Contact Information
Neighborhood Council: Los Feliz Neighborhood Council, Los Feliz Neighborhood Council
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Date of NC Board Action: 06/17/2014
Type of NC Board Action: For Proposal

Impact Information
Date: 06/23/2014
Update to a Previous Input: No
Directed To: City Council and Committees
Council File Number: 14-0588
Agenda Date:
Item Number:
Brief Summary: Providing ball fields "near home" for areas that desperately need them benefits everyone. Three previously empaneled city commissions (RVNOC, LVNOC, RAP) and five other nearby neighborhood councils representing over 200K residents, all support the "Crystal Springs" plan. We urge the City Council reaffirm and uphold the decision of the Dept. of Recreation and Parks Commission so more kids get a chance to "play ball" in their own neighborhoods.

Additional Information:
June 17, 2014

Honorable Mitch O’Farrell
Chair, Arts, Parks, Health, Aging And River Committee
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Room 480
Los Angeles, CA  90012

Re: Council File: 14-0588

Honorable Chair and Committee Members:

For nearly four years, the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council (LFNC) has supported the current plan to construct two youth baseball fields in the Crystal Springs area of Griffith Park. We are tasked by the City Charter to assist in the delivery of city services, and we have long held this project to be a vital city service, sorely lacking and direly needed by our community.

The plan has now been reviewed and approved by:

A Regional Neighborhood Oversight Committee (RVNOC)
A Local Neighborhood Oversight Committee (LVNOC)
The Department of Recreation and Parks Board of Commissioners (RAPCOM)

Additionally, at significant cost, the plan has received a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, which was accepted and approved by RAPCOM. Further, six neighborhood councils near Griffith Park representing over 200,000 resident stakeholders unanimously resolved support for the Crystal Springs plan.

01/17/12 - Los Feliz Neighborhood Council 02/09/12 - Atwater Village Neighborhood Council
03/07/12 - Silver Lake Neighborhood Council 09/12/12 - Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council
04/17/12 - Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council 11/18/13 - East Hollywood Neighborhood Council

Now, by virtue of the CEQA process, project approval has once again been delayed by being appealed to a body of elected officials for a final decision, your committee and ultimately, the Los Angeles City Council itself.

We ask that you review the history of the project, and recognize the “appellants” make many claims as to why the decision of the Recreation and Parks Commissioners should be overruled. We advise you uphold RAPCOM’s decision, and recommends this project commence as soon as possible.
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Demmers
President

By:
Mark F. Mauceri
Recreation Interests Representative

cc: Buscaino, J. (CD15)
    Cedillo, G. (CD1)
    LaBonge, T. (CD4)
    Price, C. (CD9)
WHEREAS, Los Angeles’ Griffith Park was gifted to the City with the specific intent it be “a place of rest and relaxation for the masses, a resort for the rank and file, for the plain people” and it currently contains an abundance of golf courses, tennis courts, equestrian and hiking trails, as well as popular attractions such as a merry-go-round, pony rides, a miniature railroad, etcetera; and

WHEREAS, the youth ball fields that once served the entire City as well as the communities abutting Griffith Park were torn out by the construction of the ‘Golden State (#5) Freeway’ and never subsequently replaced; and

WHEREAS, the entire neighborhood of Los Feliz has no publicly funded and administered recreational facilities or organized sports programs offering instruction in the more conventional and widely played sports of Baseball, Basketball, Football and Soccer; and

WHEREAS, the neighborhood of Los Feliz has experienced tremendous growth in the number of families with children over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, Los Feliz’s nearest public recreation center in Silver Lake has reached maximum capacity in the programs it can offer, so much so, parents and their children are now, and will continually be for the foreseeable future, routinely turned away due to the lack of adequate recreational facility space; and

WHEREAS, physical education programs have been eliminated from our public grammar schools and lack of exercise has been scientifically linked to the growing problem of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, a Proposition K (“K for Kids”) funded project to restore youth ball fields in Griffith Park is currently being contemplated by the Bureau of Engineering and the Department of Recreation and Parks; and

WHEREAS, Griffith Park, as a Los Angeles Historical-Cultural monument, enjoys the benefit and protection of having significant projects undergo a thorough review/approval process by the City’s Office of Historic Resources and Cultural Heritage Commission to ensure their appropriateness within the confines of the park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council (GGPNC) wholeheartedly supports the project (BOE - K277) to restore the youth ball fields in Griffith Park so sorely missed by our community’s children and the City of Los Angeles as a whole.
February 9, 2012

WHEREAS, Los Angeles’ Griffith Park was gifted to the City with the specific intent it be “a place of rest and relaxation for the masses, a resort for the rank and file, for the plain people” and it currently contains an abundance of golf courses, tennis courts, equestrian and hiking trails, as well as popular attractions such as a merry-go-round, pony rides, a miniature railroad, etcetera; and

WHEREAS, the majority of youth ball fields that once served the entire City as well as the communities abutting Griffith Park were torn out by the construction of the ‘Golden State (#5) Freeway’ and never subsequently replaced; and

WHEREAS, the neighborhood of Atwater Village has experienced marked growth in the number of families with children over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, physical education programs have been eliminated from our public grammar schools and lack of exercise has been scientifically linked to the growing problem of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, a Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Citywide parks needs assessment report (2008) specified a goal of providing one (1) baseball field per 12,000 persons by 2013 requiring the addition of seventy three (73) new ball field installations; and

WHEREAS, a Proposition K (“K for Kids”) funded project to restore two (2) youth ball fields in Griffith Park’s Crystal Springs area is currently being contemplated by the Bureau of Engineering and the Department of Recreation and Parks; and

WHEREAS, 2009 census data projections indicate 25% of the population within a 3.0 mile radius of the project site are categorized in the 15-34-year age range; and

WHEREAS, Griffith Park, as a Los Angeles Historical-Cultural monument, enjoys the benefit and protection of having significant projects undergo a thorough review/approval process by the City’s Office of Historic Resources and Cultural Heritage Commission to ensure their appropriateness within the confines of the park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Atwater Village Neighborhood Council (AVNC) supports the project (BOE - K277) to restore youth ball fields in Griffith Park. As the community has been provided an opportunity to give comment and having passed through the Environment and Land Use Committee for the AVNC and put to a vote before the Board of Governors of the AVNC, we the Atwater Village Neighborhood Council give our support.
FEBRUARY 27, 2012

WHEREAS, Los Angeles’ Griffith Park was gifted to the City with the specific intent it be “a place of rest and relaxation for the masses, a resort for the rank and file, for the plain people” and it currently contains an abundance of golf courses, tennis courts, equestrian and hiking trails, as well as popular attractions such as a merry-go-round, pony rides, a miniature railroad, etcetera; and

WHEREAS, the majority of youth ball fields that once served the entire City as well as the communities abutting Griffith Park were torn out by the construction of the ‘Golden State (#5) Freeway’ and never subsequently replaced; and

WHEREAS, the neighborhood of East Hollywood has experienced marked growth in the number of families with children over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, physical education programs have been eliminated from our public grammar schools and lack of exercise has been scientifically linked to the growing problem of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, a Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Citywide parks needs assessment report (2008) specified a goal of providing one (1) baseball field per 12,000 persons by 2013 requiring the addition of seventy three (73) new ball field installations; and

WHEREAS, a Proposition K (“K for Kids”) funded project to restore two (2) youth ball fields in Griffith Park’s Crystal Springs area is currently being contemplated by the Bureau of Engineering and the Department of Recreation and Parks; and

WHEREAS, 2009 census data projections indicate 25% of the population within a 3.0 mile radius of the project site are categorized in the 15-34-year age range; and

WHEREAS, Griffith Park, as a Los Angeles Historical-Cultural monument, enjoys the benefit and protection of having significant projects undergo a thorough review/approval process by the City’s Office of Historic Resources and Cultural Heritage Commission to ensure their appropriateness within the confines of the park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The East Hollywood Neighborhood Council (EHNC) supports the project (BOE - K277) to restore youth ball fields in Griffith Park so sorely missed by our community’s children and the City of Los Angeles as a whole.
SILVER LAKE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
RESOLUTION

March 7, 2012

WHEREAS, Los Angeles’ Griffith Park was gifted to the City with the specific intent it be “a place of rest and relaxation for the masses, a resort for the rank and file, for the plain people” and it currently contains an abundance of golf courses, tennis courts, equestrian and hiking trails, as well as popular attractions such as a merry-go-round, pony rides, a miniature railroad, etcetera; and

WHEREAS, the majority of youth ball fields that once served the entire City as well as the communities abutting Griffith Park were torn out by the construction of the ‘Golden State (#5) Freeway’ and never subsequently replaced; and

WHEREAS, the neighborhood of Silver Lake has experienced marked growth in the number of families with children over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, Silver Lake’s city administrated recreation center sports programs, specifically youth baseball, are routinely filled to capacity where parents are turned away because of lack of facility space; and

WHEREAS, physical education programs have been eliminated from our public grammar schools and lack of exercise has been scientifically linked to the growing problem of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, a Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Citywide parks needs assessment report (2008) specified a goal of providing one (1) baseball field per 12,000 persons by 2013 requiring the addition of seventy three (73) new ball field installations; and

WHEREAS, a Proposition K (“K for Kids”) funded project to restore two (2) youth ball fields in Griffith Park’s Crystal Springs area is currently being contemplated by the Bureau of Engineering and the Department of Recreation and Parks; and

WHEREAS, 2009 census data projections indicate 25% of the population within a 3.0 mile radius of the project site are categorized in the 15-34-year age range; and

WHEREAS, many Silver Lake stakeholders included in these population projections will directly benefit from the creation of additional recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, Griffith Park, as a Los Angeles Historical-Cultural monument, enjoys the benefit and protection of having significant projects undergo a thorough review/approval process by the City’s Office of Historic Resources and Cultural Heritage Commission to ensure their appropriateness within the confines of the park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Silver Lake Neighborhood Council (SLNC) supports the project (BOE - K277) to restore youth ball fields in Griffith Park so sorely missed by our community’s children and the City of Los Angeles as a whole.
WHEREAS, Los Angeles’ Griffith Park was gifted to the City with the specific intent it be “a place of rest and relaxation for the masses, a resort for the rank and file, for the plain people” and it currently contains an abundance of golf courses, tennis courts, equestrian and hiking trails, as well as attractions such as a merry-go-round, pony rides, a miniature railroad, etcetera; and

WHEREAS, the majority of youth ball fields that once served the entire City as well as the communities abutting Griffith Park were torn out by the construction of the ‘Golden State (#5) Freeway’ and never subsequently replaced; and

WHEREAS, the greater Toluca Lake neighborhood has experienced marked growth in the number of families with children over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, Toluca Lake’s youth baseball program serves more and more children each year from the neighborhoods of Los Feliz, Silver Lake and Atwater Village abutting Griffith Park, to where families are now turned away because facility capacity has been exceeded; and

WHEREAS, physical education programs have been eliminated from our public grammar schools and lack of exercise has been scientifically linked to the growing problem of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, a Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Citywide parks needs assessment report (2008) specified a goal of providing one (1) baseball field per 12,000 persons by 2013 requiring the addition of seventy three (73) new ball field installations; and

WHEREAS, a Proposition K (“K for Kids”) funded project to restore two (2) youth ball fields in Griffith Park’s easily accessible Crystal Springs area is currently being contemplated by the Bureau of Engineering and the Department of Recreation and Parks; and

WHEREAS, 2009 census data projections indicate 25% of the population within a 3.0 mile radius of the project site are categorized in the 15-34-year age range; and

WHEREAS, these facilities serving the adjacent Griffith Park neighborhoods will effectively reduce the number of families traveling to other neighborhoods to participate in organized recreation, particularly baseball; and

WHEREAS, Griffith Park, as a Los Angeles Historical-Cultural monument, enjoys the benefit and protection of having significant projects undergo a thorough review/approval process by the City’s Office of Historic Resources and Cultural Heritage Commission to ensure their appropriateness within the confines of the park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council (GTLNC) supports the project (BOE - K277) to restore youth ball fields in Griffith Park’s Crystal Springs area so sorely missed by the nearby communities’ children and the City of Los Angeles as a whole.
WHEREAS, Los Angeles’ Griffith Park was gifted to the City with the specific intent it be “a place of rest and relaxation for the masses, a resort for the rank and file, for the plain people” and it currently contains an abundance of golf courses, tennis courts, equestrian and hiking trails, as well as attractions such as a merry-go-round, pony rides, a miniature railroad, etcetera; and

WHEREAS, the majority of youth ball fields that once served the entire City as well as the communities abutting Griffith Park were torn out by the construction of the ‘Golden State (#5) Freeway’ and never subsequently replaced; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Wilshire neighborhood has experienced marked growth in the number of families with children over the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, physical education programs have been eliminated from our public grammar schools and lack of exercise has been scientifically linked to the growing problem of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, a Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Citywide parks needs assessment report (2008) specified a goal of providing one (1) baseball field per 12,000 persons by 2013 requiring the addition of seventy three (73) new ball field installations; and

WHEREAS, a Proposition K (“K for Kids”) funded project to restore two (2) youth ball fields in Griffith Park’s easily accessible Crystal Springs area is currently being contemplated by the Bureau of Engineering and the Department of Recreation and Parks; and

WHEREAS, 2009 census data projections indicate 25% of the population within a 3.0 mile radius of the project site are categorized in the 15-34-year age range; and

WHEREAS, these facilities serving the adjacent Griffith Park neighborhoods will effectively reduce the number of families traveling to other neighborhoods to participate in organized recreation, particularly baseball; and

WHEREAS, Griffith Park, as a Los Angeles Historical-Cultural monument, enjoys the benefit and protection of having significant projects undergo a thorough review/approval process by the City’s Office of Historic Resources and Cultural Heritage Commission to ensure their appropriateness within the confines of the park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC) supports the project (BOE - K277) to restore youth ball fields in Griffith Park’s Crystal Springs area so sorely missed by the nearby communities’ children and the City of Los Angeles as a whole.
1. Call to Order. Roll Call
2. Public comment on non-agenda items
3. Reports from Government Officials
4. Executive Committee Reports
   a. President’s Report
      i. LANCC Meeting
      ii. Pothole blitz
      iii. Roster verification
   b. Vice President Communications Report
   c. Vice President Administration Report
      i. Status of current Bylaws, Standing Rules, and other council governance documents; board member business card order; late meeting arrival.
      ii. Review of board member training status (ethics and financial).
      iii. Special volunteer project delegation (convert legacy board minutes document into .pdf format).
      iv. Committee meeting dates and membership list
   d. Treasurer’s Report and Funding Requests
      i. Close out of fiscal year 2014
      ii. MOTION: Approve monthly expenditures for May 2014.
      iii. MOTION: Approve end of year expenditure for printing costs (operating costs) for Copy Cat services this quarter of $432.26 to be paid in FY 2014-2015. Demmers/Klipp
      iv. MOTION: Approve renewal of annual lease with LFIA for use of storage space. Operating expenses of $200.00 per month to be set up as on-going expense with EmpowerLA Funding. Demmers
      v. MOTION: Approve expenditure of NC funds for board member business cards to be paid from 2014-2015 budget. ($21.60 per 200) Demmers/Klipp
      vi. MOTION: Approve expenditure of NC funds to reactivate former website. Mauceri
5. Board Vacancies
   a. Appointment of District E Representative: Julie Jamison
6. Committee Reports
   a. Green Committee
      i. MOTION: Submit Community Impact Statement (CIS) and letter to LA City Council submitted by Green Committee that supports the ban on all 1st generation, 2nd generation, and non-anticoagulant ) toxic rodenticides from sale in the City of Los Angeles in alignment with current regulation which goes into effect on July 1, 2014
from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Lao. (Note: Full packet on website.)

**CIS:** With evidence that wildlife in Griffith Park is being poisoned and killed by rodenticides we support a ban on all (1st generation, 2nd generation, and non-anticoagulant) toxic rodenticides from sales in the City of Los Angeles in alignment with current regulation, which goes into effect on July 1, 2014 from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation.

ii. MOTION: LFNC supports Exhibit 3 of the BOE (Bureau Of Engineers) plan which would retain both, south and north sidewalks, create a legal-sized bike lane on both sides which is fully ADA compliant and include this motion, and motion detail in a letter to the BOE. Lao

iii. MOTION: Letter in Support of SB270 single use plastic bag ban to be sent to Mike Gatto urging his support of this bill. Lao

iv. MOTION: Approve expenditure not-to-exceed $175 for flyers for the Green Committee workshop to be spent from 2014-2015 outreach funds. Demmers/Lao

v. MOTION: Approve expenditure of $200 for guest speakers for Green Workshop scheduled for July 2014 to be paid from 2014-2015 Neighborhood Council Outreach funds. Demmers/Lao

b. Outreach

c. Public Safety
   i. MOTION: Approve letter to CD4 regarding paving of Oxford Street. Maloney

d. Planning Zoning and Historic Preservation
   i. MOTION: Approve letter approving the conversion of the northern portion of the approximately 7 acre subject site at 3431 Waverly Drive from a convent and school for the training and housing of novitiates and nuns most recently approved under ZA-1991-0216(CUZ) to a religious retreat facility for lay members of the Catholic Faith. CKhanjian

e. Business
   i. Action and Discussion as Appropriate: Update on Street Vendor ordinance. Carlson

f. Sports and Recreation
   i. Update on current projects status
   ii. MOTION: Approve and submit Community Impact Statement (CIS) for file 14-0588 and associated letter urging City Council to uphold The Dept. of Recreation & Parks Commissioners project approval for the 'Griffith Park Crystal Springs Baseball Fields;' Mauceri

**CIS:** Providing ballfields “near home” for areas that desperately need them benefits everyone. Three previously empaneled city commissions (RVNOC, LVNOC, RAP), and five other nearby neighborhood councils representing over 200K residents, all support the ‘Crystal Springs’ plan. We urge the City Council reaffirm and uphold the decision of the Dept. of Recreation and Parks Commission, so more kids get a chance to “play ball!” in their own neighborhoods.

7. MOTION: Authorize Demmers to receive NC election materials from City Clerk. Demmers
8. DISCUSSION AND ACTION AS APPROPRIATE: LFNC position on BONC Policy on Mandatory Sexual Harassment and Intimidation Training. Demmers
9. DISCUSSION AND ACTION AS APPROPRIATE: Letter of support for LFIA position on Greek Theater RFP to Mike Shull, Vicky Israel. Demmers. Ferris
10. DISCUSSION AND ACTION AS APPROPRIATE: Letter to CD4 requesting implementation of LA City Ordinance 181218 posting signs prohibiting parking of oversized vehicles in designated residential neighborhoods. McDonald
11. DISCUSSION AND ACTION AS APPROPRIATE: Welcome packet distribution via real estate agencies. McDonald
12. MOTION: "Approve a letter to the LA City Information Technology Agency requesting that neighborhood councils be permanently listed in the "Volunteer Opportunities" section of LACity.org." McKinley
13. MOTION: Submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of Council File 13-0953, the Citywide Municipal WiFi Initiative. McKinley

CIS: Much like public libraries and schools, a citywide WiFi network that is truly accessible to all Los Angeles residents would be a giant step towards democratizing information. Broadband access that’s fast, free and reliable should be considered basic infrastructure in the twenty-first century. It fosters innovation, creates new economic opportunities, enables use of technology that increases public safety, and improves government transparency.

14. Approval of May 20, 2014 7:00 PM Neighborhood Council Minutes.
15. Approval of May 20, 2014 8:00 PM Neighborhood Council Minutes.
16. Other comments and announcements.
   On June 21st, there will be an outdoor free concert in Griffith Park from 1:00 to 3:00, featuring Grammy Winner Danny Ho on the Ukulele. Not only will he perform, but he will involve the audience in the music making. CD4, GP Adult Community Center and Club and RAP are sponsoring the event. Bring your ukulele and join in. The event is at 3224 Riverside Dr., South of Los Feliz Blvd. and the Mulholland Fountain. Parking available in the area. (Stephanie Vendig)
17. Adjourn