



South Brentwood Residents Association

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VIA U.S. MAIL

Justin Yoshimaru
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Los Angeles Parks Foundation
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Congressman Ted W. Lieu
U.S. House of Representatives (CA-33)
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
lieu.scheduling@mail.house.gov

Re: Application by Los Angeles Parks Foundation for CA-33 Community Project Funding

Gentlemen:

I am writing on behalf of the Board and members of the South Brentwood Residents Association ("SBRA"), which represents approximately 18,000 homeowners and renters who reside in the community of Brentwood located in West Los Angeles.

SBRA strongly supports the application by the Los Angeles Parks Foundation for funds from the CA-33 Community Project Funding program to allow the Barrington Recreation Center to have a turf field.

The Barrington Recreation Center services the needs of the Brentwood community, which consists of approximately 35,000 persons, including approximately 5600-6700 children under the age of 18. Approximately 50% of the Brentwood community resides in multi-family housing with no access to outdoor space besides Los Angeles' public parks. The Barrington Recreation Center is one of only two public parks and recreational centers in the Brentwood Community, and is the only facility in South Brentwood, the location of virtually all multi-family housing in the Brentwood community.

The Barrington Recreation Center is in dire need of new turf field for team sports play. The present grass field at Barrington Recreation Center is plagued by gophers that have migrated from the adjacent Veteran's Administration campus into the area. While the grounds crew at Barrington Recreation Center make valiant efforts to keep the gopher population under control, the damage from the gopher population has decimated the field, resulting in gopher holes that are dangerous for the team sports players using the field and has led to a decrease in neighborhood participation in team sports due to concerns from injuries from the gopher holes.

The inability of our community to engage safely in team sports at the Barrington Recreation Center has negatively impacted the community by forcing our citizens to find sports fields at parks which are outside our community or to forego from team sports altogether.

In addition, the move to a turf field will be a huge benefit for the Barrington Recreation Center in terms of maintenance cost given that the park is in a drought-prone area of Southern California.

We appreciate the efforts of the Los Angeles Parks Foundation to bring this dream of the Brentwood community to fruition and hope that the Congressman will support this worthwhile, and much needed community project.

Sincerely,

Alisa M. Morgenthaler

Alisa M. Morgenthaler
President
South Brentwood Residents Association

cc: Janet Turner (via email)
Noah Fleishman (via email)
Carolyn Jordan (via email)