

Communication from Public

Name: Robert Daniel

Date Submitted: 12/07/2025 11:23 PM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: The Coastal Commission exemption issued with the City permit to build this wall must be revoked - the City was duped by an application that set out to mislead the City by hiding the fact that this area had been used as a public easement into and out of Yvonne B Burke park, and to access the Marvin Braude bike path. Bayview Property Management provided with their application a signed surveyor's map that claimed that an "existing fence of 115'" was being replaced by a 115' cinder block wall that would reach a height of 4'. That fence had been rolled back years before to an approximate length of 100' and that was its "existing" length when the map was signed and submitted. The drawing on the map, with an arrow pointing to it from the written description, showed a 115' wall superimposed on a 115' fence. If the truth had been submitted - that a rolled-back fence of 100' was being replaced by a 115' wall, the applicants would have had to explain the 15' difference - IOW, the 15' gap that was used as a public easement for years. This wall was promoted chiefly by residents who lived on the east side of the Regatta condo building, overlooking the site of the new wall and the alley between the Regatta and Ralph's. This entire project was constructed in total secrecy to conceal the aim of the wall builders - to stop thousands of people from using this 30 year old easement. The City should conduct a full investigation into how residents in the condos tried to mislead the City into preventing thousands of MDR residents from using an easement they'd used for many years.

Communication from Public

Name: Yael Pardess

Date Submitted: 12/07/2025 08:57 PM

Council File No: 00-9999

Comments for Public Posting: LA City Elected official, Senator Elena Durazo, CD1 Eunisses Hernandez, City Council Adrin Nazarian I am opposed to the WATER REUSE PROJECT at San Pascual Park and San Rafael planned by Pasadena and South Pasadena, using a portion of LA park Lands for installing pipe, pumps and other structures. There are better ways available to clean waters, using public funds Measure W, than destroy a unique riparian habitat that is at the heart of a diverse community that cherishes this park and had no say in the approval of this project. This project will prevent restoration of the Arroyo Seco in this area, and the re-introduction of Steelhead trout. I am asking that Los Angeles opposes this project and discuss a natural based approach to the river restoration and water clean-up, rather than relying on more concrete and pipe system Rest of letter in attached document.

LA City Elected official, Senator Elena Durazo, CD1 Eunisses Hernandez, City Council Adrin Nazarian

I am opposed to the WATER REUSE PROJECT at San Pascual Park and San Rafael planned by Pasadena and South Pasadena, using a portion of LA park Lands for installing pipe, pumps and other structures. There are better ways available to clean waters, using public funds Measure W, than destroy a unique riparian habitat that is at the heart of a diverse community that cherishes this park and had no say in the approval of this project. This project will prevent restoration of the Arroyo Seco in this area, and the re-introduction of Steelhead trout. I am asking that Los Angeles opposes this project and discuss a natural based approach to the river restoration and water clean-up, rather than relying on more concrete and pipe system

BACKGROUND AND ISSUES

The San Pascual Park land is a unique small forest with a diverse ecosystem nestled in Highland Park and South Pasadena. It is around 2.4 Acres. The area has been used for years for sports, bird and wildlife watching, equestrian use, and local residents who sit by the water and enjoy the cool shade. The LA Park land portion at San Pascual is about half an acre. The project requires LA to agree to give up its land in perpetuity.

- Pasadena and South Pasadena are planning to use this area to build a water Reuse facility that will clean a substantial portion of the Arroyo water from pollutants. The filtration system and new pool will capture 174 million gallons of water a year. Only 40% of that water will be returned to the Arroyo Seco. 20 million gallons will be diverted to the South Pasadena golf course (instead of using grey water) and another 85 million gallons of water will be captured for Pasadena's use. This will impact the flow of the Arroyo Seco, especially in dry years. It will devastate local ecosystems and Los Angeles will not receive any water from this project. It is important to state that neither Pasadena or S. Pasadena have exclusive water rights. They say they do but have not produced documents.
- This is a public park and it must remain so according to Los Angeles Charter 594 that states: *"All lands heretofore or hereafter set apart or dedicated as a public park shall forever remain for the use of the public inviolate but the board may authorize use of the lands for any park purpose"*. LA is required to vote on whether to give away in perpetuity 1/2 an acre of its parkland to this project without receiving any water or monetary benefit.
- The Project will remove over 136 mature trees out of 166 counted trees, literally destroying this habitat and its natural stream, with its ducks, birds, bats and more. The park's tall and mature Oaks Sycamores and other native trees, helps reduce the noise and the pollution from the 110 freeway. Cutting more than 82% of these trees will exacerbate all the negative impacts from pollution, noise, heat, and wildlife disruption. The whole neighborhood and valley will be greatly impacted, especially during a growing climate crisis. it will take 20-50 years to recapture the current forest's benefits. The proposed new replanted park with its young trees, is a poorly designed artificial landscape with a fenced in pool, that will become inaccessible to the visitors.
- The environmental impacts of this project are clearly severe. It was dismissed as *"Less Than"* or *"Mostly Insignificant"* in Pasadena's Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) document which offered less than realistic mitigation protective measures for the wildlife, environmental and habitat destruction. It should be noted that the same company that is building the project, Psomas, drafted the MND, and the EIR, which is a clear conflict of interest. We are very concerned that same inaccurate data will be copied and pasted into the EIR without objectively assessing the realistic negative impacts to the area. We are waiting to see the EIR and respond to it.

- The historical importance of this area cannot be understated. It is a known and acknowledged sacred burial site of the Gabrieleno Kizh tribe, for whom wildlife and landscape are sacred. They were not consulted in the planning of this project, and MND dismissed the cultural heritage negative impact. They must be included in the EIR consultation and any plans for this land to ensure protection of their history and heritage. Destroying the indigenous sacred site, and not consulting with the tribe is a violation of AB52.
- The current park layout as proposed does not serve the needs of the community. It is artificial, prevents access to the water by guest and wildlife, and does not implement restoration and preservation of existing nature. The few trees that will remain, will be severely impacted by the digging and destruction and may not survive. EIR must explore a nature-based approach to the park design that serves the community, wildlife habitat, as well as the need to clean water. The future design does not provide any secluded and protected environment for animals such as it provides now. The pond will be exposed, while trees take at least 20 years to regrow and provide shade and habitat. Birds may be able to relocate nests but all hiding ground for larger birds and mammals will be destroyed. All water creatures will be eliminated.
- There are known water contamination data obtained by us from LA County. Pasadena, by contrast, is using 10 year-old data. We are asking that current data is used and that contamination is treated at the source, not mid-way of the Arroyo, as proposed in San Pascual. Measure W funds should not be used to help a golf course get free water, nor destroy a beautiful functional riparian habitat that the community at large opposes. The largest contamination comes from the Rose Bowl and the South Pasadena Gold course. It makes no sense to clean water mid-stream, let the Golf course use this clean water, and then return polluted water with chemicals, E-Coli and fertilizers back into the Arroyo.
- This riparian habitat must protected and maintained, not destroyed. Alternative sites that will not entail any destruction were not even considered! EIR must demonstrate that the project is exploring other locations, and other alternatives including locating it in Los Angeles, as well as a NO BUILD option.
- 2.5 million dollar study to see how much of the stream can be safely restored from the Devil's Gate Dam to the LA River Confluence was approved by The County Board of Supervisors in March 2024. The Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project would prevent San Pascual from being restored, even though it is a prime area for a natural restoration as well as a Steelhead Trout restoration.
- **I am asking that you OPPOSE this project, and demand a nature-based solution that restores the whole Arroyo's original wetland. Cities all over the world are recognizing the immense importance of their original water ways and are actively restoring them, enhancing the city's health, beauty, ecological habitats and path for tourism, sports and family activity. Los Angeles, Pasadena and South Pasadena could become leaders in restoration and show what could and should be done. San Pascual and San Rafael must be saved, maintained, cleaned up and be part of a vibrant natural Arroyo. Please do not take part in nature destruction.**

Respectfully

Yael Pardess

Los Angeles 90065

Yaelp33@icloud.com

OPPOSING THE PROJECT:

GABRIELENO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS KIZH NATION

SIERRA CLUB WATER COMMITTEE

EAST AREA PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS (EAPD)

COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CFAC)

STEWARDS OF THE ARROYO SECO

SOUTH PASADENA NATURE PARK

HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

ARROYO SECO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

COYOTL MACEHUALI

GARVANZA IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

HISTORIC GARVANZA COALITION

SAN PASCUAL ARROYO SECO WILDLIFE PRESERVATION

HIGHLAND PARK HERITAGE TRUST

AND OVER A THOUSAND INDIVIDUALS FROM HIGHLAND PARK AND THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES

ELECTED OFFICIALS: State Assembly Jessica Caloza, Senator Elena Durazo,

United States representative Jimmy Gomez, LAUSD Rocio Rivas