand Park/Music Center and the County of Los Angeles.
- **Fencing Alternatives:** Avoid adding perimeter fencing; if fencing is required for security, utilize materials that ensure visual transparency and seek alternatives to chain-link fencing.
- **Park Hours:** Ensure site access seven days a week until at least 10:30 PM, in alignment with [LAMC 63.44](#) regarding park hours and public access.

### Programming

- **Arts Collaboration:** Work with the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) to develop a visual and performing arts programming scope that fits the mission of an "Art Park".
- **Local Programming:** Partner with CD14, RAP, and the DCA to incorporate Downtown and area-based community organizations and arts groups into the site's programming.
- **Civic Access:** Extend "Civic-Based programming" to allow local community organizations to utilize the site for meetings and public assemblies, functioning as a community center.

Sincerely,



Jens Midthun  
President,  
DLANC



Heera Kapoor  
Chair,  
DLANC Livability Committee



Andrew Wong, AIA  
Chair,  
DLANC Planning & Land Use Committee



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

**Re: FAB Park**

1 message

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Wed, Apr 22, 2026 at 8:06 AM

To: lisa napoli

Cc: karen.bass@lacity.org, ysabel.jurado@lacity.org,

Adan Acosta &lt;adan.acosta@lacity.org&gt;, matthew.rudnick@lacity.org,

rap.partnerships@lacity.org, cathie.santodomingo@lacity.org, brenda.aguirre@lacity.org, RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org

Good morning,

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

On Wed, Apr 22, 2026 at 7:15 AM lisa napoli

wrote:

Dear Mayor Bass, Council Member Jurado, and others,

As a long-time DTLA resident, I'm deeply concerned about the backdoor "activation" of the park at 1st and Spring/Broadway by health care provider AltaMed.

At last night's DLANC meeting, a presentation was made attempting to show that this activation of a long-dormant space is benign.

It seems anything but.

\*Why was this deal to use a public space executed with a well-off health-care provider? (Who, ironically, as part of its mandate, must be governed by a board comprised of its own patients?)

\*If their lease is "just" for a year, why is it they are going to the trouble to run power and water to the site? Is there a promise of a longer term arrangement?

\*The "team" of AltaMed people did not answer the question about whether this pop-up commercial for AltaMed will be open to non-AltaMed patients. It's not clear what the gain is for AltaMed in constructing this site.

\*Is this entire operation a ploy to get the land for a more permanent museum to showcase AltaMed's curious 4k piece art collection?

AltaMed's Ms. Sanchez made an offhand remark that in "five or six years" they do hope to build such a structure, although she didn't say where. (You may recall Eli Broad got a backdoor deal to build his museum on CRA land—but that was not land designated to be a park nor was it owned by the city.)

Ms. Sanchez also made the disingenous casual remark regarding this curious art collection that someone who trades health care services might donate an artwork that winds up being worth a bundle later. I hardly doubt that's how AltaMed has amassed its vast, impressive collection, but it sounds great for PR to say so!

AltaMed is very rich. Its CEO and his wife, who runs the AltaMed Foundation, appear to make quite handsome salaries. The company benefits wildly from being a Federally Qualified Health Center.

Why are they being given the opportunity to lease prominent space for a paltry sum, with no public dialogue until now?

Please give us some answers.

Thank you,

Lisa Napoli

Resident of downtown since 2004



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

## Re: Request for CD 14 Assurance re Formal Public Process for FAB Park Long-Term Use

1 message

Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

Wed, Apr 29, 2026 at 8:02 AM

To: Cassy Horton

Good morning,

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

On Tue, Apr 28, 2026 at 5:40 PM Cassy Horton

wrote:

Dear Councilmember Jurado and Team,

We are writing to follow up on our ongoing advocacy regarding the AltaMed proposal for the First and Broadway park site, and to make a specific request of your office.

Following our meeting with AltaMed's government affairs team on Friday, we sent the attached email today requesting a written assurance that any pursuit of long-term or permanent use of the FAB Park site will be subject to a full, transparent, and competitive public process commensurate with the original FAB Park planning.

**We are making the same request of your office.**

**Specifically, we are asking that Council District 14 provide a written assurance that it will not support any long-term or permanent change of use at the First and Broadway site without that proposal being subjected to a process commensurate with the one the City conducted for the original FAB Park:** including robust outreach to Downtown residents and stakeholders; public presentations with adequate notice; full disclosure of all relevant agreements, financial terms, and conceptual plans; an open request for proposals for use of the site; and CEQA review appropriate to the actual scope, duration, and intended future use of the proposal. Again, we have made the same request of the AltaMed team.

Council Member Jurado campaigned on co-governance, openness, and a clear break from the opaque dealmaking that has too often excluded residents from decisions about their own neighborhood. **This site, directly across from City Hall, acquired as dedicated park land, and the subject of more than a decade of public planning, is precisely the kind of decision that should reflect those values.**

A written assurance from CD14 would send an unambiguous signal to Downtown residents and everyone involved that the long-term future of this site will be determined through a fair and open process, not through the kind of expedited, insider-driven track that brought us to this point. It would also give DTLA RA the foundation we need to engage constructively with the short-term activation process and bring our community along in good faith.

**Until we have that assurance, DTLA RA is not in a position to engage with or promote the short-term activation process.** We understand timing is of the essence, and we are ready to move quickly once we have a commitment to separate the short and long-term efforts and renew community trust.

We are available to meet at your convenience and welcome the opportunity to work through the language of the assurance together.

Our initial letter outlining process concerns is attached again for everyone's reference, along with our communication to the AltaMed team. We are looping in RAP, the Mayor's office, and DLANC for transparency and awareness.



Cassy Horton &lt;cassandra.c.horton@gmail.com&gt;

---

**Re: Meeting re FAB Park / AltaMed Project Next Week**

1 message

**Cassy Horton**

Tue, Apr 28, 2026 at 3:29 PM

To: Christina Sanchez

Cc: "L.A. Ridings"

, Octavio Gonzalez

Hi Christina and Octavio,

Thank you for meeting with us on Friday. We appreciated the conversation and came away with a clearer picture of AltaMed's vision for the site.

**DTLA RA's concerns on behalf of residents have always been about the process.** Specifically, the absence of meaningful community engagement before this proposal advanced, and the lack of clarity about what a path to long-term use of the site would look like. As your own now publicly available advocacy materials and communications have described it, the short-term activation is intended as the foundation for a long-term partnership and a permanent museum. We take that framing seriously, which means we cannot treat the short-term and long-term as separate questions.

**In order for DTLA RA to engage with, promote, or encourage resident participation in any AltaMed-led process for this site, we need a written assurance on the following:**

That AltaMed will not pursue any long-term or permanent use of the First and Broadway site without subjecting that proposal to a full, transparent, and competitive public process commensurate with the one the City conducted for the original FAB Park: including robust outreach to Downtown residents and stakeholders; public presentations with adequate notice; full disclosure of all relevant agreements, financial terms, and conceptual plans; an open request for proposals for use of the site; and CEQA review appropriate to the actual scope, duration, and intended future use of the proposal.

**Until we have that assurance in writing, DTLA RA is not in a position to engage with the short-term activation process, promote it to our community, or characterize it publicly as a good-faith community engagement effort.**

We recognize that Friday's conversation reflected genuine good faith on AltaMed's part, including an acknowledgment that this process could have been approached differently from the start. We appreciate that candor, and we think it points directly to why this written assurance matters.

**A commitment to a fair, open, and community-centered process for long-term use is the most meaningful way to honor that acknowledgment, rebuild trust with Downtown residents, and demonstrate the kind of respect this site deserves.** Public land directly across from City Hall, arguably the most significant civic site in Los Angeles, warrants nothing less. We genuinely want to hit reset on this process and work with you as a partner to protect a long-term use process commensurate with the gravity of the site.

We are happy to discuss the specific language and are open to working through it together. We are making the same request for a written confirmation of process of Council District 14, the Mayor's Office, the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC), and the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP).

We understand timing is of the essence, and we're happy to engage our community once we have this assurance.

Thank you,

**Cassy Horton and Leslie Ridings Co-Founders**  
**DTLA Residents Association** [www.dtlara.org](http://www.dtlara.org)

---

On Fri, Apr 24, 2026 at 7:47 AM Christina Sanchez

wrote:

Good morning Cassy,

Following up on a zoom link for our call at 2:30 today. I'm happy to provide one, please let me know. I'd also like to include Octavio Gonzalez, I've copied him.

Thank you

Christina

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Cassy Horton  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 23, 2026 6:09:16 AM  
**To:** Christina Sanchez  
**Cc:** L.A. Ridings  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting re FAB Park / AltaMed Project Next Week

**CAUTION: External Email** - Please do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Sure that works fine! I can send over a zoom invite later today.

On Wed, Apr 22, 2026 at 11:06 PM Christina Sanchez wrote:  
Thank you for your prompt response. Anyway you can consider 2:30?

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Cassy Horton  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 22, 2026 10:40:57 PM  
**To:** Christina Sanchez  
**Cc:** L.A. Ridings  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting re FAB Park / AltaMed Project Next Week

**CAUTION: External Email** - Please do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Great! How is Friday at 3pm?

Cassy

On Wed, Apr 22, 2026 at 10:33 PM Christina Sanchez wrote:  
Good evening Cassy,

Thank you for reaching out. I am available to chat at any time, let me know if you want to schedule something, I will make myself available.

Please let me know how you would like to proceed.

Thank you,

Christina

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

**From:** Cassy Horton  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 22, 2026 10:14:22 PM  
**To:** Christina Sanchez  
**Cc:** L.A. Ridings  
**Subject:** Meeting re FAB Park / AltaMed Project Next Week

**CAUTION: External Email** - Please do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Christina,

I am writing on behalf of myself and Leslie Ridings, my co-founder of the DTLA Residents Association (DTLA RA).

Our board is meeting this weekend to discuss the FAB Park temporary use and long-term concepts from AltaMed, the process to date, and the best way to engage on these issues on behalf of the 3,500 Downtown residents and stakeholders we represented.

Are you available to chat next week about the project?

Thanks so much,

Cassy

--

**Cassandra (Cassy) Horton**  
**(she/her)**

April 21, 2026

Office of the Mayor  
Office of Councilmember Ysabel Jurado, Council District 14  
City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks  
Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC)

200 N. Spring Street, Suite 425  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**Re: Request to Pause the AltaMed Proposal at 1st & Broadway and Restore a Full Public Process for FAB Park**

Dear Councilmember Jurado and Staff, Mayor Bass and Staff, and President Midthun and Members of DLANC:

The Downtown Los Angeles Residents Association (“DTLA RA”) is an all-volunteer grassroots organization founded in 2024 that actively works to represent all of the 90,000 people who call DTLA home. Our mission is to create a connected, caring, civically engaged urban community that inspires new and existing residents to make DTLA their long-term home. We have mobilized and connected with more than 3,500 Downtown residents and community stakeholders in approximately 24 months. Our policy positions are rooted in listening to our community and data. Green space and parks have been a top 5 resident priority every year since we launched based on a broad-reaching community survey that solicited more than 500 responses across 10 Downtown neighborhoods this year. We are invested in working to deliver on the priorities of the people who live in Downtown LA, including upholding their needs and priorities when it comes to parks and green space.

**On behalf of the DTLA RA, we write to respectfully request that the City pause any further advancement of the AltaMed “El Corazón Art Park” proposal for the 1st & Broadway (“FAB”) Park site (the “Parcel”) and subject any proposed change in use for the Parcel to a full, transparent, and community-facing public process.<sup>1</sup>**

At the April 2, 2026 meeting of the DLANC Special Joint Planning & Land Use and Livability Committee, AltaMed representatives stated that the proposed El Corazón Art Park Project would occupy the Parcel not only for the initial one-year term, but through the 2028 Olympics. Although initially vague, under repeated and direct questioning from community members they ultimately acknowledged that AltaMed had plans to construct a permanent Museum of Chicano and Mexican Art on the Parcel thereafter. This interaction itself and recorded comments after the meeting raised questions about the extent to which the presenters were being transparent with the community, even during the sole presentation through which the community was informed, at the last minute, of a process already well underway.

That context is important, because it underscores the issue at hand: **the public has been left out of a major decision about an important piece of public land at the heart of their community.** This request does not arise from categorical opposition to cultural investment, a museum concept, or the

---

<sup>1</sup> City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, “Board Report No. 26-030: Proposed Agreement with AltaMed for 1st and Broadway Park (FAB Park),” February 5, 2026, <https://recreation.parks.lacity.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2026/feb05/26-030.pdf>.

activation of a long-dormant site. Some Downtowners we've heard from are open to a museum but deeply troubled by the way this proposal has been advanced. Others support a privately operated museum in principle, but not on this centrally located public Parcel that has long been promised (and deeded) as open green space and a civic gathering place in a park-poor part of the city. Still others see the proposal as another example of the insider politics that have too often left Downtown residents excluded from decisions affecting their own neighborhood, and are skeptical about a private entity operating the site across from City Hall without any sort of request for proposals or fair bidding process. We assume that there are many other perspectives on the right path forward for the Parcel of public land we have not had time to elicit broadly from residents—precisely because this process has been rushed, opaque, and devoid of adequate community engagement until decisions were made behind the scenes.

**That concern is sharpened by the stark contrast between the City's treatment of FAB Park and its treatment of the AltaMed proposal.** FAB Park is the end result of over ten years of planning and democratic process: a publicly conceived, publicly studied, and publicly processed civic project. According to RAP's own records, the City acquired the site in 2013 as dedicated park land under the "50 Parks Initiative," then undertook demolition, remediation, excavation, grading, design work, public outreach, environmental review, final plan approval, and procurement steps over the course of years.<sup>2</sup> RAP's 2023 suspension report states that more than \$10.8 million had already been spent on acquisition and related development work, and confirms that the project had advanced far beyond the conceptual stage.<sup>3</sup>

The environmental review record reflects the same. The original FAB Park proposal was reviewed as a true public park project: a 1.96-acre civic park with landscaped and hardscaped open space, passive recreation, public seating, bicycle parking, lighting, art features, and a restaurant structure.<sup>4</sup> BOE circulated an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for public review from January 3 to February 4, 2019, and held a public meeting on January 15, 2019 to solicit public comment.<sup>5</sup> That is what a meaningful public process looks like, and given its history and prominence, that is what this Parcel should continue to receive.

**The AltaMed proposal, by contrast, appears to have moved through City channels on an accelerated and insider-driven track with little meaningful notice to the Downtown—or any—community.** RAP Board Report 26-030 states expressly that, "[d]ue to timing considerations and the temporary nature of the proposed Project, formal public outreach has not yet been conducted," even as the City sought approval of a one-year license agreement and relied on a categorical CEQA

---

<sup>2</sup> City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, "Board Report No. 23-060: Suspension of 1st and Broadway Civic Center Park Project," March 16, 2023, <https://recreation.parks.lacity.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2023/mar16/23-060.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

<sup>4</sup> City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering, *Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for 1st & Broadway Civic Center Park Project* (Los Angeles: City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering, January 2019), [https://apps.engineering.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph726/f/1st%20%26%20Broadway%20Park%20IS.MND\\_Public%20Review%20Version.pdf](https://apps.engineering.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph726/f/1st%20%26%20Broadway%20Park%20IS.MND_Public%20Review%20Version.pdf); City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering, *Mitigation Monitoring Program for 1st & Broadway Civic Center Park Project* (Los Angeles: City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering, March 2019), <https://apps.engineering.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph726/f/MMRP.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Engineering, *Notice of Availability and Notice of Intent to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration for the 1st and Broadway Civic Center Park Project*, January 3, 2019, [https://apps.engineering.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph726/f/1st%26Broad\\_NOA\\_NOI\\_Final%20REV.pdf](https://apps.engineering.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph726/f/1st%26Broad_NOA_NOI_Final%20REV.pdf).

exemption.<sup>6</sup> The same report contemplates that outreach would come later, before final consideration of improvements.<sup>7</sup> **In other words, the City moved first and proposed to consult the community later.**

**That sequencing is especially concerning because the public record suggests that despite the RAP Board Report, the AltaMed proposal was not a last-minute idea requiring fast-track concessions.** Internal City emails produced through public records requests shared with the DTLA RA indicate that the matter was already being advanced on an “expedited path” by January 2026, with the Mayor’s Office and CD14 looped in.<sup>8</sup> In one January 14, 2026 internal email, CD14 Chief of Staff Lauren Hodgins wrote that she had been “briefing the CM” so that the Councilmember was aware of the project.<sup>9</sup> Another internal communication reflects that AltaMed sought early RAP Board action so it could complete improvements in time for the 2026 World Cup.<sup>10</sup> Public records show that by at least Q3 2025, AltaMed and its representatives were already lobbying City agencies regarding a “First and Broadway Park - AltaMed Museum Project,” including a temporary park concept, museum-related planning, licensing, CEQA, permitting, and the negotiation of two agreements—all well before the Downtown public was meaningfully informed.<sup>11</sup>

**That history raises legitimate questions about transparency and community notice.** If the Council Office knew of the proposal by mid-January and the Councilmember was being briefed on it, residents are entitled to ask why the Downtown community was not told, why no meaningful outreach was initiated, and why those who had waited years for FAB Park were left to learn of this shift only after the project was already substantially positioned for approval. Councilmember Jurado campaigned on co-governance, openness, and a clear break from the opaque dealmaking that so often frustrated residents of the district. Yet on this issue—*involving a centrally located public site across from City Hall itself, arguably some of the most politically prominent and high-impact land in the city*—residents appear to have been informed only *after* the proposal was already substantially positioned for approval. Even taking the most charitable view of the facts, that is not the kind of process the community was promised.

**This particular Parcel’s history also counsels caution.** In March 2023, RAP formally suspended the FAB Park development project, reallocated more than \$14.3 million in Quimby fees previously committed to it, and decommitted additional park fees, while acknowledging uncertainty as to how and when the site

---

<sup>6</sup> City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, “Board Report No. 26-030: Proposed Agreement with AltaMed for 1st and Broadway Park (FAB Park),” February 5, 2026, 2, <https://recreation.parks.lacity.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2026/feb05/26-030.pdf> (emphasis added).

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*, 2 (acknowledging that “formal public outreach has not yet been conducted” and representing that AltaMed would engage “stakeholders and community partners prior to final consideration of any improvements on site and throughout the term of the Agreement,” underscoring that the City chose to move the Agreement forward before meaningful community engagement occurred).

<sup>8</sup> City of Los Angeles, email chain titled “First/Broadway Project,” January 2026, produced in California Public Records Act Request No. 26-3807, accessed April 21, 2026, <https://lacity.nextrequest.com/requests/26-3807>; copy on file with the Downtown Los Angeles Residents Association.

<sup>9</sup> City of Los Angeles, email from Lauren Hodgins to David Michaelson et al., January 14, 2026, 5:56 PM, in CPRA Request No. 26-3807.

<sup>10</sup> City of Los Angeles, email titled “Fwd: AltaMed’s Right-of-Entry Permit: 1st & Broadway Site, CD14,” January 6, 2026, in CPRA Request No. 26-3807.

<sup>11</sup> Los Angeles City Ethics Commission, “Lobbying and Major Filer Registrations,” 2024–2026 entries for AltaMed Health Services, Somos Group LLC, Somos Law Group LLP, and Gerald Gubatan, and “Lobbying Activity,” Q3–Q4 2025 entries for “First and Broadway Park - AltaMed Museum Project” (filtered reports, on file with the Downtown Los Angeles Residents Association), derived from “Clients of Registered Lobbying Firms,”

<https://data.lacity.org/Administration-Finance/Clients-of-Registered-Lobbying-Firms/9z5d-hgrh>, and “City Projects and Agencies Lobbied by Registered Lobbying Firms,” <https://data.lacity.org/Administration-Finance/City-Projects-and-Agencies-Lobbied-by-Registered-L/4xuf-944h>.

would ultimately be developed and made available for public park use.<sup>12</sup> That action itself triggered public outcry that should warrant a more careful community engagement process regarding future use. That same public record confirms the site was acquired as **dedicated park land** and indicates that the FAB Park project, as previously designed, could still be pursued if sufficient funding were restored or identified.<sup>13</sup> The City should not now be permitted to convert that suspension into a *de facto* abandonment of the public park vision.

**Nor should AltaMed’s proposal be accepted at face value as merely temporary.** Public advocacy materials submitted in support of the AltaMed license and shared with the DTLA RA described the one-year “El Corazón Art Park” as the “foundation for a long-term partnership” that would pave the way for a permanent Museum of Chicano and Mexican Art on the site.<sup>14</sup> Residents are entitled to ask whether the “temporary” framing is serving as a bridge to something more permanent before the public has had a fair opportunity to weigh in.

**Downtown residents are also mindful of City records indicating that the Parcel is subject to park- or open-space-related restrictions.** Internal City correspondence from late 2024 shared with the DTLA RA states that the grant deed required the property to be used for parks or open-space purposes for twenty-five years after close of escrow, and that the RAP Board dedicated the site as park property in March 2013.<sup>15</sup> The DTLA RA is continuing to obtain and review the full record of relevant and publicly accessible property documents to better understand the contours of the City’s obligation to its residents with regard to this Parcel. The point is raised not to be adversarial, but because public land of this importance should be treated with appropriate legal and civic gravity.

**The Downtown community is already mobilizing around this issue.** Residents, homeowners, and neighborhood stakeholders have begun to express their concern not only with the substance of the proposal, but more importantly, with the way it has been advanced. One recent comment letter from Downtown property owners criticized the speed and opacity of the process, the vagueness of the plans presented, and the City’s apparent willingness to move forward with fencing off access to open space and the privatization of a highly valuable Parcel of public land without the kind of scrutiny such a proposal plainly warrants.<sup>16</sup> That concern is broader than any one letter, and it continues to grow.

For these reasons, DTLARA respectfully requests the following:

- 1) First, that Council District 14, the Mayor’s Office, and RAP acknowledge that **no further substantive steps should be taken to advance the AltaMed proposal** unless and until a full public process has occurred. Given the rushed process, Neighborhood Council meetings have

---

<sup>12</sup> City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, “Board Report No. 23-060: Suspension of 1st and Broadway Civic Center Park Project,” March 16, 2023, <https://recreation.parks.lacity.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/commissioner/2023/mar16/23-060.pdf>.

<sup>13</sup> *Id.*, 5. The report states that “[t]he property was acquired in 2013 as dedicated park land for the development of a new park” and that “the suspension of the [p]roject would not preclude the City from pursuing the construction of [FAB Park] as previously designed should sufficient funding be secured.”

<sup>14</sup> “Support for Licensing Agreement for *El Corazón Art Park Project*,” stakeholder sign-on letter to the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners, February 4, 2026, in CPRA Request No. 26-3807 (stating that El Corazón Art Park would be “the foundation for a long-term partnership” and would “pave the way for the future construction and operation of a permanent Museum of Chicano and Mexican Art on the site”) (emphasis added).

<sup>15</sup> City of Los Angeles, email chain titled “Fwd: Museum Proposal - 1st and Broadway,” December 30, 2024, in CPRA Request No. 26-3807.

<sup>16</sup> Downtown Los Angeles property owners, “Public Comment re AltaMed Project-FAB Agreement Item BR 26-030,” April 15, 2026, on file with the Downtown Los Angeles Residents Association.

been insufficient to fully allow the public an opportunity to weigh in. Additionally, pressure applied by the City and AltaMed at the Neighborhood Council to remove its continuance on the project underscores the need for greater transparency and input outside of those public hearings.

- 2) Second, that the **City suspend further implementation of the AltaMed proposal**, including any further approvals or site work, pending that process.
- 3) Third, that **any proposal to repurpose, license, privatize, or otherwise materially alter the intended use of FAB Park be subjected to a process commensurate with the one used for FAB Park itself**—including robust outreach to Downtown residents and stakeholders, public presentations, disclosure of all relevant agreements and conceptual plans, and CEQA review appropriate to the actual scope, duration, and intended future of the proposal. This action is necessary to restore public trust and ensure that any long-term private use of public land is treated with commensurate due process, community engagement, and transparency.
- 4) Fourth, that unless and until a lawful, transparent, and fully vetted public process produces a different outcome, the **City reaffirm that FAB Park remains the intended civic use of this site and that the longstanding public commitment to open green space** at this location has not been extinguished by haste, opacity, or administrative drift.

Downtown Los Angeles deserves better than to learn after the fact that a long-promised civic park may be slipping away through a process that appears to privilege City Hall insiders over residents. Public land across from City Hall should be governed with unusual care, not unusual haste.

The DTLA RA remains ready to engage constructively and in good faith and to bring residents to the table to help shape a vision for this critical space. But constructive engagement requires an actual process in which the community can participate, not a last-minute effort to check a box after a foregone conclusion has been exposed.

We therefore urge you to pause this proposal, open this process, and treat this site with the seriousness its history, location, and public significance demand.

Respectfully submitted,

**Leslie Ridings and Cassy Horton**

DTLA RA Co-Founders

On behalf of the Downtown Los Angeles Residents Association Board of Directors



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

## Re: Aiden's place in Westwood recreational center

1 message

**Isaac Montoya** <isaac.montoya@lacity.org>

Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 11:33 AM

To: Adriana Alcantara Aquino <adriana.alcantaraaquino@lacity.org>

Cc: Juchell Wardlow <juchell.wardlow@lacity.org>, Kortley Norris <kortley.norris@lacity.org>, "Bill Lopez Jr." <bill.lopez.jr@lacity.org>, Sonya Young-Jimenez <sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org>, Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>, "Michael L. Harrison" <Mike.Harrison@lacity.org>, Robert Buenrostro <robert.buenrostro@lacity.org>, Freddy Tovar <freddy.tovar@lacity.org>, Jalen Woods <jalen.woods@lacity.org>, RICARDO BALLESTEROS <33652@lapd.online>, CHRISTOPHER PECH <37881@lapd.online>

I'll have my staff inspect the play area on a daily basis moving forward.

Isaac Montoya

Park Maintenance Supervisor

City of Los Angeles | Department of Recreation and Parks

Homeless Related Services Team

On Thu, Apr 16, 2026, 11:23 AM Adriana Alcantara Aquino <[adriana.alcantaraaquino@lacity.org](mailto:adriana.alcantaraaquino@lacity.org)> wrote:

Hi Juchell,

Thank you for the email.

My team and I will continue to ensure the playground area remains clean and hazard-free. We will also prioritize pressure washing Aidan's Place as requested, specifically focusing on the boat structure, tunnel, and surrounding pathways.

Please let me know if there is anything else the maintenance team can do to support these efforts.

Best regards,

Adriana Aquino  
Maintenance Supervisor, West District  
City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks  
Office:310-836-1040

On Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 11:06 AM Juchell Wardlow <[juchell.wardlow@lacity.org](mailto:juchell.wardlow@lacity.org)> wrote:

Yes of course. Thank you for letting me know. I've included Ranger Woods with the Park Rangers, along with Adriana and Freddy from Maintenance. Officers Pech and Ballestros are also CC'd for awareness and support.

[@Jalen Woods](#)  
[@Adriana Alcantara Aquino](#)  
[@Freddy Tovar](#)

Hello All, I hope you're doing well.

I'd like to kindly request additional support regarding ongoing overnight activity at Aidan's Place and the surrounding grass areas at Westwood Recreation Center. While HRST has been addressing encampments and signage is in

place, we are continuing to observe individuals staying overnight in the playground area. This has unfortunately resulted in trash and sanitation concerns.

This space is heavily used by the community, with over 40+ families with toddlers visiting daily from Monday through Friday from about 8:30 AM until sundown. Ensuring the area remains clean and safe is very important for daily use.

Adriana and Freddy — when possible, could Maintenance please assist with pressure washing Aidan's Place and the surrounding pathways? Specific areas of concern include the boat structure, tunnel, and nearby surfaces.

The Sign Shop has already installed "No Overnight / No Camping" signage, and we will submit requests for additional signage if that would be helpful.

Please let me know if there are any further steps we can take to support prioritizing this matter. I truly appreciate everyone's time, coordination, and continued efforts.

Thank you very much,

**Juchell Wardlow, MBA**  
**Senior Recreation Director**  
City of L.A. Department of Recreation and Parks  
**Westwood Recreation Center**  
1350 Sepulveda Blvd.  
Los Angeles, CA 90025  
(310) 473-3610  
[juchell.wardlow@lacity.org](mailto:juchell.wardlow@lacity.org)  
<https://www.laparks.org/reccenter/westwood>  
[Book an Appointment](#)

On Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 10:32 AM Kortley Norris <[kortley.norris@lacity.org](mailto:kortley.norris@lacity.org)> wrote:

Thank you, Bill.

+[Juchell Wardlow](#) Can you please contact your SLO to help address overnight encampments when they are present? Let the SLO know that CD5 also wants to support in tackling the use of the park for overnight stays.

***Kortley Norris***

Recreation Supervisor

West Region ~ Coastal District 

City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation & Parks

Phone: (310) 202-2803

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



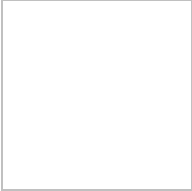
**Notice of Confidentiality:**

This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under the applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are strictly prohibited from storing, disseminating, distributing or copying this message and/or its attachment(s).

On Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 10:06 AM Bill Lopez Jr. <[bill.lopez.jr@lacity.org](mailto:bill.lopez.jr@lacity.org)> wrote:

Sonya,

Good morning. I'll have Isaac and his team check for bio-hazardous waste daily from Tuesday through Friday before they deploy to the field. We cannot address active encampments unless they have been posted for cleanup but we can address the bio-hazards.



**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 Thu, Apr 16, 2026 at 9:54 AM Sonya Young-Jimenez <[sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org](mailto:sonya.young-jimenez@lacity.org)> wrote:  
Adding [+Michael L. Harrison](#) [+Robert Buenrostro](#) [+Bill Lopez Jr.](#) for awareness and input

On Wed, Apr 15, 2026 at 10:27 AM Rap Commissioners <[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)> wrote:  
Good morning,

Please see the email below. For your information.

Thank you!

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

From: **Kim Lee**

Date: Sat, Apr 4, 2026 at 10:44 AM

Subject: Aiden's place in Westwood recreational center

To: <[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)>

Dear Los Angeles County Recreational and Parks department:

I'm writing to report urgent sanitation and safety concerns at Aidan's Place playground at Westwood Recreation Center.

There has been an ongoing presence of homeless encampments surrounding the children's playgrounds.

In addition, there have been numerous repeated incidents of human waste/excrement in and around the playground equipment.

These issues pose serious public health risk for children and families using the park, as well as making the space very uncomfortable and potentially unsafe and unusable.

I am writing in hopes that someone from your department would be to attend to these issues and perhaps institute regular monitoring, send sanitation (if needed) and appropriate outreach to address the situation and keep the playground clean and safe for the kids and families such as mine and many others that I know.

Thank you for your time!

Kim Lee

--

City of Los Angeles

Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Figueroa Plaza

[221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300](#)



Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

---

## Re: Aiden's place in Westwood recreational center

1 message

---

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Apr 7, 2026 at 8:30 AM

To: Kim Lee

Good morning,

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

On Sat, Apr 4, 2026 at 10:44 AM Kim Lee

wrote:

Dear Los Angeles County Recreational and Parks department:

I'm writing to report urgent sanitation and safety concerns at Aidan's Place playground at Westwood Recreation Center.

There has been an ongoing presence of homeless encampments surrounding the children's playgrounds.

In addition, there have been numerous repeated incidents of human waste/excrement in and around the playground equipment.

These issues pose serious public health risk for children and families using the park, as well as making the space very uncomfortable and potentially unsafe and unusable.

I am writing in hopes that someone from your department would be to attend to these issues and perhaps institute regular monitoring, send sanitation (if needed) and appropriate outreach to address the situation and keep the playground clean and safe for the kids and families such as mine and many others that I know.

Thank you for your time!

Kim Lee

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Revenue Share Concession Proposal - RAP Golf Facilities - Links Locker**

1 message

---

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Apr 21, 2026 at 8:16 AM

To: jack marshall

Cc: "RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org" &lt;RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org&gt;, "rap.golf@lacity.org" &lt;rap.golf@lacity.org&gt;

Good morning,

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

For job opportunities please see: <https://recreation.parks.lacity.gov/business-opportunities>

On Mon, Apr 20, 2026 at 9:00 AM jack marshall

wrote:

Hello,

I'm looking to submit a small-footprint, revenue generating concession opportunity for RAP golf facilities. The concept requires no staffing or capital from RAP. It is designed to enhance the public golf experience by complementing existing pro shop operations while generating incremental revenue.

Could you please direct me to the correct person to formally review this opportunity?

I've attached a brief overview of my concept for context.

Thank you,

Jack

Jack Marshall

*Founder, Links Locker*

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

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



**LINKS**   
**LOCKER**

***LINKS***   
***LOCKER***

# ***WHAT WE DO***



## **A MODERN RETAIL SOLUTION FOR PUBLIC GOLF**

Links Locker is a fully managed, on-course vending solution built specifically for public golf facilities.

We install and operate design-forward vending machines that provide the essential gear golfers actually need, right where they need it. Everything is stocked, serviced, and maintained by us. There is no staffing requirement, no inventory management, and no operational lift for your team.

For the course, it means incremental retail revenue without expanding your footprint or adding complexity.

For players, it's a seamless addition to the round.

# THE PROBLEMS WE SOLVE



## OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

Limited pro shop staffing

Inconsistent coverage during early and late hours

Retail centralized in the clubhouse

## REVENUE LEAKAGE

High player volume with low on-course retail capture

Impulse and essential purchases going uncaptured

Missed incremental revenue per round

## PLAYER FRICTION

Forgotten essentials mid-round

Inconvenient access to small but necessary items

Interruptions to the flow of play

## CAPITAL LIMITATIONS

Budget constraints for new amenities

Limited space for retail expansion

No appetite for additional management overhead

# ***OUR SOLUTION***

SELF-SERVICE. SEAMLESS. SMART.

Links Locker installs and operates fully managed vending machines directly on-course.

We handle everything.  
Stocking. Servicing. Payments. Insurance.

You add retail revenue without adding staff, inventory, or capital expense.

A better player experience.  
No operational lift.

CLASSIC. TIMELESS. COURSE-APPROPRIATE.



***FLAGSHIP DESIGN***



TURF-WRAPPED EXTERIOR - 3D GOLF BALL DETAILS - LL WORDMARK

MULTIPLE AESTHETICS AVAILABLE DEPENDING ON PLACEMENT.



***ALTERNATIVE DESIGNS***



ILLUSTRATED - NARRATIVE



GRAPHIC - PLAYFUL

# ***PRODUCT CURATION***



## **ESSENTIALS ONLY**

Our assortment is intentionally curated to be:

- Additive, not competitive
- Focused on forgotten essentials
- Positioned around convenience items

We focus exclusively on high-velocity essentials that are typically forgotten mid-round.

**Links Locker captures incremental revenue that may otherwise be missed.**

# ***WHY IT WORKS***



## **BUILT FOR PUBLIC GOLF**

Designed specifically for municipal and daily-fee facilities.

## **FINANCIALLY ADDITIVE**

Captures incremental, high-margin retail without capital investment.

## **OPERATIONALLY SIMPLE**

Fully managed, insured, licensed, and concession-compliant. No staffing required.

## **ALIGNED WITH THE COMMUNITY**

We dedicate 5 percent of net profits to organizations supporting dementia research and family care.

# ***NEXT STEPS***

Site walkthrough

Revenue share discussion

Placement evaluation

Installation timeline

It would be an honor to serve the LA golf community.  
We believe public golf deserves modern infrastructure  
and thoughtful partnerships that respect tradition.



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Thank You and Request for Carousel Relocation**

1 message

---

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Tue, Apr 21, 2026 at 7:56 AM

To: Tess Dunne

Cc: "Councilmember.Park@LACity.org" &lt;Councilmember.Park@lacity.org&gt;

Good morning,

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

On Sat, Apr 18, 2026 at 9:35 AM Tess Dunne

wrote:

Good Morning !

Thank you for your efforts in making Venice feel safer. The positive changes have not gone unnoticed, and they are deeply appreciated by those of us who live and work in the community.

I'm also writing to kindly request consideration for relocating the Carousel to Centennial Park. We frequently host families with young children here at the Venice V Hotel, and many of them were genuinely saddened to hear that the Carousel has closed. It has always been such a special and memorable attraction for both visitors and local families.

Thank you again for your continued dedication to Venice. I truly appreciate your time.

Warmest Regards,

Tess

**Tess Dunne**

General Manager

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

Telephone: (213) 202-2640  
Fax: (213) 202-2610  
Mail Stop: 625/15



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

## Re: Your Community Impact Statement Submittal

1 message

Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

Tue, Apr 21, 2026 at 12:24 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 Tue, Apr 21, 2026 at 12:14 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](mailto:empowerla@lacity.org).

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

### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Reseda

Name: Amos Marvel

Email:

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(14) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 04/20/2026

Type of NC Board Action: For

### Impact Information

Date: 04/21/2026

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number:

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: In 2016 and again in 2025, the County's Park Needs Assessments (PNA) confirmed that the majority of Reseda has communities with high park needs. (It also includes a map of potential park locations). The 2025 PNA done by the City's Recreation and Parks Department showed similar results, determining that Reseda is among the new park priority areas because a significant portion of the population does not live within a 10-minute walk of a park. We acknowledge that the City and County have identified our neighborhood's high need for improved park access, and that steps are being taken to meet them. However, solutions that can be implemented for the present until these goals are achieved in the future, are needed. The expansion of the Community School Parks program to Garden Grove Elementary School in Reseda, led by Councilwoman Raman, is one strong example of how these needs can be addressed in the short term. This program allows minors to access schoolyards and register for recreational activities after school and on weekends. To help fill our community's park needs until new formal facilities can be constructed, the Reseda Neighborhood Council requests that Councilman Blumenfield, Councilwoman Raman, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and LAUSD Board of Education Members Schmerelson and Melvoyn work together to expand the Community School Parks program within Reseda to give our youths more access to recreational facilities. Please see our full request for action attached. Thank you for your consideration! This Request for Action was passed in a meeting held in accordance with the Brown Act on April 20, 2026 with a vote of 14 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 0 Ineligible, 0 Recused, 3 Absent.

--

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

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



## **Request for Action on the Expansion of the Community School Parks Program in Reseda**

In 2016 and again in 2025, the County's Park Needs Assessments (PNA) confirmed that the majority of Reseda has communities with high park needs. (It also includes a map of potential park locations). The 2025 PNA done by the City's Recreation and Parks Department showed similar results, determining that Reseda is among the new park priority areas because a significant portion of the population does not live within a 10-minute walk of a park.

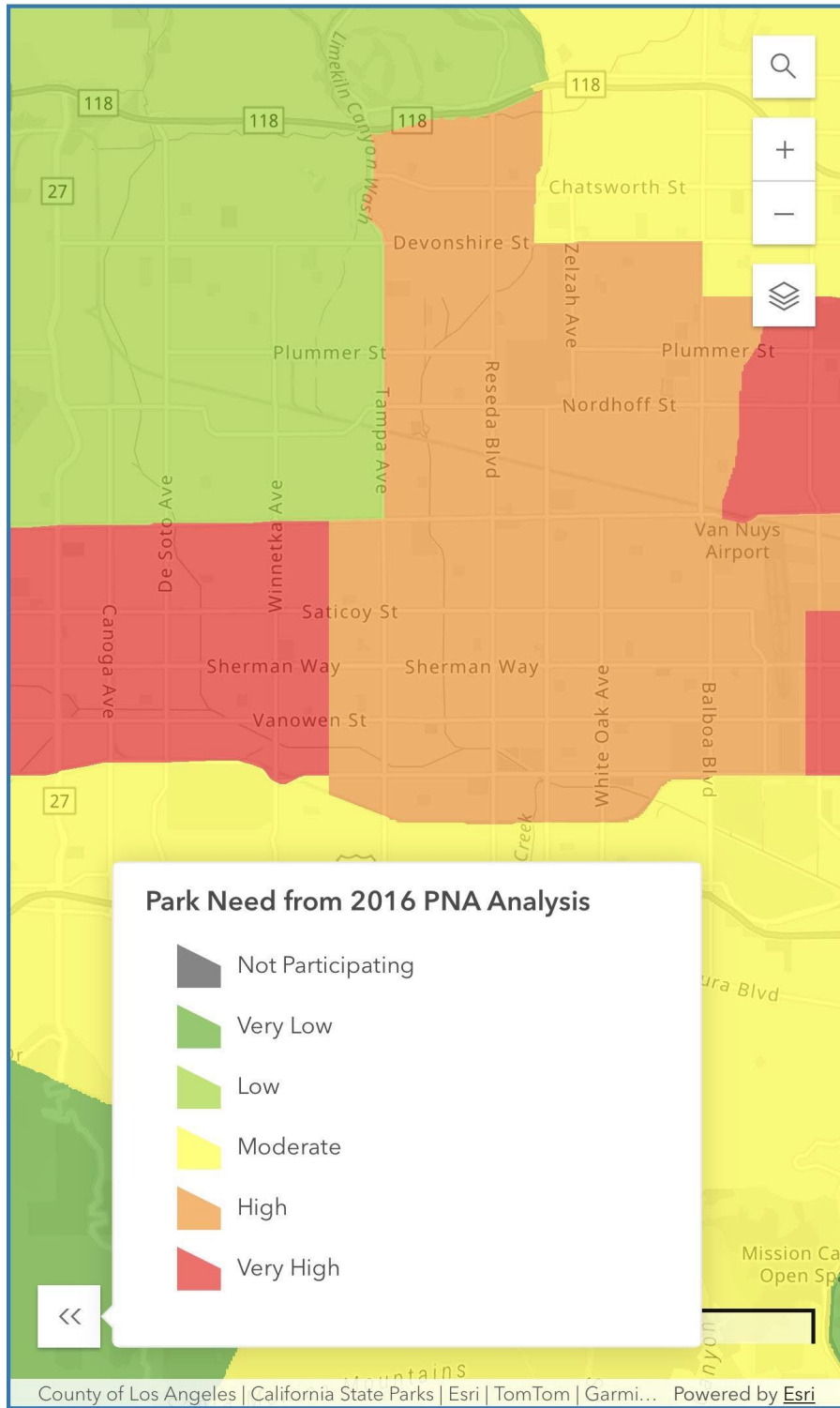
We acknowledge that the City and County have identified our neighborhood's high need for improved park access, and that steps are being taken to meet them. However, solutions that can be implemented for the present until these goals are achieved in the future, are needed. The expansion of the Community School Parks program to Garden Grove Elementary School in Reseda, led by Councilwoman Raman, is one strong example of how these needs can be addressed in the short term. This program allows minors to access schoolyards and register for recreational activities after school and on weekends.

To help fill our community's park needs until new formal facilities can be constructed, the Reseda Neighborhood Council requests that Councilman Blumenfield, Councilwoman Raman, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and LAUSD Board of Education Members Schmerelson and Melvoin work together to expand the Community School Parks program within Reseda to give our youths more access to recreational facilities.

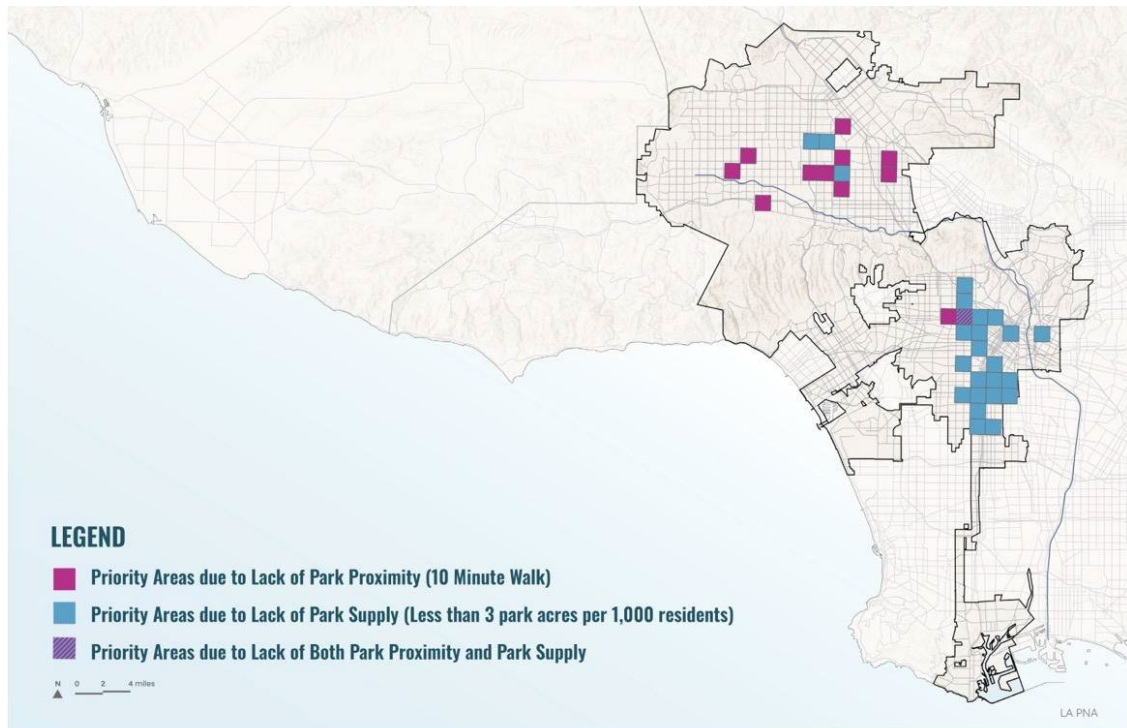
**This Request for Action was passed in a meeting held in accordance with the Brown Act on April 20, 2026 with a vote of 14 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 0 Ineligible, 0 Recused, 3 Absent.**



“Focus Area: Disadvantaged Communities & Park Needs,” shaded in orange, and “K-12 Public Schools,” colored in red (LA County Park Needs Assessment, 2025).



Park Need Analysis from the 2016 LA County Park Needs Assessment.

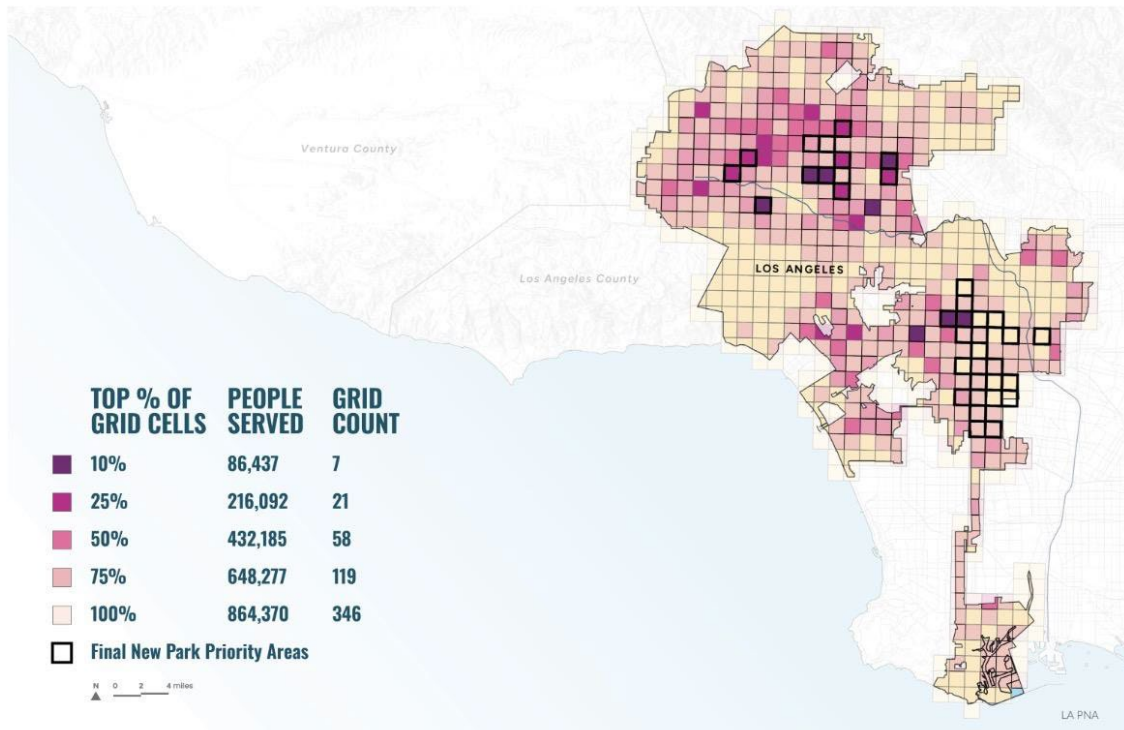


**Thirty-six New Park Priority Areas were added to the “Universe of Sites” using the PerSquareMile tool. These sites were selected to help address both Park Access and Park Supply.**

Source: GreenInfo Network, OLIN, 2025.

*City of Los Angeles 2025 Park Needs Assessment results showing two “New Park Priority Areas” have been identified in Reseda due to the lack of access to parks.*

## The number of people without a park within a 10-minute walk of their homes.



## The PerSquareMile tool for the Park Needs Assessment identified “New Park Priority Areas”. Based on Park Access.

Source: GreenInfoNetwork, OLIN, 2025.

*City of Los Angeles 2025 Park Needs Assessment results showing two “New Park Priority Areas” have been identified in Reseda due to the lack of access to parks.*



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Reforming Field Reservation Policies for LA Youth**

1 message

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Mon, Apr 27, 2026 at 8:18 AM

To: Alejandro Caselis

Good morning,

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

On Sun, Apr 26, 2026 at 11:01 PM Alejandro Caselis

wrote:

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Alex Caselis. I am a Los Angeles resident, a United States Army veteran, and a Master of Social Work student at Azusa Pacific University. I am writing to urge you to address the pay to play model that keeps our local kids out of public sports fields. Private soccer leagues often buy up permits months in advance, which leaves public turf fields gated and padlocked to the neighborhood.

This lack of access is a real public health issue. The Los Angeles Countywide Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment shows over 50 percent of residents live in areas of High or Very High park need. The assessment also links a lack of park access to childhood obesity and cardiovascular disease. Relying on capital improvements is not enough if the local Parks and Recreation Department still uses a pay to play permitting structure to cover ongoing maintenance.

We need to change how current public space is managed. I recommend requiring every city sports field to reserve a fixed number of hours each week for public use, especially evenings and weekends. We should also expand agreements so LAUSD school grounds can function like neighborhood parks when school is out. Thank you for your time. Please push for these policy changes and direct your staff to review field access rules so our youth have fair access to recreation.

Sincerely,

--

Alex Caselis  
MSW Student | PPSC Specialization

--

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

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



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Fwd: Request for Approval: Shade Tent at John Ferraro Soccer Fields**

1 message

**Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Mon, Apr 27, 2026 at 8:35 AM

To: Stefanie Smith &lt;stefanie.smith@lacity.org&gt;, Brenda Aguirre &lt;brenda.aguirre@lacity.org&gt;, Juan Aynat &lt;juan.aynat@lacity.org&gt;

Good morning,

Please see email received for your review. Thank you.

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

From: **Rap Commissioners** <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Date: Mon, Apr 27, 2026 at 8:15 AM

Subject: Re: Request for Approval: Shade Tent at John Ferraro Soccer Fields

To: R, Jessica

Cc: [Brenda.Aguirre@lacity.org](mailto:Brenda.Aguirre@lacity.org) <[Brenda.Aguirre@lacity.org](mailto:Brenda.Aguirre@lacity.org)>

Good morning,

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

On Sun, Apr 26, 2026 at 10:50 AM R, Jessica

wrote:

Dear Operations Manager,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing regarding a recent policy I became aware of affecting the use of shade tents at the John Ferraro Soccer Fields.

My boyfriend recently restarted his soccer team, and we participate in weekly matches at this facility. It is a well-maintained and conveniently located complex, and we truly appreciate the opportunity to play there.

We were recently informed by the league that tents are not permitted on the premises, including on the cement walkways adjacent to the fields. Previously, we had placed a tent on the walkway, well off the playing surface, to provide shade for players. We understand and respect the need for policies that ensure safety and proper use of the space.

That said, I would like to respectfully request consideration for an exception allowing at least one small tent for player use, particularly as temperatures rise. Our team typically arrives about 30 minutes before games and leaves shortly after, and our sole intention is to support player well-being by providing shade and hydration in a safe, organized manner. We do not support unnecessary loitering or activities that don't align with our purpose there.

If placing a tent on the cement walkway or near the permanent bleachers is not permissible, we would appreciate guidance on whether it might be allowed in the dirt or grassy area between the field and the parking lot.

Thank you for your time and consideration. We value this facility and are committed to following all guidelines while ensuring a safe and enjoyable experience for players.

Warmly,

Jess R.

TNT PC-TEAM Program Coordinator



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

## Re: Your Community Impact Statement Submittal

1 message

Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

Tue, Apr 28, 2026 at 3:46 PM

To: Gary Pearl

Planning CHC &lt;chc@lacity.org&gt;

Cc: Takisha McFarland &lt;takisha.sardin@lacity.org&gt;

Good afternoon,

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

On Tue, Apr 28, 2026 at 3:40 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](mailto:empowerla@lacity.org).

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

### Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Venice

Name: Gary Pearl

Email:

The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(16) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0)

Date of NC Board Action: 02/17/2026

Type of NC Board Action: For

### Impact Information

Date: 04/28/2026

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: Cultural Affairs Commission, Cultural Heritage Commission, City Council and Committees, Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners

Council File Number:

City Planning Number:

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Summary: The Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) issued a Community Impact Statement supporting the historical restoration of the Ocean Front Walk pagodas (originally pergolas) to their original 1931–1932 design. The statement is directed to multiple Los Angeles city agencies and officials, including the Department of Recreation and Parks and Council District 11. The VNC emphasizes the importance of preserving Venice's historical and cultural identity and calls for public transparency and meaningful community input before any refurbishment or redesign proceeds. The motion reflects the Council's official position that restoration should honor the original architectural intent rather than introduce changes that could alter the historic character of the site. Overall, the document advocates for a community-driven, historically accurate restoration process, ensuring that any updates to the pagodas respect Venice's heritage while involving stakeholders in decision-making

--

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

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

---

 **CIS - Pagodas - Venice Beach.pdf**  
958K



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

## Re: Formal Complaint: Fraudulent Activity at Lanark Park - Sergey Marchenko / FC LA SA

1 message

**Arlene Cordova** <arlene.cordova@lacity.org>

Tue, Apr 28, 2026 at 5:29 PM

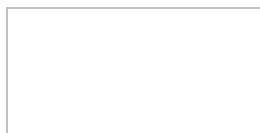
To: LA Parks Public Information <RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org>

Cc: Jeremy Aldridge <jeremy.aldridge@lacity.org>, Rap Commissioners <rap.commissioners@lacity.org>

Good afternoon,

Thank you for this information. Jeremy and I have started looking into this individual's activity at our facilities. We do not have any current or recent permits on file for Mr. Marchenko. I will reach out to Mr. Bakanov to request more information and investigate.

Sincerely,



**ARLENE CORDOVA** | RECREATION SUPERVISOR  
CITY OF LA DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION & PARKS  
VALLEY REGION | WEST DISTRICT  
[6335 WOODLEY AVENUE, VAN NUYS 91406](https://www.laparks.org)  
818.756.8188 | [LAPARKS.ORG](https://www.laparks.org)  
RDO 2ND FRIDAY

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

From: **LA Parks Public Information** <[RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org](mailto:RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org)>

Date: Tue, Apr 28, 2026 at 9:09 AM

Subject: Fwd: Formal Complaint: Fraudulent Activity at Lanark Park - Sergey Marchenko / FC LA SA

To: Jeremy Aldridge <[jeremy.aldridge@lacity.org](mailto:jeremy.aldridge@lacity.org)>, Arlene Cordova <[arlene.cordova@lacity.org](mailto:arlene.cordova@lacity.org)>

Cc: Rap Commissioners <[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto:rap.commissioners@lacity.org)>

Hello,

Please see the forwarded message below.

Please let me know who should it be the best person to contact per this request.

Thank you,

Carolina

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

From: **Ian Bakanov**

Date: Mon, Apr 27, 2026 at 6:11 PM

Subject: Formal Complaint: Fraudulent Activity at Lanark Park - Sergey Marchenko / FC LA SA

To: <[rap.parkfees@lacity.org](mailto:rap.parkfees@lacity.org)>

To whom it may concern, I am filing a formal complaint against Sergey Marchenko (FC LA SA), who conducts soccer training at Lanark Park. Mr. Marchenko has engaged in financial fraud by operating through a dissolved business entity and owes \$1,300 to my family. A police report has been filed with LAPD (Reference # 260427900375 ).

Since he is currently selling his "rights" to use the park's facilities to a new owner, I want to ensure the Department is aware that these permits are tied to a fraudulent operation. I request a review of his current standing and permits.

--



---

## Re: Formal Complaint: Fraudulent Activity at Lanark Park - Sergey Marchenko / FC LA SA

1 message

---

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

Tue, Apr 28, 2026 at 9:21 AM

Good morning,

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

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

From: **Ian Bakanov**

Date: Mon, Apr 27, 2026 at 6:11 PM

Subject: Formal Complaint: Fraudulent Activity at Lanark Park - Sergey Marchenko / FC LA SA

To: <[rap.parkfees@lacity.org](mailto:rap.parkfees@lacity.org)>

To whom it may concern, I am filing a formal complaint against Sergey Marchenko (FC LA SA), who conducts soccer training at Lanark Park. Mr. Marchenko has engaged in financial fraud by operating through a dissolved business entity and owes \$1,300 to my family. A police report has been filed with LAPD (Reference # 260427900375 ).

Since he is currently selling his "rights" to use the park's facilities to a new owner, I want to ensure the Department is aware that these permits are tied to a fraudulent operation. I request a review of his current standing and permits.

--

**Department of Recreation and Parks**

**Public Information Office**

Email: [rap.publicinfo@lacity.org](mailto:rap.publicinfo@lacity.org)

Phone: 213-202-2700

Website: [www.laparks.org](http://www.laparks.org)

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



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

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



Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

---

**Re: Echo Park Lake**

1 message

**Constance Caldwell** <constance.caldwell@lacity.org>

Thu, Apr 30, 2026 at 8:45 AM

To: Rap Commissioners &lt;rap.commissioners@lacity.org&gt;

Cc: Windy O'Malley

RAP.PublicInfo@lacity.org, RAP Echo Park RC &lt;echopark.rc@lacity.org&gt;

Good Morning Everyone,

This matter has already been addressed and a bidding was in process to not only clean the invasive lettuce of the lake but to also assess the ecosystem and its effects on all species within the area. For everyone's awareness, the larger portion of the lake also falls under the jurisdiction of sanitation. All parties have been working together the last few months to address the concerns.

On Apr 30, 2026, at 8:35 AM, Rap Commissioners <[rap.commissioners@lacity.org](mailto: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 Thu, Apr 30, 2026 at 8:27 AM Windy O'Malley

wrote:

Dear RAP Commissioners, Board Secretary Takisha Sardin, and Constance Caldwell,

Please find the attached letter of inquiry and action from the Echo Park Neighborhood Council. This matter was reviewed and voted on by the Board of Governors during our meeting on April 28, 2026, passing with 16 votes in favor and none opposed.

We are requesting immediate action regarding the poor water quality at Echo Park Lake, specifically concerning the invasive water lettuce and the overall degradation of the water body. The lake is a vital resource for our constituents, especially children. Given the significant city investment in this site, its rapid decline is deeply concerning.

We request that this item be added to the agenda for the May 7 meeting. We look forward to your prompt response and a formal, ongoing plan to address this issue.

Best regards,

Windy O'Malley  
Secretary, At-Large Representative  
Echo Park Neighborhood Council  
[echoparknc.com](http://echoparknc.com)

--

City of Los Angeles  
Office of the Board of Recreation and Park Commissioners  
Figueroa Plaza  
[221 North Figueroa Street, Suite 300](https://www.lacity.org/221-North-Figueroa-Street-Suite-300)  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Telephone: (213) 202-2640  
Fax: (213) 202-2610  
Mail Stop: 625/15



# ECHO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



**CHAIR**

Sara Seidman

**VICE CHAIR**

MIMI DONNELLY

**CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER**

Emily Blake

**TREASURER**

Coni Acosta

**SECRETARY**

Windy O'Malley

## ECHO PARK LAKE

CERTIFIED COUNCIL  
APRIL 16, 2002

INFO@ECHOPARKNC.COM  
WWW.ECHOPARKNC.COM

4/28/2026

Subject: Echo Park Lake

**Subject:** Urgent Action Required – Echo Park Lake

Dear City Officials, RAP Board of Commissions, Board Secretary,

The Echo Park Neighborhood Council (EPNC) is calling for immediate action at Echo Park Lake.

The lake is being overtaken by invasive water lettuce, now covering large areas and degrading water quality, oxygen levels, and the overall ecosystem. The visible decline of the lotus plants signals a serious and accelerating failure of the lake's ecological balance.

In 2013, the City invested \$45 million to fully restore Echo Park Lake after it had become toxic, stagnant, and unusable. That effort required draining the lake, removing contaminated sediment, installing filtration systems, and rebuilding the ecosystem—including replanting the lotus from scratch.

Just over a decade later, those gains are being lost.

This issue is especially urgent because Echo Park and Council District 13 already suffer from a severe lack of green space. Los Angeles has a median of only 3.3 acres of park space per 1,000 residents, far below the 6.8-acre median in other high-density U.S. cities. Council District 13 has historically had less than 1 acre of park space per 1,000 residents.

Although the neighborhood is named for Echo Park Lake, the surrounding area is extremely dense, meaning thousands of residents share this limited green space. As a result, the area is consistently identified as having a high or very high park need.

When Echo Park Lake declines, the community loses one of its only major public open spaces. For many local families, children, seniors, and residents without yards or private outdoor space, the lake is essential.

We request immediate answers and action:

- Who is responsible for lake management?
- What maintenance and monitoring are currently in place?
- What is the immediate plan to remove the invasive overgrowth?
- How will the City prevent this from happening again?

Echo Park Lake is too important to be neglected. Its decline is unacceptable and avoidable. We request a formal response with a clear action plan and timeline.

**RESOLUTION**

On April 22, 2026, the EPNC Board of Governors held a Brown Act notice-meeting, at 7pm. With a quorum of 16 board members present and vote count of 16 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, the Board resolved to send this letter.

Respectfully,

*Windy O'Malley*

Secretary, Echo Park Neighborhood Council