



**GREATER
ECHO PARK ELYSIAN
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**



PRESIDENT
KWAZI NKRUMAH
VICE PRESIDENT
MANICITO "SANTOS"
TREASURER
EVA MEJIA
**CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER**
PAUL BOWERS

**Community Impact Statement
December 18, 2014
Council File 13-1374 ✓**

**CERTIFIED
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
APRIL 16, 2002**
TELE: (213) 221 400-9155
WEBSITE: www.gepenc.org
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MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. BOX 261046, LA 90026

To: Honorable City Council of Los Angeles and Committees in c/o the Office of the City Clerk at the Los Angeles City Hall 200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council requests that the following Community Impact Statement be attached to Council File 13-1374.

On November 25, 2014, the Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council (GEPENC) Board of Governors held a Brown Act noticed, regular meeting with a quorum of 11. With a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions, the GEPENC adopted the motion in support of **Council File 13-1374**. Motion (Koretz—O'Farrell—Bonin) is relative to requesting the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance which would prohibit, within the LA City limits, the growth of genetically modified crops as well as the following practices: The planting of GM seeds; the sale of GM seeds by vendors; the sale of any seeds that could potentially be contaminated by other genetically modified organisms; and, the sale of GM fruit trees and plants.

Whereas, GEPENC cites research from <http://www.nongmoproject.org/learn-more/> that does not find GMOs to be safe:

"Most developed nations do not consider GMOs to be safe. In more than 60 countries around the world, including Australia, Japan, and all of the countries in the European Union, there are significant restrictions or outright bans on the production and sale of GMOs. In the U.S., the government has approved GMOs based on studies conducted by the same corporations that created them and profit from their sale. Increasingly, Americans are taking matters into their own hands and choosing to opt out of the GMO experiment."

Therefore, be it resolved, that the GEPENC supports all efforts directed toward the limitation and elimination of GMO products from the mass market in our community, our city, and our world.

KWAZI NKRUMAH, PRESIDENT OF GREATER ECHO PARK ELYSIAN NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (GEPENC)
DECEMBER 18, 2014



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ECHO PARK ELYSIAN
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Community Impact Statement

Council File 14-0518

**Protection of Wildlife Corridors in
the eastern area of the Santa
Monica Mountains**

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APRIL 16, 2002**
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To: Honorable City Council of Los Angeles and Committees in c/o the Office of the City Clerk at the Los Angeles City Hall 200 N. Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council requests that the following Community Impact Statement be attached to Council File 14-0518.

On November 25, 2014, the Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council (GEPENC) Board of Governors held a Brown Act noticed, regular meeting with a quorum of 11; and, with a vote of 11 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions, the GEPENC adopted the motion in support of **Council File Motion 14-0518** regarding the protection of the remaining open spaces, corridors, and wildlife habitats in the eastern area of the Santa Monica Mountains from the encroachment by development.

Whereas, the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains extend from east to west, separating the San Fernando Valley from the Los Angeles Basin, these mountains include but are not limited to the Hollywood Hills, Griffith Park, and moreover its eastern most part of the mountains extends to Elysian Park that is a continuation of the Echo Park Hills.

Whereas, in 1982 the Santa Monica Mountains Zone of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy was extended by the State Legislature to include Elysian Park and El Pueblo as the eastern extremity of the Zone, thereby reinforcing Elysian Park status as a regional park (<http://historicechopark.org/id31.html>).

Whereas, the flora and fauna habitats and wildlife corridors of Echo Park Hills and Elysian Park are in dire need of protection,

Whereas, in the short past various tree types with hearty canopies, wild bushes and weeds of all sorts were cleared away for development and public infrastructure,

Whereas, the noise and pollutant levels from exhaust fumes of vehicular movement taking shortcuts through the Echo park hillside roads and Elysian Park are dispersing the wildlife and drying the flora.

Whereas on a daily basis in our congested city streets vehicles run over wildlife, such as squirrels, opossums, raccoons, and skunks while coyotes run rampant not knowing which way to turn as they look for alternative prey,

Whereas, native birds of various species are becoming extinct including blue jays and crows due to the diminishing flora and the proliferation of Wi-Fi towers, and dried birds are found on hillside grounds when strong winds blow,

Therefore, be it resolved, the Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council (GEPENC) supports L.A. City Motion 14- 0518 regarding the preparation and presentation of an ordinance that identifies and increases the protection of the flora and fauna habitats and wildlife corridors of the Eastern Santa Monica Mountains including Echo Park Hills and Elysian Park.

Be it further resolved, that GEPENC supports the ordinance that enforces the four requirements as written in Councilmember Paul Koretz' motion 14-0518 of April 23, 2014, and that the Biological Constraints Checklist include but not be limited to: Restrict the infill lots on hillsides within two blocks of the threshold of regional parks such as Elysian Park for cottages, bungalows, and two-story homes with two bedrooms maximum, and prohibit small lot subdivisions. The homes are to have no chimneys for the burning of wood or coal that adds to the existing air pollution that disperses the fauna of the park. Homes are to have trees that match the flora of the natural habitat of the nearby hills. Dwellings shall have hedges instead of fences, permeable driveways and no glaring night-lights for the protection of remaining fauna.



KWAZI NKRUMAH, PRESIDENT OF GREATER ECHO PARK ELYSIAN NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
(GEPENC)

December 18, 2014