

Communication from Public

Name: Lilly H

Date Submitted: 06/17/2026 09:46 AM

Council File No: 26-0777

Comments for Public Posting: Hello City Council, I am a LAUSD RN who works in Boyle Heights and lives in Highland Park, one of the neighborhoods most affected by the proposed Arroyo Seco water reuse project. I am writing in strong support of Councilmember Jurado's resolution opposing this project. This project would take LA public lands to benefit the cities of Pasadena and South Pasadena, including siphoning water out of the Arroyo Seco to irrigate two golf courses in those cities. The land being taken is one of the only naturalized wetland habitats along the Arroyo (proponents of the project point out that the stream diversion that feeds the wetland is manmade, but that is irrelevant: the area is, today, a rare habitat for native species). This habitat is home to a pair of great blue herons (where else have you seen herons in northeast LA?), bats, and many native species of plants, including mature coast live oaks, which take decades to grow. The proposed project would cut down dozens of these mature trees and replace them with saplings which are less fire resilient and provide worse homes for local fauna, requiring at least several decades to restore the environment to what it is now. In addition to wildlife, the area is an invaluable resource to the local community, as the green space provides a buffer between the 110 freeway and the neighborhood, including the San Pascual STEAM Magnet Elementary School. The park is an excellent place for kids (and adults!) to explore and learn about nature and see biodiversity in their backyards. The proposed project would co-opt this community resource for the benefit of Pasadena and South Pasadena, subjecting local LA residents to at least two years of noisy, polluting construction, and future years of a presence of an industrial plant on their parkland. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the area is tremendously important to the Kizh nation. While I am not of Kizh descent and I do not claim to speak for them, I have been at numerous city and neighborhood council meetings where Kizh elders have stated their clear opposition to this project. Frankly, given the history of the area and how much has already been stolen from the Kizh, it is shocking that their objections alone are not enough to immediately halt this project; that in the 21st century we would continue to steal land from its natural state and from its indigenous caretakers is unconscionable. I strongly encourage all councilmembers before voting on this resolution to visit the

affected area, see for yourself the precious natural habitat which this project would destroy, and speak with the affected community members. For a direct line to the affected community, regular people who are volunteering uncountable number of hours and who have come together in an inspiring way to defend their home, reach out to @save_san_pascual_park on Instagram (in contrast, South Pasadena and Pasadena have hired activesgv, a nonprofit to greenwash the project for them. In person, the paid "outreach" team confessed they were hired a few months ago for this specific project...there are no words to describe how insidious this project is). Please attend a Highland Park neighborhood council meeting...the council is strongly against the project. If you can, please see the park for yourself. I am confident that after doing so, you will be moved to vote Yes on Councilmember Jurado's resolution. Thank you, Lilly H.

SAVE SAN PASCUAL PARK

INTRODUCTION

- The Arroyo Seco Water Reuse project is a joint effort by Pasadena and South Pasadena with the stated intent to capture and clean water from the Arroyo Seco Channel.
- Two sites will be used in the San Rafael and San Pascual basins for the water filtration systems. Some but not all of this water will be returned to the Arroyo Seco channel.
- Part of the permanent infrastructure would be built on Los Angeles land in San Pascual Park (CD14), which would be given to them by lease in perpetuity by Los Angeles Recreation and Parks.
- As a result of our lawsuit, Pasadena/South Pasadena are required to complete an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for this project.

For more information please visit:

<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/public-works/engineering-and-construction/construction/arroyo-seco-water-reuse-project/>

SAVE SAN PASCUAL PARK

PASADENA WANTS TO TAKE LOS ANGELES PARKLAND



Pasadena wants to take one 1/2 acre of LA parkland for this project. They are trying to rename this LA Parkland as "open space". The area will hold pumps and machinery and will be partially fenced off.

SAVE SAN PASCUAL PARK

SAN PASCUAL IS A SACRED LAND

The Gabrieleno Kizh Nation are opposed to this project.

A Sacred Land Search, identified the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians, Kizh Nation at this site.

Hereditary Chief Andy Salas, states in a letter to Pasadena: "There was never a complete formal consultation conducted with our tribe under CEQA or AB 52, as required by law. Due to the sensitivity of the area and its known connection to sacred sites and tribal cultural resources, **we are formally requesting full avoidance of this location**".



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SAVE SAN PASCUAL PARK

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This project will cause permanent negative environmental impacts

Water reduction in the Arroyo

- Less than half the water captured will be filtered and returned to the Arroyo Seco. This will undoubtedly create a negative impact on the downstream ecology.
- 20 Million gallons of water will be also diverted to the South Pasadena Golf Course with no benefit to Los Angeles parks.

Forest destruction

- The plans intend to remove 85% of the existing trees in the area (136 mature trees including protected Oaks, Sycamores, and Elderberries), which will decimate a local ecosystem. This forest reduces heat, noise, and pollution. If these trees are cut down, these benefits will be lost and impact the entire area.
- It will take 20-50 years for replacement trees to bring back the benefits of a mature canopy to the community.

Elimination of a natural ecosystem

- A natural delicate riparian habitat will be destroyed. US Fish and Wildlife Service recognizes this area as a wetland.
- This park is a Coast Live Oak/Sycamore Woodland and sensitive natural community.
- The San Pascual diversion will block fish passage and eliminate stream flow during critical periods.
- No mitigation can save the countless birds, bats, fish and mammals that rely on the San Pascual forest during 2 years of construction.

Reduced quality of life for people

- Overall, this plan destroys the natural beauty of San Pascual Park.
- The benefits of forest on visitor's and community health and well being will be lost.
- Noise, dust, and air pollution during the probable 2 years construction, will affect the community's health.



SAVE SAN PASCUAL PARK

WATER CAPTURE IN SAN PASCUAL

The water capture will undoubtedly have serious repercussions to wildlife all the way down the channel to the ocean, especially in drought years

- The project intends to capture about **175 Million gallons** of water (535 Acre Feet) annually on an average year of rainfall at the San Pascual site.
- 60% of the total water captured - over **100 million gallon** of water (258 AF + 62 AF) - will be held or diverted annually
- South Pasadena will hold onto about **85 million gallons** (258 AF) of water on the site. None of this water will be shared with Los Angeles.
- **20 million** gallons of this water (62 AF) will be diverted to the South Pasadena Golf Course for their use. None of this water will be shared with Los Angeles.
- It is questionable if South Pasadena has California Water Rights to divert water from the Arroyo Seco to their golf course.

Source of Water Amounts:

<https://www.cityofpasadena.net/public-works/wp-content/uploads/sites/29/2023-04-27-Second-Community-Meeting-Graphic-Boards.pdf>

SAVE SAN PASCUAL PARK

WATER POLLUTION

- Save San Pascual Park is not opposed to cleaning the Arroyo Seco water. However we object to this project, based on its unsustainable nature and destruction of a natural habitat.
- Pasadena and South Pasadena are using old water pollution data from 2012 to justify this project.
- Pasadena claims they cannot know the exact sources of pollution.
- Save San Pascual Park has obtained recent water pollution city data that clearly identifies several sources that could be treated at the source.



Foam indicating pollution



Horse stable runoff



Dark muck flowing into the River

Communication from Public

Name: Davis Tardif

Date Submitted: 06/17/2026 09:58 AM

Council File No: 26-0777

Comments for Public Posting: I'm against the arroyo seco water reuse project. I don't think we should destroy trees, park land and a creek for a project which has not been properly vetted for environmental impact. Especially if it's removing land that's enjoyed by the community! Let's keep our parks clean and natural. We need them much more than we need golf courses.

Communication from Public

Name: Elizabeth O'Toole

Date Submitted: 06/17/2026 09:29 AM

Council File No: 26-0777

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing as a resident of South Pasadena in strong support of Councilmember Jurado's resolution (CF 26-0777) to protect San Pascual Park. This is one of the last stretches of riparian oak and sycamore woodland in our area, a place where families, hikers, birdwatchers, and equestrians have gathered for generations, and land that holds true cultural significance for Indigenous communities. The proposed Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project would clear more than 130 mature trees and wipe out the vast majority of the canopy, all to convert Los Angeles public parkland into industrial infrastructure. As someone who lives in South Pasadena, I would be ashamed to have this done in our city's name. It doesn't make sense environmentally, it doesn't make sense for people already living beside the 110, and it raises serious questions under the protections our City Charter is supposed to provide for public parks. There are natural, source-based alternatives that could address water quality without destroying an irreplaceable ecosystem. I urge the Council to adopt this resolution and stand up for San Pascual Park. Thank you,
Elizabeth O'Toole

Communication from Public

Name: Eric Adams

Date Submitted: 06/17/2026 11:15 AM

Council File No: 26-0777

Comments for Public Posting: I support Councilmember Jurado's motion to oppose development of San Pascual Park. Please keep the park in its current pristine state.

Communication from Public

Name: Janelle Sangalang

Date Submitted: 06/17/2026 10:13 PM

Council File No: 26-0777

Comments for Public Posting: I support this resolution to save San Pascual Park. I oppose the Arroyo Seco Water Reuse Project.

Communication from Public

Name: Amber

Date Submitted: 06/17/2026 05:52 PM

Council File No: 26-0777

Comments for Public Posting: I support Council member Ysabel Jurado's resolution to protect San Pascual Park. Stop the Water Reuse Project!

Communication from Public

Name: Jenna Wright

Date Submitted: 06/17/2026 04:40 PM

Council File No: 26-0777

Comments for Public Posting: Please save these wonderful areas of verdant trees and habitat for our animals. There is NO NEED to take away the canopy, the wildlife, the beauty that makes this land special. KEEP it green! Green areas help with climate change, they provide shade in the heat for all, they are beautiful and keep our neighbourhoods special. we love our area and do NOT want it chopped down. There are other ways to mitigate these problems that this claims to fix. Our family LOVE the natural area. the wilder the better. PLEASE KEEP THE GREEN!!!

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 06/17/2026 07:23 PM

Council File No: 26-0777

Comments for Public Posting: While I am technically a resident of South Pasadena, I firmly stand in support of Highland park, one of the neighborhoods most affected by the proposed Arroyo Seco water reuse project. I am writing in strong support of Councilmember Jurado's resolution opposing this project. This project would take LA public lands to benefit the cities of Pasadena and South Pasadena, including siphoning water out of the Arroyo Seco to irrigate two golf courses in those cities. The land being taken is one of the only naturalized wetland habitats along the Arroyo (proponents of the project point out that the stream diversion that feeds the wetland is manmade, but that is irrelevant: the area is, today, a rare habitat for native species). This habitat is home to a pair of great blue herons (where else have you seen herons in northeast LA?), bats, and many native species of plants, including mature coast live oaks, which take decades to grow. The proposed project would cut down dozens of these mature trees and replace them with saplings which are less fire resilient and provide worse homes for local fauna, requiring at least several decades to restore the environment to what it is now. In addition to wildlife, the area is an invaluable resource to the local community, as the green space provides a buffer between the 110 freeway and the neighborhood, including the San Pascual STEAM Magnet Elementary School. The proposed project would co-opt this community resource for the benefit of Pasadena and South Pasadena, subjecting local LA residents to at least two years of noisy, polluting construction. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, the area is tremendously important to the Kizh nation. While I am not of Kizh descent and I do not claim to speak for them, I have been at numerous city and neighborhood council meetings where Kizh elders have stated their clear opposition to this project. Frankly, given the history of the area and how much has already been stolen from the Kizh, it is shocking that their objections alone are not enough to immediately halt this project; that in the 21st century we would continue to steal land from its natural state and from its indigenous caretakers is unconscionable. I strongly encourage all councilmembers before voting on this resolution to visit the affected area, see for yourself the precious natural habitat which this project would destroy, and speak with the affected community members. For a direct line to the affected community, regular

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Horse stable runoff



Dark muck flowing into the River

Communication from Public

Name: Linda Strong

Date Submitted: 06/17/2026 07:47 PM

Council File No: 26-0777

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing to oppose the Water Reuse Project at San Pascual Park (Council File Number 26-0777). A Southern California native subspecies the Southern Steelhead Trout is listed as an Endangered Species by both the State of California and the United States. This subspecies, whose habitat includes Los Angeles County, is in danger of going extinct. The Arroyo Seco includes a water course which is potential habitat for restocking a population of Southern Steelhead Trout. The more Southern California water ways which include populations of this fish the safer the subspecies will be from extinction. Historically this subspecies would have inhabited this water way. Any diversion and/or depletion of water from the Arroyo Seco threatens the continued existence of the Southern Steelhead Trout.