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JUL 02 2013
MOTION

ARTS, PARKS, HEALTH & AGING
EDUCATION & NEIGHBORHOODS

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Historically, because many people thought of Los Angeles as a city of single-family homes each with its own private yard, civic leaders did not set aside very much land for open space, parks or recreation. The City of Los Angeles has only about 10 percent of the recommended 8-10 acres of parks and open space for every 1,000 residents (National Recreation and Parks Association). Only a quarter of children in Los Angeles live within a quarter mile of a park.

In February 2008, the LAUSD Board approved a motion to "Create School Community Parks in Partnership with Community Groups and the City of Los Angeles". The LAUSD Superintendent of Schools was directed to convene a Working Group to develop a plan for creating community school parks and develop a proposed MOU with the City of Los Angeles.

The Working Group determined that it would be beneficial to focus on enhancing LAUSD elementary school playgrounds, since middle schools and high schools are already highly utilized after school hours. LAUSD indicated that they could contribute the playgrounds at the schools, some Beyond the Bell programming,

One of the most common joint use arrangements in other cities is schools and parks. Since 1938 New York City has jointly-operated playgrounds that are managed by the schools during the day and the Parks Department at all other times.

In Los Angeles, school construction will continue to be the largest redevelopment effort with the power to reshape neighborhoods over the next 20 years. Given the shortage of parks in Los Angeles, the school district has adopted a policy to pursue joint use where appropriate. The more limited the supply of land, the more joint use makes sense.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Recreation and Parks be directed to report on all current joint use agreements with the Los Angeles School District (LAUSD); on the process of establishing additional joint use agreements with LAUSD sites in Council District One for the purpose of developing a partnership programs for community school parks in the City of Los Angeles; and to identify potential funding sources, including LAUSD Joint Use Program funds, Quimby, and funds from non-profit organizations.

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GILBERT A. CEDILLO
Councilmember, 1st District

Seconded By: [Signature]

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