

MOTION ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT, PARKS, AND RIVER

The City of Los Angeles is ranked 74th out of 100 metropolitan U.S. cities in terms of access to park space, according to ParkScore Index, a study conducted by the Trust for Public Land, a national environmental group that purchases and preserves land for open space and parks. This means approximately 1.8 million residents live more than a 10-minute walk from a park or green space.

With the well-being of millions of residents within the City's purview, and the well-documented benefits of the natural environment to humans and the communities in which we live, it is incumbent upon the City to work to increase and expand open space where possible.

Some recent efforts to provide more access to open space include the acquisition of 14.9 acres of private property at 2450 Solar Drive which expanded Runyon Canyon Park in March 2017 (CF 15-0177_S1) through the City voter approved ballot measure, Proposition K, as well as the California State Senate Bill 5, providing \$4.1 billion in new funding for parks and water projects, which was signed in September 2017. Other legislative efforts continue and have our support, such as bills introduced by Representative Adam Schiff and Senator Dianne Feinstein in October 2017 to expand the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area by 191,000 acres, including the Rim of the Valley.

While the need to expand our park system is a priority, public safety and preserving the structural integrity of these public parks are equally important. Parks provide opportunity for exercise, education and exploration of the natural environment, however when they are neglected and fall into disrepair, these open spaces become unsafe for the patrons and have diminishing public benefit. It is our duty to ensure critical infrastructure and safety are maintained, and that the park experience is enjoyable for all visitors.

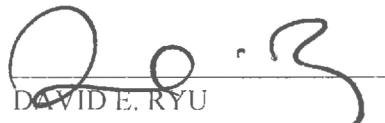
Runyon Canyon is a highly used and much loved park, with approximately 1.8 million visitors per year. There is growing concern that the high utility of the park will compromise the structural integrity of roads, trails and a number safety features in the 137-acre park.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks, Bureau of Engineering and the Department of Water and Power to report with recommended improvements to ensure the enjoyment, safety and security of park visitors, the preservation of wildlife and the natural environment, the enhancement of recreational facilities, and the adequate mitigation of erosion and water runoff at the site.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of Recreation and Parks and Department of Transportation report with options and recommendations for the improvement of the Runyon Canyon Parking Lot, which should include an improved traffic and parking congestion plan and the feasibility of installing paid parking infrastructure.

I FURTHER MOVE that the City Administrative Officer report back on the feasibility of installing the recommended improvements and potential funding sources available to carry out development, design and installation of the recommended improvements.

PRESENTED BY:


DAVID E. RYU
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

DEC 13 2017

