



Adam Lid <adam.lid@lacity.org>

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## Council File # 14-0588 Griffith Park Crystal Springs Ball Fields

1 message

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**Mary Button** <marybutton59@gmail.com>

Thu, Aug 7, 2014 at 3:15 PM

To: Adam.Lid@lacity.org

Dear Chairman O'Farrell and honorable committee members,

Ref: **Council File #14-0588**

I am very passionate about Griffith Park. I am on the Board of Friends of Griffith Park.

I've been in the Crystal Springs area hundreds of times. It is *the PRIME PICNIC spot*. Families and friends (groups large and small) have gathered at this historic site since 1936. Current users of the area were (and are) unaware of the Ball Fields which will displace them. In the Appeal which was signed by Sierra Club, the Griffith Family Trust and Friends of Griffith Park, it was stated public notification procedures were inadequate. The City's rebuttal is they complied with CEQA requirements. This is shameful.

In 2013, Friends of Griffith Park visited Crystal Springs half a dozen times. Our goal was to let park users know about the proposed ball fields. We had a Petition in hand, opposing the Ballfields at that location, and gathered signatures. It didn't take many visits for us to gain over 500 signed petitions!

I observed the largest user group of the area is Latino. We came prepared, with petitions in both Spanish and English versions. More than half of the 500 signatures we gathered were of Spanish version. (I wish I had brought along an Armenian version.) This beautiful tranquil area is enjoyed by so many various ethnic groups.

When Colonel Griffith bequeathed this land to the citizens of Los Angeles, he envisioned the Park to be a place of refuge; a respite for the people.

The Colonel was a true visionary. It is our duty and responsibility to respect his wishes.

Ballfields are good. But Crystal Springs is NOT the place for them!

Sincerely,

Mary J Button  
2624 Green Oak Place  
Los Angeles CA