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Dear Chairman O'Farrell and honorable committee members

Ref: Council File #14-0589

As a long-time area resident, Griffith Park user and boardmember of Friends of Griffith Park, it's difficult to understand why/how a large swath of land will be given to a small user group — namely Little League. Because of Park development over time, there is little flatland available to picnickers and passive recreationists, and for many decades Crystal Springs has been one of the few areas utilized by these two user groups, contrary to statements made by parties with a vested interest.

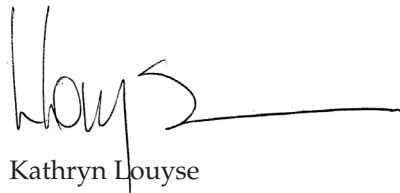
Even as other cities attempt to restore green space within their communities, it would seem that Los Angeles is bent on placing more and more green space under concrete. According to Christopher A. De Sousa at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, "Since the mid-1980s, policy makers and planners in North America and Europe have been paying significantly more attention to... foster sustainable development and improve the quality of life in urban areas. There has been a growing recognition among community groups and environmental organizations that brownfields hold enormous potential for "greening" city environments, through the implementation of parks, playgrounds, trails, greenways, and other open spaces."\*

And several years ago, City Project director, Robert Garcia made the correlation between obesity rates and green space within communities as he took a KCET reporter on a trip to Manhattan Beach, a small LA community that has developed an emphasis on the importance of "green" and health.

*[http://www.kcet.org/shows/socal\\_connected/content/health/community-health/park-poor.html](http://www.kcet.org/shows/socal_connected/content/health/community-health/park-poor.html)*

We who live here know Los Angeles is park poor... it's been a sore point for many who believe in the preservation of what little is still available for recreationists in this large metropolis. So, instead of eliminating more and more green space, would it not be more prudent for the City to look outside the box and maintain and develop a green habitat in which animals and humans would equally benefit... not just the few privileged among us?

Thank you,



Kathryn Louyse

\**<http://www.webpages.uidaho.edu/css385/Readings/brownfields.pdf>*