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Oppose CF 26-0489 unless amended.

The Community Forest Advisory Committee voted unanimously at the May 7th CFAC meeting held at City Hall to absolutely oppose any selling any park land for any reason. Our city is park poor, and the mayor is advocating for increasing park land. Changing proposed revisions to Section 594, Control and Management of Recreation and Parks Lands (See page 59) to allow sale of park land contradicts the direction the city proposes to take to remedy its lack of parks. We oppose Charter Reform's recommendation for an amendment to revise Section 594 to allow park land sale.

Details of our position:

Trust for Public Land² data indicates that Los Angeles ranks 88th out of 100 largest US cities. In peer cities, 100% of residents in San Francisco live within a 10-minute walk of a park. In New York, it's 99%, and it's 98% in Chicago. In Los Angeles, it's 64%. In Los Angeles 13% of city land is dedicated to parks. For comparison, in New York, it's 21%, in San Diego, 23%. Los Angeles spends approximately \$111 per resident annually on its park system, significantly lower than the average of ~\$200 - \$300 in cities like Minneapolis or Washington, DC.

Los Angeles consistently ranks near the top for the rate at which it has added pavement. Typical impermeable coverage is estimated at 60 – 70%. In highly urbanized pockets, impervious surfaces can cover 60 – 90% of land area, significantly higher than the national average for urban areas – between 30 – 50%.

Accelerate Resilience L.S. recently published a report of a parcel-level analysis of every paved surface across Los Angeles County. The LA Times featured this twice since mid-February 2026. The study found that nearly half of the county's pavement is considered "non-core". Los Angeles County recently set an official target to remove and replace 1,600 acres of pavement with natural landscapes over the next 20 years . This is the first explicit de-paving target from a major U.S. public agency.

Mayor Karen Bass released a Climate Action Plan on April 16, 2026. Objective 6 is to enhance and connect green spaces and ecosystems across the city.

1 See <https://reformlcharter.lacity.gov/neighborhood-councilinformation#:~:text=The%20Council%20File%20for%20the,used%20to%20express%20personal%20opinion%20s.;> accessed 4/17/2026.

2 See <https://www.tpl.org/parkscore> and <https://www.tpl.org/city/los-angeles-california>

3 See <https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2026-02-16/nearly-half-of-l-a-countys-pavement-may-beunnecessary-new-map-finds#:~:text=Now%2C%20for%20the%20first%20time,Advertisement>

4 See <https://ourcounty.lacounty.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Final-2025-OurCounty-Plan.pdf>, p. 52 and others.

5 See https://plan.mayor.lacity.gov/sites/g/files/wph2176/files/2026-04/MayorBassClimateActionPlanforLosAngeles_2026_1.pdf, page 48 et seq.