

Communication from Public

Name: Jonathan Pacheco Bell
Date Submitted: 06/24/2020 10:16 AM
Council File No: 20-0713
Comments for Public Posting: Attached please find a public comment letter in support from Tori Kjer, Exective Director of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust.



June 24, 2020

Office of the City Clerk
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: 20-0713 Surplus Property / Community Land Trusts

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

We are writing in support of the Motion (Council File: 20-0713) to create a report on surplus property that may be donated to Community Land Trusts for meeting needs such as affordable housing, recreational green space, and community gardens in Council Districts 1, 8, and 10.

The Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust is a nonprofit developer and community land trust. Our mission is to contribute to the equity and well-being of our neighborhoods through the development of parks, gardens, and community-driven organizing. We work with communities to create parks and gardens as a way to empower residents in underserved areas. We facilitate the creation of accessible community parks and gardens to address the inequity of open spaces in Los Angeles' underserved neighborhoods, and to ensure community participation and collaboration in every step of the process of creating these public spaces. We currently operate 29 parks and gardens throughout the County of Los Angeles, and several of our green spaces are located within the City of LA.

We **support** this initiative because it would create opportunities for residents to take ownership of underutilized properties that can be developed collaboratively into parks and gardens in these green space-deprived areas. Access to recreational green space is essential to a high quality of life. Community gardens offer space to grow healthy food systems within walking distance of one's home. This initiative takes an important step forward to make this a reality in Los Angeles.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name "Tori Kjer". The signature is fluid and cursive, starting with a large loop for the letter 'T' and ending with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

Tori Kjer, PLA
Executive Director