

LOS ANGELES EQUESTRIAN COALITION

11035 Osborne Street
Sylmar, CA 91432

April 25, 2023

The Honorable Curren Price, Chair
Special Ad Hoc Committee on the
2028 Olympics and Paralympic Games
200 North Spring Street, City Hall – Room 401
Los Angeles, CA 90012

**RE: General Public Comment ITEM (1) 15-0989-S19 various reports relative to the
Fiscal Year 2023-24 Project Plan for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games**

Dear Council Member Price:

Since before California became a state in 1850, the San Fernando Valley has been home to most of the City's horses, equestrian businesses, ranch owners, equine vets, farriers, equine chiropractors-acupuncturists-body work therapists and active equestrians of all ages, shapes, sizes, ethnic diversity. As the City of Los Angeles begins to expend revenues and develop plans for the 2028 Olympic Games, the Los Angeles Equestrian Coalition would like to advocate for all of the 2028 Olympic Games Equestrian Events to be held at the city owned Hansen Dam Horse Park located in Council District 7 off Foothill Boulevard adjacent to the 210 freeway.

The Hansen Dam Horse Park, Park Rangers and LAPD Foothill Division all have experience working with very large crowds and hundreds of guest parking needs in Hansen Dam. Events like the San Fernando Valley Fair, multiple 10k runs, the annual Watermelon Festival, First Responders Weekend, 4th of July Concert in the Park and during any wild fire season, it is ground zero for thousands of first responders and city personnel. Unlike a temporary equestrian facility that could be built in the flood control Sepulveda Basin, **Equestrians from Southern California would greatly benefit after the Olympics from any capital investments made by the city and the Olympic Committee in preparing the Hansen Dam equestrian area.**

Local small businesses who have struggled post the COVID 19 shutdown and now the economic recession would benefit greatly from the increased public foot traffic. Restaurants including: Ranch side Café, Rise and Shine Café, the Crow's Nest Restaurant, Giamelas, The Burrito Factory, and Corsica Deli. Local equestrian business owners can help maintain the equestrian village including: Foothill Feed and Grain, East Valley Feed and Grain, and Valencia Saddlery. The equestrian community looks forward to discussing the 2028 Olympic Equestrian Events with you in greater detail. Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions cell 213.910.2592.

Sincerely,



Lisa D. Baca