

Communication from Public

Name: Theodore R Henderson

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 12:07 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Park Rangers has no business being armed. They target the Unhoused community and fatalities will be inevitable. Cedillo and Buscaino are anti Unhoused and listens to vile constituents who are criminalizing the poor. We are in a new form of segregation.

Communication from Public

Name: Cassandra

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 12:15 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: As a local taxpayer who frequents our city parks approximately 50 times per year, I was deeply troubled by the idea of park rangers carrying guns. I have not heard any possible rationale or benefit. It certainly chills my potential use of our parks. As a community, we think of these as safe spaces, a place to enjoy the solace of nature in our city environ, not a place where rangers are carrying guns. Aside from changing the very dynamic of the space, I see two obvious issues. First, the cost of the weapons themselves. Second, the inevitable cost to taxpayers when a wrongful death or even injury results. It seems clear that only harm—physical, psychological, and economic harm will come from this. Please use common sense and vote against this measure. This is not what our community wants. Please listen.

Communication from Public

Name: Gregory Smith
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 12:17 AM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose arming park rangers. I find it to be unnecessary, dangerous, and frankly, vile. Please do not do this.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 12:30 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Arming park rangers with deadly weapons is an asinine idea that will only ENDANGER Los Angeles residents instead of protect them. A park is often meant to be a tranquil place to connect with nature and unwind. Instead, I will feel on edge knowing that I am near people with weapons who go through very little training and are shown to exude bias and hatred toward Black and Brown people and our unhoused neighbors. I am vehemently OPPOSED to arming park rangers in Los Angeles.

Communication from Public

Name: Molly McLean

Date Submitted: 11/08/2021 08:45 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Please—we need less officials with guns, not more. Do not arm rangers.

Communication from Public

Name: Khalilah

Date Submitted: 11/08/2021 10:39 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am a resident of Los Angeles, I strongly oppose the proposal to arm park rangers. Completely unnecessary and will only create tensions between our park rangers and the community.

Communication from Public

Name: Constituent of LA

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 01:16 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: We have been living under threat of assault and robbery from individuals, many of who harbor in encampments throughout the city. The past 10 years of inane LA city policies have entrenched the problem of crime into our neighborhoods because there is no legal consequences for criminal behavior. The call to keep these Rangers, public servants for safety, UNARMED while vagrants, homeless mentally ill and or drug addicted have no such restrictions is ludicrous! NO logic here and no common sense to expect frontline peace officers in our parks to handle high risk areas and individuals with little protection, especially since parks have been sites for numerous arson and threat of burned down homes as well as aggressive individuals that take possession of a park area and threaten those visitors stepping into a PUBLIC space. Does anyone remember the incident in Malibu: The two homeless people confronted a father, saying they were not allowed in the area, sparking an argument between the three people. One of the suspects, later identified as Richard Franck, whipped out a machete and began slashing the dad multiple times. The father lost an eye!!!! I am totally for arming Rangers to keep them safe and effective in doing their jobs against the rising boldness in aggressive confrontations that is more and more prevalent given the current dangerous "reforms" being forced on the public in Los Angeles and California. Enough with the nonsense and illogical thinking. Ordinary citizens need to be protected as well as the non violent homeless folks. Street crime needs to be curbed. Outreach did not save the father in Malibu from being slashed. Having a a deterrent in the form of a firearm is absolutely necessary, now, to keep the public safe from individuals that have no conscience in regards aggression or boundaries in regards the use of knives, machetes, metal pipes and even guns in acts of violence.

Communication from Public

Name: T. Le

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 01:19 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Arming park rangers is a preposterous idea and a disaster waiting to happen. No good would come of this proposal. The only result will be an increase in pain and violence, and our most vulnerable, marginalized community members will bear the brunt of it.

Communication from Public

Name: Zach

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 01:21 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: There is absolutely no reason for park rangers to have a gun other than the very obvious one: to murder unhoused people. Why not just help them? You aren't even actually trying. You just put up fences, bring in cops to brutalize people and build those awful prison camps. It's unacceptable. Simply giving them money would be more helpful, but you can't show that off to your awful rich NIMBY trash neighbors that bankroll you. You're either just incompetent or evil, and probably both. This motion is disgusting and as depraved as the people that proposed it.

Communication from Public

Name: Ina

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 01:40 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: It is a complete and utter joke that many of the same members of the council who claimed to be supportive of reimagining public safety are now openly supportive of essentially giving an already carceral job position a license to kill. That's what arming Park Rangers will do, as arming and militarizing police officers has also done. I shudder to think of the violence that would be to come from this motion if passed. Please vote no on this measure which offers little promise other than death, violence, oppression, and even more (rightfully earned) mistrust between unhoused folks and the city.

Communication from Public

Name: Jacob S
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 01:44 AM
Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I can't overstate how disgusting I find it that this idea is even being given the time of day. There is absolutely no reason to start arming park rangers. I've lived here my entire life and regularly use our parks, they can be wonderful relaxing places at their best and nothing would ruin that and make parks feel less safe like having armed rangers wandering around would. We all just went through the 18 months since George Floyd's death together and had so many conversations about how we think about public safety and what we can do better. Despite this council saying a lot of encouraging things at the time, this motion tells me that those discussions made absolutely no impact on CMs Buscaino and Cedillo, either by an explicit choice to ignore the hard truths or by simple detachment from the people they're supposed to be representing. Instead, they're prepared to charge head first into doubling down on the same bad answers we've been trying as a city for decades and decades with no consideration of the impact on the people of color in our city, particularly unhoused poc, who these guns are most likely to be used against. This council already struggles to stay on top of the violence inflicted on our community by LAPD and other armed agents as it is, the last thing we should be doing is giving another agency the ability to kill. For the sake of our community, especially our unhoused neighbors, I hope the council will vote this motion down swiftly. Talking about "reimagining public safety" and potential unarmed response possibilities as many of you have is just completely incompatible with a Yes vote here. I hope you all will make the right choice.

Communication from Public

Name: Kelsey McRae

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:23 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I STRONGLY oppose park rangers being armed with guns in our parks. It is unnecessary, dangerous, and contributes to the militarization of our city. It also puts some of our most vulnerable communities in danger durring difficult situations.

Communication from Public

Name: Akili
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 05:57 AM
Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I vehemently disagree that park rangers should be armed. Without any further explanation the first sentence should be enough. Parks are for children, or families, or animals people say. What is with LA's obsession of making every place you might be able to get a breath of fresh air suffocating? If anything, we need more parks and less park rangers. Earlier this year, I was arrested in Griffith Park with Joe Losorelli and his men. I was detained, during the park's opening hours, for recording their behavior. I was put in metal handcuffs. I was searched against a car. In that moment I realized Park Rangers have all the powers of a police officer. Before appearing, Losorelli told an officer that the park was for "decent people." Already on a power trip, this man arbitrarily decides which laws to enforce (Rich people let their dogs off leash at Griffith Park always) and who to enforce them on. Adding live firearms into the mix only exasperates them viewing citizens as unequal, and if not to their liking -- as threats. Further, Park Rangers often come from police backgrounds, like Losorelli, and are well connected to armed forces. LAPD was there within minutes of them calling. Parks are not supposed to have fences, or guns. They are supposed to be a melting pot of people, regardless of age, race, or riches. This motion is an attack on Black and Latinx communities who already face severe discrimination by law enforcement, especially children. This is obviously apart of the plot to "clean up LA" for the Olympics. Parks are for everyone! Even if an unhoused person is living there, they're still for everyone! Violence begets violence. What is LA's fixation with guns? With militarization? None of these actions prevent crime, rather they show up after it happens. It would be a much better use of the Park and Recs budget to build more parks, install fitness equipment and gardens in parks -- which would help combat food insecurity, provide nutrition, and encourage health. Park rangers and guns can only cause more trauma, more underutilized parks, more division, more angst, and that's not even accounting for the harmful impact on surrounding nature. Rather than determining who's allowed and who you want to keep out, ponder why parks are so important (perhaps because of high rent for very small apartments with little sun / no yard, need for outdoor leisure space and vitamin D, meeting new people, watching wildlife, fresh air etc.) and how this would impact all

who use them, not only today but for years to come. What is the legacy you want to leave on LA Council? How does that match up to the legacy you're leaving? Do you serve the people, or do you serve the police? What could LA look like if you actually invested in the people's lives rather than the people's punishments?

Communication from Public

Name: Xiomara Duran
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 06:26 AM
Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Black Americans are more than twice as likely to be unarmed when killed during encounters with police as white people, according to a Guardian investigation which found 102 of 464 people killed so far this year in incidents with law enforcement officers were not carrying weapons. An analysis of public records, local news reports and Guardian reporting found that 32% of black people killed by police in 2015 were unarmed, as were 25% of Hispanic and Latino people, compared with 15% of white people killed.
<https://www.google.co.uk/amp/s/amp.theguardian.com/us-news/2015/jun/01/black-americans-killed-by-police-analysis> Arming rangers will only lead to continued genocide of black and brown Americans, the people who the government is supposed to be serving. This is a racist proposal since all data taken from police forces in the USA show how they disproportionately murder black people into whites. The rangers are already armed with PEPPER SPRAY and TASERS; they don't require additional weapons. Arming rangers brings us back to the WILD WEST when white cowboys were out there massacring and terrorizing brown indigenous folks. Let's not go back and let's move forward! If you really want to protect the rangers, teach them de-escalation tips. We cannot be basing a billion dollar policy on a few isolated incidents. That is not a wise choice to be spending tax payers money. Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Michelle Castillo
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 07:16 AM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: Arming park rangers will lead to more unnecessary deaths and accidental shootings. If police officers can barely discern when to use a gun, how will park rangers be any different?

Communication from Public

Name: Matt Fisher

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 07:17 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Arming Park Rangers with deadly weapons would be the most costly and dangerous thing you could ever do. Park Rangers are full off disgruntled, angry and unknowledgeable employees. They are violent and refuse to follow any rules whatsoever and there is no complaint process with the department, illegally allowing them to do whatever they want. Giving them guns would be insane. Please watch this video where a head park ranger tried to run someone over intentionally on the Venice boardwalk during a homeless sweep. <https://youtu.be/CX7SDiZKPyQ> There is tons of film to show them in action in Venice and why they definitely do not deserve guns, or even funding. They do absolutely nothing but harass homeless people. The whole department is a waste and should be shut down.

Communication from Public

Name: Jenny

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 07:41 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose arming LA City Park Rangers because we do not need guns in city parks

Communication from Public

Name: Carene Mekertichyan
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 08:05 AM
Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am horrified by the possibility of arming park rangers. On a systemic level, we already know that this decision will disproportionately effect those who Black, Brown, and unhoused and will result in unnecessary deaths. There is absolutely no need for park rangers to carry weapons; if the justification is a potential attack from a wild animal, park rangers and animal control have other means of tranquilizing these animals (who are often protected creatures) and it is an incredibly rare occurrence. On a personal level, I am a Black woman who rehearses, performs, and works frequently in Griffith Park with the Independent Shakespeare Company. Our ensemble is largely made up of Black and Brown Angelenos, as is our audience. Our performances go late into the night and it is incredibly dark in the park. I absolutely DO NOT trust armed park rangers to refrain from targeting innocent individuals as "suspicious" in the park. This decision to arm park rangers WILL result in preventable deaths. Do the right thing and refrain from policing our public spaces.

Communication from Public

Name: Erin

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 08:12 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am absolutely opposed to this new motion for park rangers to be carrying weapons. This would undoubtedly lead to further violence and endangerment of myself, my family, and my community of Los Angeles. It's appalling that this committee has the nerve to directly contradict what Angelenos have very clearly indicated over the past few years: we want community alternatives to policing, NOT expanded policing. My neighbors and I are in complete opposition of this, and I hope this council might remember who it's constituents are and never attempt to pass this kind of harmful and dangerous legislation again.

Communication from Public

Name: Caleb

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 08:18 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Arming park rangers would be a blow to public safety and peace of mind. All of us deserve to be able to enjoy our public lands without the fear of deadly violence from the very people meant to guide us. Do not arm our rangers; this will only lead to abuse, death, and the erosion of trust in our public servants.

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Leman

Date Submitted: 11/08/2021 01:10 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Hello, I live in CD 13. I don't think you should do this. It seems to me that you are planning to arm park rangers because you are planning to kill more homeless people. As you squeeze the unhoused out of the parks, you want them to have to choose between jail-like shelters, a slow death in the more inhospitable areas outside, or I guess now being shot with a gun. You can call it ranger safety or increased enforcement options or whatever, but it's death and the threat of death. And for what? So that you don't have to see them? So the Olympics go well or whatever? I think you all are pretty low down for even considering it.

Communication from Public

Name: Hilary Meyer

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 08:33 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose arming LA City Park Rangers because we do not need guns in city parks

Communication from Public

Name: Maggie

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 08:36 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: There is simply no reason for park rangers to walk around our parks arms with guns. It is not park rangers job to bring violence to our parks with their weapons. It's bad enough that real police have guns but park rangers?? No. Absolutely not. They are a danger to all park users.

Communication from Public

Name: Matt Crowley

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 08:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Matt Crowley and I live in Los Feliz. Please do not arm park rangers in Los Angeles. This will make our community less safe and even further harm the public trust between residents and officers. I oppose this in the strongest possible terms. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Konik
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 08:50 AM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: I oppose arming Park Rangers. Our City needs less violence, less force, less waste of the public treasure (in the form of lawsuit settlements), and less institutional harm directed at parkgoers. More guns don't make us safer; they bring the specter of bodily harm into our bucolic open spaces.

Communication from Public

Name: Lydia Poncé

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 09:02 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Out of your forever hating mind - Buscaino - is a racist - facist - violence and evil villain that Disney has not written or drawn. People need to be treated as if our own relatives are having mental or emotional break downs - housed or unhoused. We need services - for our communities - we do not need guns. Park rangers haven't been able to bust the people who insist on keeping their dogs off leash - and keep children safe... have you really thought this thru? Or do you have a profiting hand shake deal and a wink with the NRA? Absolutely insane and NO! Lydia Ponce American Indian Movement

Communication from Public

Name: JH

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 09:08 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Park rangers should be armed. Parks can be dangerous, particularly at night. Rangers are often the first responders to arrive at an incident. They undergo training similar to LAPD officers, and should be able to protect themselves and the public from criminals who frequent the parks. Thousands of assaults, robberies, and drug deals occur at our parks every year, which are a direct threat to public safety. It is common sense to permit Park Rangers to defend us against the criminal element. SUPPORT ARMING PARK RANGERS.

Communication from Public

Name: Jacqueline Mejia

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 09:21 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Park Rangers should not be armed. That will only lead to unnecessary, deadly escalation. All park rangers should be trained with de-escalation tactics. It's absolutely unnecessary to make park rangers a danger to the community in this way.

Communication from Public

Name: Mher Mekertichyan

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 09:31 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Hi. i am a long time Angeleno and live within walking distance to Griffith Park. There is absolutely no reason to arm Park Rangers. In so many years of walks and hikes at the park I have not encountered any situations where park rangers would be required to intervene with weapons. It's not like there is going to be armed robberies there, bank heists, etc etc. park rangers do not get the same training as police officers, who themselves have been very trigger happy. So you can imagine what will happen when park rangers make unwise decisions to shoot unarmed people. There are many homeless individuals who do not bother anyone at the park, but an unwise, untrained park ranger, who is not trained in recognizing mental health issues or de-escalation, will most likely end up shooting homeless individuals. This policy will disproportionately effect those minorities and the homeless. There is absolutely no reason for park rangers to carry weapons. In my travels all over the world, i have never encountered an armed park ranger in a public park in any western democratic country. Thank you!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 09:44 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Park rangers have long had an adversarial relationship with the unhoused community. There have been instances in which park rangers needlessly escalate, leading to violence and brutality against unhoused community members. Arming park rangers will lead to potential violence and in the worst case scenario, death. This is a terrible proposal. The funding for such a proposal should go to actual direct support and aid to unhoused and low income neighborhood residents instead.

Communication from Public

Name: Zen Sekizawa

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 09:48 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am absolutely against arming park rangers, we don't need more fragile racists pigs killing people. We need real services that puts human dignity over profit.

Communication from Public

Name: Geoffrey Kixmiller

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 09:49 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, I think this motion to arm park rangers is a terrible idea. It will be a massive waste of tax payer money that will only get worse once Park Rangers start getting sued for injuring and killing people and the City pays out millions of dollars in civil law suits like they do for the police every year. Worse than the waste of money of course will be the human cost. People will die at the hands of Park Rangers if they are given guns. People will be killed and maimed. Giving park rangers guns will make our parks less safe. Why this is even a consideration is beyond me. I don't understand why on earth this is being considered. It makes me sick and angry. We already have a deeply flawed system to hold Police and Sheriff's deputies accountable when they shoot our community members in the back. Let's not make this problem worse by giving Park Rangers guns and a license to kill. We should be working to remove guns from as many people as possible not bring more guns into our parks and communities. Reject this deeply flawed proposal immediately. City council has a lot to worry about and accomplish, figuring out which additional government employees to give guns to should not be one of them.

Communication from Public

Name: John Seeley

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 12:32 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: If Park Rangers are going to be interacting frequently with unhoused persons they should be armed with broader skills and better training, not with guns, which are a recipe for violence inflicted on people already traumatized, often tired and therefore sometimes volatile. Help both rangers and the unhoused by giving rangers more training in conflict resolution and better briefing on mental health resources, drug use intervention. Even with such training, confrontational situations should be minimized by more frequent referrals to mediation or to social workers whose professional training gives them skills and background more useful in such circumstances. Mr Buscaino's proposal can only result in escalating conflict. In the face of such measures, sooner or later the homeless will consider that they might as well be better armed for self-defense.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 12:34 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: There is no rhyme or reason for park rangers to be carrying weapons. As a taxpayer, I don't see how this motion makes our parks any safer nor resolves systemic socioeconomic issues that are contributing to increasing homelessness, income inequality, and unaffordable housing. Terrorizing and shoving the poor and unhoused out of the way doesn't solve anything and only serves to keep up appearances for capital interests.

Communication from Public

Name: Naoko

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 12:52 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose this motion to arm park rangers. Park rangers have historically brutalized unhoused communities, and arming them would escalate these interactions. Parks should be welcoming places for all people, and arming park rangers is antithetical to that.

Communication from Public

Name: C.C. Boyce

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 11:10 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am strongly against arming park rangers. This will undoubtedly result in unnecessary violence against our most vulnerable. This is not a measure to keep citizens safe, it's another thinly veiled attack on the unhoused.

Communication from Public

Name: Frank

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 11:29 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: As a long-time Koreatown resident, I do not support the arming of park rangers in my neighborhood. In the interest of public safety, we should be focused on efforts to deescalate violence with appropriate training, rather than introducing weapons that will only promote the kind of unnecessary force and intimidation tactics that have been characteristic of the LAPD for decades.

Communication from Public

Name: natali

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 11:35 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Arming park rangers is absolutely unnecessary. I am a longtime avid LA park hiker (as a single woman) and have never been in a position where I have felt at risk or where I have felt a gun would help in any way. Once some bobcats crept up on me but that was it. More guns is never the answer, especially in a place like our parks. If park rangers are feeling they are at risk, maybe they could take more classes on de-escalation.

Communication from Public

Name: Kris
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 11:39 AM
Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Hello! I'm a concerned neighbor and avid hiker in our Los Angeles parks. I just want to state on the record that no good can come from arming our Park Rangers. Only harm can come from any "public servant" carrying a lethal weapon. I would feel less safe knowing there are park rangers with guns in our parks, as would a majority of Los Angeles citizens. We as a city need to be stepping away from gun use entirely. There are plenty of non lethal weapon options to use if they are absolutely necessary (and most of the time when guns are discharged, it wasn't absolutely necessary). Furthermore, it is clear the city of Los Angeles is already unable to control or regulate their police force's use of guns, how can we feel at all confident that gun use would be regulated for Park Rangers either?
<https://ktla.com/news/local-news/lapd-officers-have-already-opened-fire-more-this-year-than-all-of-2020-data-shows/>
<https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-10-15/string-of-recent-lapd-shootings-pushes-2021-count-beyond-2020-2019-totals>

Communication from Public

Name: Gabriel McCormick
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 10:06 AM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: Please vote no. Arming more people will only lead to more gun violence.

Communication from Public

Name: Lila Higgins

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 10:16 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to oppose the plan to arm park rangers. This is akin to Alec Baldwin suggesting police should be on site at movie sets to provide gun safety. It will not increase safety, rather it will decrease safety. We need to stop arming state/county/city agents!! As a person working in the environmental field for 18+ years, and providing lots of programming in public park spaces, I know how important it is for folks to be able to safely explore the natural world around us. This is very much needed for our individual and collective physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing. Arming park ranges will not increase anyone's wellbeing--not the rangers who are carrying these deadly weapons, nor the community who uses the park. Giving guns to rangers will disproportionately impact the safety of BIPOC folks using parks. We can't let this happen. I urge all involved to withdraw support for arming park rangers. Instead use the funds that would be needed for this, to provide more programs and support for communities in park spaces.

Communication from Public

Name: Aleena

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 10:19 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: As a long time resident I would feel even more unsafe if our Park Rangers were armed. It would take taxpayer money which could go community services and improvements. The firearms would only aggravate situations. Dont give Park Rangers firearms

Communication from Public

Name: Cj Merriman

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 10:22 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Why are guns ALWAYS the answer? This is a terrible idea. Spend the money on further training so that the rangers know how to de-escalate situations that may arise. Provide funding for the unhoused to get a decent indoor bed, showers, etc. Find solutions to the problem as oppose to elevating them.

Communication from Public

Name: Laila Bengharsa
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 10:43 AM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: I oppose arming LA City Park Rangers because we do not need guns in city parks. THIS ISN'T TEXAS AND NO ONE NEEDS GUNS IN A PARK.

Communication from Public

Name: alejandro daniel pina, LMFT
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 10:52 AM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: The council should understand the reasoning why Park Rangers have not been armed. The council is attempting to fix something that is not broken. The council runs the city like a movie villain; guns blazing. LAUSD has been held accountable to defund and divest from guns and police. The council lives in an ignorant and dangerous bubble. No more guns.

Communication from Public

Name: Ali
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 11:01 AM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: I oppose arming LA City Park Rangers because we do not need guns in city parks.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Craven

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 11:06 AM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I strenuously oppose this measure. It will lead to more unnecessary killings, likely of BIPOC individuals. No, no, no. More guns is NOT the answer!

Communication from Public

Name: Milena Joy

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:07 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: As a resident of Los Angeles I am opposed to the motion to arm park rangers. It is dangerous and unnecessary. Let park rangers be the public recreational professionals they are. Do NOT turn them into an armed force. Absolutely NO on this motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Josiah O'Balles

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:20 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am urging city Council members to oppose the motion to arm park rangers. This motion will have a dangerous and most likely deadly effect on unhoused community. Unhoused people do not need to be subjected to more violence, they need care and resources. Park rangers do not need to be armed in order to keep people in parks safe, this motion will prioritize the grounds of the park over the people enjoy and using it, which includes house less people.

Communication from Public

Name: Elise Johnson

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:22 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Under NO circumstances should a Park Ranger carry a firearm. In this day and age in which society is finally seeing the folly of having LEOs respond to those in mental health or other behavioral crises, it's a terrible idea to arm Park Rangers. Instead, hire LCSWs to work with Park Rangers in the effort to obtain treatment or housing for those in psychiatric need.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:25 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I oppose arming park rangers as it will only make people feel unsafe when they are trying to enjoy nature. The presence of unhoused people is not a valid reason for the further militarization. Instead of park rangers choosing the safest and humane option of helping, they will only escalate the situation causing harm or even death.

Communication from Public

Name: Cameron Mitchell

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:45 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: This is an absurd notion. All cops do in this community is hurt and terrorize people - they prove that over and over again. They shoot people and dogs with impunity, harass and threaten members of the community, engage in gang activity, and spread a pandemic they actively refuse to believe in because they've been brainwashed by right wing bullshit propaganda. The idea of arming even more of them and creating a greater threat should be a non-starter. If the park rangers are armed they will hurt people. They will kill people. It's that simple.

Communication from Public

Name: Stephen Jones

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:48 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Don't do it. Don't arm park rangers. Don't arm anyone else. Just stop.

Communication from Public

Name: Lyndsey Nolan

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:49 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: PLEASE DO NOT DO THIS!!! Arming park rangers will almost certainly lead to the deaths of poor people and people of color. Existing armed law enforcement agents are already well known for disproportionately shooting people of color and unhoused people. This proposal is the exact opposite of “reimagining public safety.” This will do nothing to promote public safety and will create a more dangerous environment for everyone. Large cities like New York City and San Jose have recently rejected proposals to arm park rangers. LA City Park Rangers are being used to displace and keep unhoused people from city parks. Parks should be for everyone. Park rangers have not been injured or killed by gunfire. Nearly 600 public comments have been submitted to the council file opposing this motion.

Communication from Public

Name: Chris Bertolet

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:55 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: As a citizen who loves LA's public parks, it is appalling to me that the Council is entertaining the business of arming park rangers. Clowns armed with swords would be less weird, and certainly far less dangerous to the community. Buckets, you're irreparably broken, and need to resign. What a disgrace and embarrassment to our city that we even need to tell you all how thunderously stupid this is, but when the only tool you have is a hammer, everything looks like a nail to you--and everything must be Made Of Cop.

Communication from Public

Name: Raul Anorve

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:56 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I'm extremely angry at the idea to arm park rangers . Arming park rangers will almost certainly lead to the deaths of poor people and people of color. Existing armed law enforcement agents are already well known for disproportionately shooting people of color and unhoused people. This proposal is the exact opposite of “reimagining public safety. This will do nothing to promote public safety and will create a more dangerous environment for everyone. Large cities like New York City and San Jose have recently rejected proposals to arm park rangers. LA City Park Rangers are being used to displace and keep unhoused people from city parks. Parks should be for everyone. Park rangers have not been injured or killed by gunfire. Please, don't arm park rangers. Thank you.

Communication from Public

Name: bryan hochberg

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:58 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Evidence for decades has shown that when there are more guns around, there are more gun-related injuries and fatalities. It's that simple - when there are guns around people get hurt. So why would we continue to put more guns on the street? Regardless of who possesses it, guns are made to do one thing; shoot. So I ask the City Council, why would you continue to arm individuals who will continue to exploit their positions of power to abuse the public? Are you ready to see headlines stating that park rangers felt in danger and had "no choice" but to shoot 'X' individuals? For a city that likes to portray itself as some progressive paradise, its City Council seldom acts in the interest of the common people who call this city home. Instead, the City Council continues to disenfranchise historically marginalized groups. They do nothing to confront the dangerous environments that the LAPD and LASD continue to create and perpetuate through fear, violence, and intimidation. And now they propose extending that arm of intimidation and violence to park rangers. What a disappointing time to be an Angelino. We have the power to do more than this, but instead of spending time and resources to serve the people who need it the most, the City continues to segregate its homeless, poor, and sick from its wealthy oligarchs using its powerful, militarized police force. Do not arm park rangers. Instead, GET A CLUE.

Communication from Public

Name: Lydia Kurtz

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 12:54 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Redirect the high amount of funds you apparently have towards housing and supporting the houseless, towards expanding community-building, educational, fiscal services for BIPOC, towards furthering climate crisis protection measures, etc. etc. instead of directly funding the murders of the people under your jurisdiction.

Communication from Public

Name: Jonathan Lee

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 12:54 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Park rangers have no business carrying guns. These are spaces where folks and families are able to enjoy what little green spaces may be available to them. Park rangers should be outdoor educators - not armed para-police.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 01:02 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Please don't arm the park rangers. Doing so would be a slippery slope to not having parks at all, even for the councilmembers themselves. The violent social relations entrenched in the development and management of city parks are certainly not new, but arming the rangers will definitely rid more people of the idea that there is any point to having the Council at all. Even members of protected classes who generally vouch for you guys may come to terms with the fact that the councilmembers would rather be stuck inside on Zoom forever and never touch grass again than deal with their constituents' needs in a reasonable way. Bathrooms, handwashing stations, showers, trash, recycling, composting areas, and a buttload more money to everyone who cleans - this is the bare minimum if we are going to have parks at all.

Communication from Public

Name: Stephanie

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 01:18 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose the motion to provide park rangers with guns to police our parks. Giving guns to park rangers will kill people. The last thing we need is more gun violence committed against Angelinos. This city needs more care and less cops!

Communication from Public

Name: Laura Temming
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 01:26 PM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: There is absolutely no reason for Park Rangers to carry firearms. This is a bad idea and anyone who votes in favor of it is condoning inevitable violence against already marginalized communities.

Communication from Public

Name: Bailey Benningfield
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 01:30 PM
Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose Buscaino's motion to arm park rangers. City-wide, residents of Los Angeles are calling for fewer armed law enforcement officers and more unarmed outreach services. Arming park rangers will put all Angelenos, but particularly unhoused Angelenos, at greater risk of injury or even death. No park ranger in Los Angeles has ever been killed or injured by gunfire, so why would they need to be armed? Why put people's lives at risk unnecessarily? Please invest in services that increase trust between the city and its most vulnerable residents rather than introducing guns to our public parks. Should this motion pass, it's only a matter of time before we see a completely avoidable death at the hands of a park ranger.

Communication from Public

Name: Nitzan Barlev

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 02:02 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly oppose arming park rangers. If rangers think they need lethal weapons to do their jobs, then they should re-evaluate their threat level and get some other sort of training. Park rangers have long had an adversarial relationship with the unhoused community. There have been instances in which park rangers needlessly escalate, leading to violence and brutality against unhoused community members. Arming park rangers will lead to potential violence and in the worst case scenario, death. We should be doing everything we can to avoid disasters such as these, and arming rangers is not the way.

Communication from Public

Name: Theodore Park

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 03:07 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Arming park rangers does not make anyone safer. It's honestly astounding how misguided and uninformed this idea is, considering how much evidence exists of LA Park Rangers abusing members of the community and abusing their power. Do not arm the park rangers. Instead, allocate that money to services and housing. Use your fucking brains for once

Communication from Public

Name: Yves Nuno

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 03:36 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I am an LA County resident and employee. I strongly Oppose arming Park Rangers. I believe public spaces are becoming more and more rare in LA, especially since the fencing of our public parks (Echo Park, MacArthur Park). Public spaces are becoming increasingly more policed, and more discouraging for the general public, vendors. Where are we to go if we're constantly being harassed by police and threatened with the possibility of violence because of their presence? Allocating funding to provide guns to Park Rangers is not an effective use of funds.

Communication from Public

Name: Barry Neely

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 03:36 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: The LAPD already doles out millions a year in wrongful death settlements, and I think we all associate more guns with MORE violence. So please, don't arm Park Rangers.

Communication from Public

Name: David P.

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 03:47 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: I'd hate not to see our precious few parks & green spaces become militarized. The parks are intended to be a peaceful reprieve from city life and treating them like DMZs will shatter that experience and only increase the likelihood of violence committed against Angelenos.

Communication from Public

Name: Peter Avildsen

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 03:50 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Please do NOT arm LA park rangers. Our parks are a peaceful haven and should be kept that way. Arming rangers is the opposite of “reimagining public safety,” and will create a more dangerous environment for everyone. Arming park rangers will lead to violence and death, especially against poor people and people of color. Park rangers have not been injured or killed by guns, so do not introduce guns where they do not belong. New York and San Jose have recently rejected proposals to arm park rangers - LA should join them. Parks are for everyone - let's keep them gun free.

Communication from Public

Name: William Sens Jr.
Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 04:05 PM
Council File No: 20-0190
Comments for Public Posting: Arming Park Rangers will only escalate the murders on unarmed citizens. You're making more issues and causing more deaths if you give Park Rangers weapons. Please keep Park Rangers unarmed! Stop weaponizing people to destroy each other and tear apart the social fabric and family institution.

Communication from Public

Name: Derek A Bloch

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 04:19 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Are you happy that law enforcement across the country kill innocent people? How can you sleep at night in your comfortable beds while people are out there suffering with no home at all? And you people that are running this crazy joint all know that it's not even the homeless people's fault that they are homeless. The general public might have trouble understanding but from where you sit you KNOW the truth. Why would you want to put MORE guns on the street? It doesn't matter whose hands the guns are in. They are a danger to everyone. Police routinely kill innocent people which should be considered murder under our constitution which demands due process for all. Policing policies are scientifically proven to unjustly and disproportionately impact non-white communities. Many of you are part of those communities. More guns on the street means more innocent people will die. End Policing in parks. End Policing at all. Let these homeless folks live in the parks. Pay them to clean up the park and restrooms. Build public housing without curfews or rules that guarantees the same safety and privacy for these vulnerable people that working citizens get. More guns means more people will die. Stop punishing nonwhite communities. Start providing equitable living conditions for all, not just those you deem worthy of them. You should all be ashamed of yourselves.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 05:52 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: There is no need for park rangers to be armed. In many countries POLICE aren't even armed, we should be trying to work towards that, not arming other random public employees. Is the city prepared to pay for the background checks, and training that would be required to essentially create a new police force? This proposal seems like the city is telling Black and Brown families, who are already terrorized by police, that we are also not welcome in the public parks our tax dollars pay to maintain.

Communication from Public

Name: Nico Gist

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 06:41 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Hi! I am a lifelong resident of Los Angeles. One of the things I appreciate most about our city is our natural spaces—parks, forests, hiking trails, and more. Our Park Rangers do an excellent job tending to natural spaces and keeping residents safe, but this proposal to arm Park Rangers with guns will change that. Giving Rangers a lethal weapon will not solve any problems, it will only lead to unnecessary injury and death. We've seen in recent years how police officers have, in many cases, shot and killed members of vulnerable populations with little to no cause. There is no reason to believe that arming Park Rangers will lead to anything different. Please keep the people of Los Angeles ALIVE and well. I urge you to oppose this reckless and dangerous proposal.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/09/2021 09:40 PM

Council File No: 20-0190

Comments for Public Posting: Arming park rangers will almost certainly lead to the deaths of poor people and people of color. This will do nothing to promote public safety and will create a more dangerous environment for everyone. Large cities like New York City and San Jose have recently rejected proposals to arm park rangers. Park rangers have not been injured or killed by gunfire. Nearly 600 public comments have been submitted to the council file opposing this motion.