

**From:** Danila Oder <doder@usc.edu>  
**To:** <councilmember.labonge@lacity.org>  
**CC:** <Maria.Kostrencich@lacity.org>, <Brian.Walters@lacity.org>  
**Date:** 2/8/2010 3:41 PM  
**Subject:** Three Year Sustainability Plan vote February 9th

Dear Councilmember LaBonge:

As your constituent, I urge you to kill the recommendation tomorrow to remove recreation from the city budget for the Department of Recreation and Parks tomorrow. This is Agenda item 11, parts 16 and 17. Basic recreation in parks is the cheapest, most cost-effective activity to keep children busy after school. Sports leagues don't need uniforms, they just need a coach and a field.

Also, I oppose Agenda item 11, parts 27, 28 and 33 (c) as these relate to the Department of Recreation and Parks. Golf provides income to the department, so privatizing it would put RAP in a bigger hole next year. Furthermore, I oppose privatizing park signage, naming, or facilities. These are one-time solutions that create the equivalent of billboard blight on the city landscape, without addressing the city's structural problems.

Yours truly,  
Danila Oder  
530 S. Kingsley Dr. #402  
Los Angeles, CA 90020  
doder@usc.edu

**Maria Kostrencich - Council File numbers: 09-0600, and 09-0600-S159**

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**From:** Dora Herrera <yucas@charter.net>  
**To:** <councilmember.labonge@lacity.org>  
**Date:** 2/8/2010 8:28 AM  
**Subject:** Council File numbers: 09-0600, and 09-0600-S159  
**CC:** <Maria.Kostrencich@lacity.org>, <Brian.Walters@lacity.org>

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*Good morning,*

*We are definitely in a crisis. Something must be done. However, actions taken should not take us down a path that we will later regret or that will make our City less of a wonderful place in which to live & work. I am addressing certain issues that concern the Recreation & Parks Department.*

*I am concerned that the "Three Year Sustainability Plan" for the City of Los Angeles would result in the complete removal of all recreation from the Department of Recreation and Parks this year alone. Any recommendation that results in the possible complete elimination of all recreation function of the Department of Recreation and Parks is absolutely unacceptable. In future years, the entire department could be at risk of elimination.*

\* The utilities and water fees idea removes vital funds specifically restricted for parks and recreation services and funnels them into a

City-owned utility where the Mayor and City Council then transfer the funds back to the General Fund for different, now unrestricted uses.

\* A full 25% of the entire department budget to pay for pension liabilities at the rate of 10% in 2010 ramping up to 50% in five years could potentially eliminate the Department.

\* Revenue from the City's golf courses goes directly back to the Department of Recreation and Parks. Privatization provides an opportunity for that revenue stream to be redirected anywhere. Privatization redirects the mission of the golf courses from services-centered to profit-centered, opening up the venues to immeasurable alternate uses in the name of profit.

There is possibly more to comment on in this plan but it is decidedly impossible to do in such a short time as was given to read, digest and address the 273 page plan.

I'd like to see a proposal where the parties deciding the cuts also include themselves in these cuts. The Mayor and our City Council members should tighten their belts (i.e. budgets) along with the rest of the City.

Dora Herrera

**Maria Kostrencich - CF Numbers: 09-600 and 09-0660-S159**

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**From:** Lucinda Phillips <pavementpictures@dslextreme.com>  
**To:** <Maria.Kostrencich@lacity.org>, <Brian.Walters@lacity.org>, <councilmember.labonge@lacity.org>, antonio villaraigosa <mayor@lacity.org>  
**Date:** 2/8/2010 12:11 PM  
**Subject:** CF Numbers: 09-600 and 09-0660-S159

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re: Removal of Recreation from the Department of RAP

We respectfully oppose Agenda item 11, parts 16 and 17,

and we also oppose Agenda item 11, parts 27, 28 and 33 (c)

and request that our Councilmember LaBonge opposes these items.

We do not want to see City-supported recreation end in Los Angeles.

Sincerely  
Lucinda Phillips HUNC Parks Representative  
Friends of Fern Dell

**From:** "carol henning" <carolhen@sbcglobal.net>  
**To:** <Maria.Kostrencich@lacity.org>  
**CC:** <Brian.Walters@lacity.org>  
**Date:** 2/8/2010 10:45 AM  
**Subject:** 3-year plan to Fiscal Sustainability, Item #11

Re: File # 09-0600-S159

Dear City Clerks:

Aspects of this plan, if approved, would seriously weaken, and eventually virtually eliminate the Department of Recreation and Parks.

Requiring DRAP to pay all utility costs, for the first time in the Department's history, would be a debilitating burden upon the Department. As its mission is community services, it is difficult to see how these costs could be recovered. Moreover, the fees would go into the City-owned utility whence they could be transferred to the General Fund to be used for other programs.

Requiring DRAP to pay pension liabilities at a rate of 10 percent, graduating to a rate of 50 percent would all but obliterate DRAP's budget.

Removing the Advanced Planning Division from DRAP and requiring DRAP to go to the Bureau of Engineering to plan and design anything from playgrounds to major repairs would put DRAP at the mercy of an entity (BOE) that is not recreation-and-parks oriented.

Privatization of golf courses in city parks redirects their focus from serving the community to making profits. This opens golf courses to alternative, for-profit uses and deprives DRAP of a needed source of revenue.

This plan threatens to cripple and disable the Department of Recreation and Parks at a time when Los Angeles residents most need the Department's services.

Thank you for your attention.

Carol Henning  
651 N. Wilcox Ave. #3B  
Los Angeles, CA 90004