

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT



WILLIAM J. BRATTON
Chief of Police

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Ref #: 6.2

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA
Mayor

August 9, 2007

Mr. Roberto Sanchez, PE
Transportation Engineering Associate II
Department of Transportation, Bikeways
100 South Main Street, 9th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Mr. Sanchez:

Pacific Community Police Station has reviewed the citizen request for a permanent closure of the access gate at the Ballona Creek Bike Path just west of Sawtelle Boulevard. We are in support of this closure and request a permanent fence raised to the same height as the existing fence and replacing the existing gate. However, if the fence requires an opening to the Ballona Creek Bike Path for emergencies, then we request the gate be locked at all times and raised to the same height as the existing fence. The purpose of this is to prevent persons from climbing over the fence into the adjoining residential street. In this event, we would request a key to the gate for emergencies.

Pacific Community Police Station's crime analysis of Part I crimes occurring within a quarter mile radius for the past 18 months revealed:

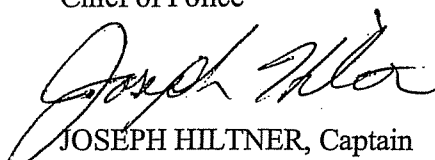
Murder (1)	Assault with a Deadly Weapon (2)	Robbery (3)
Burglary (7)	Burglary from Motor Vehicles (4)	Grand Theft Auto (4)

Four of the above crimes occurred on the Ballona Creek Bike Path, and it is believed the suspects utilized the described access gate to ingress and egress the crime scene. Our decision to support the citizen request for permanent closure of the access gate was made solely for the safety of the adjoining residential community.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please contact Sergeant Mark Pompano, Officer-in-Charge, Pacific Area Senior Lead and Community Relations Office, at (310) 202-4524.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM J. BRATTON
Chief of Police


JOSEPH HILTNER, Captain
Area Commanding Officer
Pacific Community Police Station