



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

PUBLIC COMMENT - Council File #14-0588-Crystal Springs ballfields

1 message

Liz Amsden <LizAmsden@hotmail.com>

Fri, Aug 8, 2014 at 8:13 AM

To: Adam.Lid@lacity.org

Dear Chairman O'Farrell and honorable committee members,

I am writing to day to voice my continued and deep concern that the Crystal Springs picnic area in Griffith Park which is a multiuse area used by all Angelenos and their visitors would be destroyed for little league baseball targeted at a very small minority of the city's population. Aesthetically, it is a beautiful location and is irreplaceable in this lifetime.

A major reduction in the size of Crystal Springs Picnic Facility would:

- Destroy Crystal Springs' centerpiece tree, a giant native sycamore that is a City of Los Angeles "Heritage Tree"
- Cut down up to 49 trees, including many native "protected" species, and the shade, coolness and beauty they provide
- Further minimize developed (safe) park areas for family-friendly free play and relaxation
- Evict a significant quantity of picnickers and recreationists and compress/marginalization those in the space remaining
- Exchange vistas of trees and greenery for hundreds of linear feet of barrier fencing hung with banners with corporate logos, announcements and the inevitable grafitti
- Tear out the Crystal Springs asphalt loop road that provides a safe place for small children to bicycle and families to safely use rented pedal-surries
- Encourage 'hanging out' with the attendant smoking and drug use that occurs around sports developments
- Remove one of the city's limited outdoor venues for large events
- Reduce wildlife habitat for mammals and birds that depend on the Crystal Springs area, many of whom would not cope well with the lights, yelling and open space needed by ball fields
- Attract rats and raccoons which come for garbage and drive out other denizens

Is there not some other area in the park or perhaps down along the LA River that would do?

Someone suggested incorporating it into the Ferraro Soccer Field area which could evolve into a team sports complex with amenities for adults and minors who enjoy competitive and team sports away from the more pastoral Crystal Springs area.

Please, *please* find a better location for little league than our Crystal Springs area of Griffith Park.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Liz Amsden

Los Angeles, CA 90042
August 8, 2014