

August 7, 2014

City of Los Angeles  
Arts, Parks, Health, Aging and River Committee  
City Hall  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

PUBLIC COMMENT - Council File ( #14-0588) Appeal of EIR Ruling on Additional  
Crystal Springs ballfields  
POSITION: FOR THE APPEAL

Dear Chairman O'Farrell and Honorable Committee Members,

As a former President of the Bellevue Park Advisory Board, I am well-aware of the need for youth baseball fields. However, having worked with a park that serves the "at-risk youth" referred to in the project proposal and appeal response, I know that locating the proposed fields in Crystal Springs is not going to attract these youth. The target youth usually come from lower-income families that often, if they have a car, are using it to go to work - especially if both husband and wife are working or if one adult is working more than one job. Therefore, getting to Crystal Springs will be difficult. Furthermore, car-pooling depends on the trust-worthiness and reliability of the driver and his/her car.

A much more viable location for these ball fields would be the North Atwater Park, which seemed to be dismissed out-of-hand. This location among the Atwater community would enable the youth to walk to the park and would guarantee use. Not even proposed or discussed would be Ferraro Fields. Although these would require transportation also, at least there is plenty of space for multiple sports fields.

The appeal response agrees that the impact on wildlife and the visual aspects can not be mitigated. The air quality aspect never addressed the contribution trees make to cleaning the air. It is unconscionable to cut down mature protected trees and heritage trees. The photo in the proposal of the current view of the area, with the relaxing aspect of its inviting trees and picnic areas, contrasted with the visual of how the open fields, with the chain-link fencing will look is a no-brainer. Anyone who looks at these depictions should stop in their tracks. This is not the appropriate location for the baseball fields.

I urge you to grant the appeal for all the reasons cited by the appellants.

Very truly yours,

Carol Ng  
960 Edgecliffe Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90026

