



ERIC GARCETTI
MAYOR

June 2, 2022

Mr. Stephen Weeks
Los Angeles Pony Rides, Inc.
11095 Wrightwood Lane
Studio City, CA 91604

**GRIFFITH PARK PONY RIDE CONCESSION – EXERCISE OF FIRST ONE YEAR OPTION TO
RENEW – LOS ANGELES PONY RIDES, INC. – CONCESSION AGREEMENT NO. 281**

Dear Stephen:

Concession Agreement No. 281 (Agreement) between the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) and Los Angeles Pony Rides, Inc. (Concessionaire) for the operation and maintenance of the Griffith Park Pony Ride Concession, which was executed on December 22, 2016, has a provision for the renewal of the term of the Agreement.

Section 4. Term of Agreement, states:

“The term of the Agreement shall be five years, effective on the date of execution, with three one-year options to renew, at the sole discretion of General Manager, effective seven (7) days after the date of execution. Neither City, nor any Board member, officer, or employee thereof shall be liable in any manner to Concessionaire because of any action taken to revoke or renew the Agreement.”

As you know, RAP retained a third-party equine expert to assess the conditions at the Griffith Park Pony Ride concession and to conduct a thorough examination of the animals to evaluate their health and welfare as a result of concerns raised by members of the public. Immediate action regarding veterinarian care, record keeping for the animals, and facility and equipment improvements were determined to be needed. Based on the findings of the recent follow-up inspection by the third-party equine expert, and ongoing inspections by the Los Angeles Department of Animal Services, you have been found in compliance with recommended action items.

Therefore, this letter authorizes the exercise of the first one-year option. The contract extension shall be dated from December 22, 2021 and shall expire December 21, 2022. Extension of the contract is granted with the understanding that the upkeep of care to the animals and the ongoing maintenance of animal records and facility improvements are standard requirements of the existing contract. RAP will continue with inspections to monitor operations and ensure that a high standard of health and welfare for the animals is maintained.



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Additionally, RAP expects your ongoing cooperation to further improve the operational practices, policies and concession facility for the benefit of the animals and safety of the public. Some of these further improvements may include, but are not limited to:

- Onboarding of an on-site Animal Welfare Professional
- Offering Non-Riding Pony Grooming & Educational Lectures
- Further updates to protocols for high-heat days
- Improvements and/or modifications to the small pony sweep / Pony-Go-Around

Compliance with each of these points will be factored into RAP's decision on whether to extend the contract beyond December 22, 2022.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact LaTricia Jones of the Concessions Unit at (213) 202-5678.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL A. SHULL
General Manager

MAS:MR:RR:ml

cc: Matthew Rudnick, Assistant General Manager, RAP
Rachel Ramos, Concessions Manager, RAP
LaTricia Jones, Management Analyst, RAP