

Communication from Public

Name: Dixie Canyon Association

Date Submitted: 05/09/2020 11:36 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Mayor Garcetti and Councilmembers of the Budget and Finance Committee, The Dixie Canyon Association is a neighborhood organization covering an area of Sherman Oaks within the eastern Santa Monica Mountains. On behalf of the board and residents of our neighborhood, we urge you to restore funding for the Wildlife Pilot Study as part of the upcoming Los Angeles budget. Our neighborhood comprises residential housing, public open spaces such as Dixie Canyon Park, and a number of privately owned undeveloped parcels. With each of these parcels that is developed, we experience a noticeable decline in wildlife activity as the animals' tenuous corridors are severed. We have seen that the current planning process does not place enough emphasis on preserving critical habitat and wildlife corridors. The Dixie Canyon Association supports the Wildlife Pilot Study, and recognizes it as a needed step for Los Angeles to preserve our natural lands and wildlife. Many of us live in this region because we love being close to nature, unique flora, and beautiful wildlife. To end the Wildlife Pilot Study when it is so close to the finish line is to send our community back to the status quo of bulldozing first and seeing what animals happen to survive in the aftermath. This would be a terrible loss of the character, beauty, and enjoyment of our neighborhood. In this time of crisis we all recognize that environmental health ties directly to our own personal health, and the protection of our local environment should be paramount. We strongly urge you to continue funding the Wildlife Pilot Study. Thank you for your consideration Steven Ziel – President Dixie Canyon Association



3610 Dixie Canyon Ave, Sherman Oaks CA 91423

EIN: 83-3324986

Dear Mayor Garcetti and Councilmembers of the Budget and Finance Committee,

The Dixie Canyon Association is a neighborhood organization covering an area of Sherman Oaks within the eastern Santa Monica Mountains. On behalf of the board and residents of our neighborhood, we urge you to restore funding for the Wildlife Pilot Study as part of the upcoming Los Angeles budget.

Our neighborhood comprises residential housing, public open spaces such as Dixie Canyon Park, and a number of privately owned undeveloped parcels. With each of these parcels that is developed, we experience a noticeable decline in wildlife activity as the animals' tenuous corridors are severed. We have seen that the current planning process does not place enough emphasis on preserving critical habitat and wildlife corridors. The Dixie Canyon Association supports the Wildlife Pilot Study, and recognizes it as a needed step for Los Angeles to preserve our natural lands and wildlife.

Many of us live in this region because we love being close to nature, unique flora, and beautiful wildlife. To end the Wildlife Pilot Study when it is so close to the finish line is to send our community back to the status quo of bulldozing first and seeing what animals happen to survive in the aftermath. This would be a terrible loss of the character, beauty, and enjoyment of our neighborhood. In this time of crisis we all recognize that environmental health ties directly to our own personal health, and the protection of our local environment should be paramount. We strongly urge you to continue funding the Wildlife Pilot Study.

cc:

City Council President Nury Martinez
Councilmember David Ryu (CD4)

Thank you for your consideration
Steven Ziel – President Dixie Canyon Association

Communication from Public

Name: Christine O'Brien

Date Submitted: 05/09/2020 11:39 AM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: Council File "CF#20-00600 RE: Reinstate wildlife program, intent to support the county's identification of SEA. Dear Budget and Finance Committee: Hollywoodland tract 6450 represents 190 acres of residential property and 440 plus acres of open space given to the city's Griffith Park in 1944. County maps show Hollywoodland residential surrounded by SEA and VSFHZ (Very Severe Fire Hazard Zone). We are in full support of the wildlife program and its intent to support the county's identification of SEA and substantiate the environmental review process for hillside projects. The county identified the SEA's area in the 1970's and included its review in county projects. The first attempt to implement the SEA on a citywide level was City Planning's 2019 Wildlife Pilot Program. If it is discontinued there is a possibility it can be legally challenged. This is especially true when the environmental process is questioned. During hillside project review there are requirements for mitigation of negative environmental effects, specifically in the 6 exception categories (location, cumulative impacts, significant effect, scenic highway, hazardous waste sites and history resources). For example, most projects in Hollywoodland qualifies for a class 32 exemption and one of those criteria is: c. The project site has no value as habitat for endangered, rare or threatened species How is this approved if we do not have a read. Currently there is nothing in the process to substantiate this. A hole in your environmental project clearance. Purposeful or just neglect? Leadership that understands citizens, property owners rights, zoning and commitment to the environment should not hesitate to protect sensitive, irreplaceable hillside communities like ours. Please reinstate the wildlife program. Thank you Respectfully, Christine Mills O'Brien
Hollywoodland Homeowners Assoc. Hollywoodland Gifted Park

Communication from Public

Name: Poison Free Malibu
Date Submitted: 05/09/2020 01:32 PM
Council File No: 20-0600
Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached.

May 4, 2020

Mayor Eric Garcetti
City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Opposition to 2019/20 Open Budget Termination of the Wildlife Pilot Study (CF 20-0600)

Dear Mayor Garcetti,



Poison Free Malibu is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting wildlife in the Santa Monica Mountains and throughout California. We understand the necessity of budget restraint under the current conditions. However, the Wildlife Pilot Study is an imperative whose interruption will have dire consequences negating the long-term goals of the City of Los Angeles and the passionate support for wildlife demonstrated by its citizens. The Wildlife Pilot Study has supported the long-term goals of sustainability for the City of Los Angeles, including the protection of habitat for wildlife, threatened species such as the California mountain lion, and the health of local ecosystems for the well-being of Angelenos and beyond.

We were participants in the effort led by the *Center for Biological Diversity* and the *Mountain Lion Foundation* to list mountain lions in six sensitive regions as endangered. It just recently succeeded in obtaining the approval of the *California Fish & Game Commission* and the *Department of Fish & Wildlife* to initiate the process.

The Santa Monica mountain range to Griffith Park is one of the six sensitive regions! Conserving open space from development, establishing wildlife routes and corridors, and protecting wildlife from rat poisons are needed now. The petition that the *Center for Biological Diversity* submitted to support the endangered species request documents in great detail the threats to all wildlife, not just mountain lions, encountered in and near urban environments.

We are also proud to be partners with the Citizens for Los Angeles Wildlife who have been a prime mover in protecting wildlife in the City. Please continue to work with CLAW, with its more than 5,000 supporters, and support the overwhelming enthusiastic support of Los Angeles citizens for the wildlife it is dedicated to conserve and protect.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kian Schulman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "K".

Kian Schulman RN,MSN
Director, Poison Free Malibu
Malibu, CA 90265
Website: PoisonFreeMalibu.org
Email: PoisonFreeMalibu@gmail.com

Communication from Public

Name: Jae Flora

Date Submitted: 05/09/2020 02:41 PM

Council File No: 20-0600

Comments for Public Posting: I have heard that the City of L.A. Wildlife Pilot Study has been proposed for elimination from next year's budget. The Wildlife Pilot Study is a critical program to help ensure connectivity for local mountain lions and other wildlife. It is imperative that California's mountain lions are immediately protected. They are going extinct under our watch. They are being purposefully poisoned and hunted as we've seen across this state. Automobile deaths, ingesting of poisons are all decimating their population. We must tip the scales in their favor and provide them with the habitat, land and access that this dwindling population so desperately needs. They have no chance for survival without gaining further and the strongest of protections available. We citizens of California want our wildlife protected. This is a necessity. Thank you for listening.