

MOTION

In April 2024, residents of the Pacific Palisades observed contractors from the Bureau of Engineering applying Cheetah Pro, an herbicide, to the hillsides of George Wolfberg Park at Potrero Canyon - an environmentally sensitive coastal area abounding with riparian habitats and other native landscape. While the application of Cheetah Pro successfully killed all of the weeds, it unfortunately also killed all of the newly planted native species, in addition to damaging nearby lawns and gardens.

While the City has gradually phased out its use of glyphosate-based herbicides like RoundUp in response to prior council action, its departments still rely on non-glyphosate products for weed abatement and vegetation management. This includes products like Cheetah Pro, which contains glufosinate, and has been alleged to cause health concerns in other Southern California cities.


The Department of Recreation and Parks has previously reported (CF 16-0651) on its efforts to identify non-herbicidal vegetation management methods in order to limit community exposure and public health concerns. Alternatives explored included the use of manual and mechanical techniques, an evaluation of organic herbicides as well as other steps like prohibiting the application of herbicides within 100 feet of children's play areas, recreation centers, and dog parks.

Given the Department of Recreation and Parks last reported on alternative vegetation management methods and its use of herbicides nearly seven years ago, the City would benefit from an updated analysis of the department's existing practices.

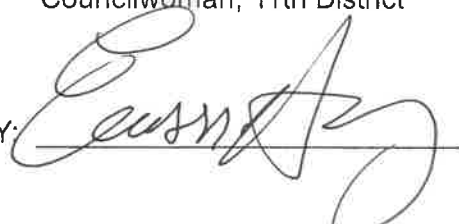
I THEREFORE MOVE that the Council instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks to report on current efforts to utilize vegetation management methods that don't rely on herbicides. This report should also explore the vegetation management and weed abatement practices of other cities in California.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Council instruct the Department of Recreation and Parks and Bureau of Engineering to report on its existing protocols for the application of herbicides, inclusive of its use in environmentally sensitive areas, as well as monitoring and compliance of City contractors.

PRESENTED BY:


TRACI PARK
Councilwoman, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



JUN 14 2024

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CITY OF LOS ANGELES