

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dante Iniguez  
**Date Submitted:** 06/02/2026 05:04 PM  
**Council File No:** 26-0489  
**Comments for Public Posting:** Please support the Charter Reform Commission's recommendation to DOUBLE the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP)'s charter allocation — and to vote YES to place this measure on the November ballot. We deserve better parks like SF and NYC!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Traci Goldberg  
**Date Submitted:** 06/03/2026 10:53 AM  
**Council File No:** 26-0489

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am writing to comment in favor of council file #26-0489, to make an amendment to the City Charter to raise the annual allotment for Recreation and Parks. The current annual allocation is less than 1/2 of a %, and doubling will barely put it over 1/2 a %. Recreation Services is far more important than most people think. Of course parks are where we learn to play games and may attend camp. But what we really learn there is much more important. We learn cooperation, we learn acceptance, we learn life skills (including job skills), we learn to care for others, we learn to be volunteers, we learn to swim, we learn life saving skills and so much more. And we run leagues and do plays, dance classes and camps, wellness events, festivals, community clean-ups, SNL, CLASS Parks, PlayLA, GPLA, pre-school, after-school clubs, adult classes and leagues, Mommy & Me classes, Residential Camp Outings, Senior programs, and so much more. But what many in the public do not know, that Rec & Parks also does is that they/we are the Mass Care Unit of the City. Not LAPD or LAFD, or the Housing Dept., REC & PARKS. Curing Covid, WE opened shelters and vaccine sites and worked them ourselves, even when we didn't know if we could get it and die. That is not being dramatic. One of our full-time staff did die. His wife contracted Covid from another staff setting up a site and brought it home. He had underlying conditions and got very ill. He did not make it. And still we went on. Housing people in our basketball gyms while firefighters refused to enter the gyms....there we were. Welcoming people, feeding them, housing them. And for months (some staff did this for 9 months)! During wildfires...we house people who are forced to flee their homes. When a building floods, or something explodes, we are there to take people in. When LAUSD went on-line, we popped up Alternative Learning Centers. When LAUSD goes on strike, we are there to take care of the kids. When a whole community is devastated, we step-up. When people are most in need, most scared, most desperate, we are always there. We also very literally save lives (figuratively too). Our staff has saved countless patrons through use of CPR, AED's and NarCan. Please help us continue to do the amazing work we do and be able to do it better with a more reasonable budget. As we all know, money doesn't go nearly as far as it used to, for many reasons. One is the economy, of

course. But the other is the enormous chargebacks the Dept. pays to DWP for water and electricity. Those charges come directly from the allocation from the Charter, so we don't even get the full amount. Please, please, please support us in this effort. Thank you so much!

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 06/03/2026 11:53 AM

**Council File No:** 26-0489

**Comments for Public Posting:** Public Comment Submission: Open Letter from LA Civic Assembly Delegates to City Council Public Democracy Los Angeles (PDLA) is a grassroots civic engagement organization dedicated to bringing residents into decisions that shape their city. In response to the charter review process, PDLA helped organize three civic assemblies where over 100 residents selected by lottery deliberated on specific charter reform issues. This letter represents the collective voice of the residents who participated in Los Angeles' recent civic assemblies on charter reform. The delegates call on City Council to embed civic assemblies permanently into city governance processes. The delegates argue that this model should become standard practice for major city decisions, not a one-time experiment. The letter is being submitted as public comment ahead of City Council's June vote on charter reform recommendation and has been signed by over 20 assembly delegates. A full list of signatories is available upon request to protect delegate privacy. To the Members of the Los Angeles City Council, We, the delegates of Los Angeles' historic civic assemblies and residents of this city, urge you to permanently embed civic assemblies into your governance process. We were selected by lottery, strangers from across LA, and spent considerable time deliberating on what our city's charter should promise. We came from different walks of life, each of us from different neighborhoods and different politics. Yet over several hours of structured dialogue, we found common ground. We arrived at clear convictions about accountability, justice, basic rights, and genuine participation. The Charter Reform Commission listened to us. They adopted our language. And we hope our recommendations will shape LA's governance for decades. This experience taught us something fundamental: when residents are given time, information, and space to think together, we arrive at important decisions we can agree on. We don't fall into partisan gridlock. We listen across differences. We care deeply about getting things right. And we trust each other more than you might expect. We also learned what's possible when institutions actually listen. Governance becomes more tangible and less extractive. We feel heard and we know we are seen. Decisions reflect the people they affect. We are asking you to: Make civic assemblies standard practice in major city

decisions—on housing, public safety, education, budget allocation. Before you vote, convene residents by lottery. Give them expert input. Give them time to deliberate. Then act on what they recommend. Develop more mechanisms for genuine civic engagement beyond surveys and comment periods. Residents deserve structured deliberation, not just ‘politics as usual’. The model works. We've proved it. Now it's time for City Council to trust that residents understand what our city needs. -The Delegates of Los Angeles Civic Assemblies and Residents of this City

## **Public Comment Submission: Open Letter from LA Civic Assembly Delegates to City Council**

Public Democracy Los Angeles (PDLA) is a grassroots civic engagement organization dedicated to bringing residents into decisions that shape their city. In response to the charter review process, PDLA helped organize three civic assemblies where over 100 residents selected by lottery deliberated on specific charter reform issues.

This letter represents the collective voice of the residents who participated in Los Angeles' recent civic assemblies on charter reform. The delegates call on City Council to embed civic assemblies permanently into city governance processes. The delegates argue that this model should become standard practice for major city decisions, not a one-time experiment.

The letter is being submitted as public comment ahead of City Council's June vote on charter reform recommendation and has been signed by over 20 assembly delegates. A full list of signatories is available upon request to protect delegate privacy.

To the Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

We, the delegates of Los Angeles' historic civic assemblies and residents of this city, urge you to permanently embed civic assemblies into your governance process.

We were selected by lottery, strangers from across LA, and spent considerable time deliberating on what our city's charter should promise. We came from different walks of life, each of us from different neighborhoods and different politics. Yet over several hours of structured dialogue, we found common ground. We arrived at clear convictions about accountability, justice, basic rights, and genuine participation.

The Charter Reform Commission listened to us. They adopted our language. And we hope our recommendations will shape LA's governance for decades.

This experience taught us something fundamental: when residents are given time, information, and space to think together, we arrive at important decisions we can agree on. We don't fall into partisan gridlock. We listen across differences. We care deeply about getting things right. And we trust each other more than you might expect.

We also learned what's possible when institutions actually listen. Governance becomes more tangible and less extractive. We feel heard and we know we are seen. Decisions reflect the people they affect.

**We are asking you to:**

Make civic assemblies standard practice in major city decisions—on housing, public safety, education, budget allocation. Before you vote, convene residents by lottery. Give them expert input. Give them time to deliberate. Then act on what they recommend.

Develop more mechanisms for genuine civic engagement beyond surveys and comment periods. Residents deserve structured deliberation, not just 'politics as usual'.

The model works. We've proved it. Now it's time for City Council to trust that residents understand what our city needs.

-The Delegates of Los Angeles Civic Assemblies and Residents of this City