Your Community Impact Statement has been successfully submitted to City Council and Committees.

If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at <u>NCSupport@lacity.org</u>.

This is an automated response, please do not reply to this email.

Contact Information Neighborhood Council: Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council Name: Cindy Bloom Phone Number: (818) 445-5602 Email: cindy.bloom@ftdnc.org The Board approved this CIS by a vote of: Yea(8) Nay(0) Abstain(0) Ineligible(0) Recusal(0) Date of NC Board Action: 05-21-2020 Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information Date: 05/26/2020 Update to a Previous Input: No Directed To: City Council and Committees Council File Number: 20-0190 Agenda Date: Item Number:

Summary: At the Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council General Board meeting held on May 21, 2020, the Board voted 8 For, 0 Against, 0 No Position, 0 Neutral Position to SUPPORT arming the City's Park Rangers City Council File 20-0190. The men and women who patrol our parks went through the same extensive training, including use of a firearm, as other sworn police officers, including those of LAPD. Upon graduation from the Police Academy, they are then required to surrender their firearm. Our parks are frequently the site of homeless people and drug addicts and require a higher level of law enforcement, i.e., armed officers. Many times, rangers are in remote areas of parklands and are confronted by people, many who are on drugs, with deadly weapons and/or bombs. The rangers have no way to defend themselves, and if in a remote and not easily identifiable area of a park, are unable to give a specific location for LAPD backup to assist. The rangers are losing skilled personnel to other law enforcement agencies due to attrition. This is even more dire since there are only 25 park rangers to cover the entire city. Besides being our parks' first responders, LA City Park Rangers are also tasked with a broad range of duties, including wild-land fire-fighting operations, rope rescues, medical call responses, and so on. Based on the foregoing, we feel that our Park Rangers must be able to carry a firearm to (1) keep our parks safe for patrons, and (2) keep our Park Rangers safe when confronted with potentially dangerous situations.

Cindy Bloom Michael Carpenter Alisa Clairet Daniel Davis Kevin J. Davis Ryan Davis MaryLouise Eckman Scott Froschauer Lisa Johnson Teresa Kelley Fallon Milligan Judith Trujillo

Josie Zarate

Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council

## FOOTHILL TRAILS DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL Community Impact Statement

At the Foothill Trails District Neighborhood Council General Board meeting held on May 21, 2020, the Board voted 8 For, 0 Against, 0 No Position, 0 Neutral Position to **SUPPORT** arming the City's Park Rangers **City Council File 20-0190**.

The men and women who patrol our parks went through the same extensive training, including use of a firearm, as other sworn police officers, including those of LAPD. Upon graduation from the Police Academy, they are then required to surrender their firearm.

Our parks are frequently the site of homeless people and drug addicts and require a higher level of law enforcement, i.e., armed officers. Many times, rangers are in remote areas of parklands and are confronted by people, many who are on drugs, with deadly weapons and/or bombs. The rangers have no way to defend themselves, and if in a remote and not easily identifiable area of a park, are unable to give a specific location for LAPD backup to assist. The rangers are losing skilled personnel to other law enforcement agencies due to attrition. This is even more dire since there are only 25 park rangers to cover the entire city. Besides being our parks' first responders, LA City Park Rangers are also tasked with a broad range of duties, including wild-land fire-fighting operations, rope rescues, medical call responses, and so on.

Based on the foregoing, we feel that our Park Rangers must be able to carry a firearm to (1) keep our parks safe for patrons, and (2) keep our Park Rangers safe when confronted with potentially dangerous situations.

Sincerely,

/ s /

Kevin Davis, President FTDNC

cc. Mayor Garcetti City Councilmembers