

MOTION

Nickerson Gardens is a 1,066-unit public housing apartment complex at 1590 East 114th Street in Watts. Nickerson Gardens is the largest public housing development west of the Mississippi River. In March 1954, the Gardens first opened for occupancy and was originally designed by Paul Revere Williams. It was named after William Nickerson Jr., the founder and former CEO of Golden State Mutual Life Insurance Company.

The complex is owned and managed by the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA). Nickerson Gardens consists of 156 buildings with townhouse style units made up of single bedroom units. Launched in 2008, Summer Night Lights (SNL) has become a summer staple in the Los Angeles communities. SNL creates safe evening environments for areas impacted by gang-related violence. This is accomplished by providing extended programming and sports leagues, along with safe space for recreation, community engagement, employment opportunities, and linkages to local resources.

Programming through the City's budget focused on reinvesting in communities that are highly affected by unemployment, such as through SNL, builds community trust and offers positive alternatives to communities impacted by violence. SNL is a highly successful public-private partnership between the City and non-profit organizations. Historically, approximately half of the program's cost is paid for by the generous support of foundation and corporate donors. SNL partners include the: Los Angeles Police Department, Department of Recreation and Parks, GRYD intervention and prevention contractors, Department of Cultural Affairs, the GRYD Foundation, the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office and Los Angeles area professional sports teams, among others.

SNL programming for Nickerson Gardens takes place on a center ballfield at the complex. Residents and community members throughout Watts thoroughly enjoy the recreational programming. The conditions of the field have unsurprisingly been impacted by SNL and residents want to enjoy the field throughout the year. Plans for regular landscaping can allow the field to be more durable and sustainably utilized. An assessment of the fields across all HACLA facilities will give the City a better understanding of the impact of the City-funded programming that serves constituents and provides community benefits, while significantly impacting the facilities.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, with assistance from the City Administrative Officer, to report on the current maintenance and operation of the recreational facilities (inclusive of fields, courts, and community gardens) located at Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles sites citywide, specific to where City-funded programming occurs. The report should include:

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- The name of the entity or organization that is in charge of maintenance related to the aforementioned facilities;
- The related maintenance plans with their associated costs and timelines for maintenance or repair related to the aforementioned facilities; and
- Avenues for further collaboration between entities outside of the City, such as non-profit organizations, and City entities, specifically the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, to ensure regular maintenance for the aforementioned facilities.

PRESENTED BY:



TIM McOSKER

Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



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