

Communication from Public

Name: Lake Hollywood Homeowners Association

Date Submitted: 05/26/2020 10:07 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: May 25, 2020 To: City Councilman David Ryu, Council Members and Committees From: Lake Hollywood Homeowners Association (LHHA) RE: City Council and Committees Council File Number: 20-0190 Lake Hollywood Homeowners Association (LHHA), Board of Directors met on March 8, 2020 to discuss Council File 20-0190 and the motion to amend the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) to allow Park Rangers to carry firearms. As a board representing the Lake Hollywood Estates, which is a small community of 120 homes and approximately 600 residents, we spent a considerable amount of time discussing the merits of this motion and voted unanimously to support this measure. Our community development is located directly beneath the Hollywood Sign and adjacent to Lake Hollywood Park; therefore, we have seen firsthand how the rangers are at a disadvantage without the protection of a firearm. Our neighborhood along with the many surrounding communities have been extremely vulnerable since the technology of today provides international and local tourists specific directions to Lake Hollywood Park and The Vista, as the prime viewing location to photograph the Hollywood Sign. We rely heavily on the Park Rangers and LAPD to keep our neighborhoods safe. We have witnessed, several incidents where Rangers are faced with violent groups or individuals on a regular basis. Los Angeles City Park Rangers are recognized as Peace Officers, in that they must attend and pass law enforcement training through the LA Police Academy, which includes over 60 hours of firearm training. However, they patrol our parks with only the standard issued baton, pepper spray and handcuffs to protect themselves and our community residents from the growing dangers they face every day. The violence they are confronted with is escalating and most our Rangers are on solo patrol, unlike our fellow officers who always patrol in pairs. There are 440 parks under Recreation and Parks (PAP) purview and not enough Rangers to cover such a vast area. Park Rangers are associated with an image of being park guards, protectors of wildlife, leaders of nature hikes and tour guides for Griffith Park. They are widely perceived as the friendly rangers who don't have the authority to enforce laws, issue citations, arrest law breakers and mostly known as individuals who DON'T carry firearms. We need to change that perception and more importantly show them

the level of respect they not only deserve but have earned. We are facing even more dangerous times today, with the onset of COVID19 plus the frustration and anger that the people of Los Angeles have toward anyone with the authority to enforce the “Stay at Home” orders. These facts alone mandate the urgency to provide our Rangers with the proper tools to protect themselves and our communities. We urge you to support and protect our Park Rangers, LA’s Parks and its communities, by supporting City Councils File Number: 20-0190 and grant our Rangers to right to carry firearms while on duty. Sincerely, Lake Hollywood Homeowners Association



May 25, 2020

To: City Councilman David Ryu, Council Members and Committees

From: Lake Hollywood Homeowners Association (LHHA)

RE: City Council and Committees Council File Number: 20-0190

Dear Councilman Ryu,

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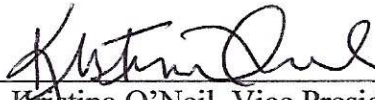
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We urge you to support and protect our Park Rangers, LA’s Parks and its communities, by supporting City Councils File Number: 20-0190 and grant our Rangers to right to carry firearms while on duty.

Sincerely,
Lake Hollywood Homeowners Association



David Benz, President



Kristina O'Neil, Vice President



Andrea Corrigan, Secretary



Marina Palmier, Treasurer