

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: “ Trying to learn what levers to push,” Councilmember Hernandez, LA Times, October 20, 2024, Who Will Lead the Way on the MacArthur Park Crisis? PUBLIC COMMENT ON DE FACTO PARK FEE REFORM The status quo of many public parks in the City of Los Angeles is not acceptable ... not acceptable, for example, to nearby residents of Laurel Grove Park in North Hollywood whom FOX 11 television news described in 2023 as fighting to take back nearby open space from illegal rogue campers. At public open space Laurel Grove Lever Number One has been the press, which followed the North Hollywood story in early 2023, when RV unwelcome campers ignited a fire (a) fed by a propane tank, (b) captured on camera by an alert neighbor and (c) delivered to FOX News. Follow-Up: Council President Paul Krekorian pushed the Department of Recreation and Parks to begin construction on an upgraded and fully approved Laurel Grove Park at a May 2023 press conference (attended by FOX 11). ----- Lever of Community Engagement: Unrestricted or restricted funding from City or non-City sources both public and private. Example: Noel Weiss reported how a smaller amount of funding responded to a large community need in CD#10. “ In March of this year, Heather Hutt gave Rec. & Parks \$50K out of her ‘cash stash’ to repair the terrible holes on the track at Jackie Robinson Stadium. . She did not have to do this. . . But Rec. & Parks (Jimmy Kim and the Commission) came through to work with me to work their end so that Heather Hutt (could) serve her community,” October 19, 2024 email from Noel Weiss to Ron Bitzer. ----- Proposed Lever CF 24-1174 for CD#10: City Council would commit Quimby Park Fees payable to the City Department of Recreation and Parks from developers of certain non-exempt housing units “to provide funding for acquisition and construction of park facilities in the community,” CF 24-1174. Commitment would be prospective for the years 2025-2035, and apparently not require City Planning’s action in allocation of Quimby Park Fees. Supporting Arguments: City Planning consistently rejects Department of Recreation and Parks’ recommendation that developers of large housing projects in CD#10 (more than 50 nonexempt units) satisfy Quimby Park Fees by building or improving Parks. Rather, City Planning as the Advisory Agency

substitutes “In-Lieu” fees (i.e. In-Lieu of Parks) and eliminates the Recreation and Parks’ fee recommendation. See: K-Town Fact Pattern at 500 S. Oxford, VTT-75032-CN-1A in 2018 K-Town Fact Pattern at 522 S. Shatto Place, VTT-82171 in 2019 K-Town Fact Pattern at 3100 W. Wilshire Blvd, VTT-83914-CN-HCA-1A in 2024 ----- City-Wide Lever May Spur In-Kind Developer Transfers: A 54 page policy was adopted October 19, 2023, by Rec and Parks Commissioners to explain to potential developers and RAP staff how transfer of non-cash, in-kind park assets can qualify for a credit against Park Fees. This closes the 942 N. Broadway loophole, RAP Report 22-241 (Recreation and Parks approval of a \$990,000 credit for a rock garden by the Garcetti-appointed Commission).

----- Quimby Park Fee & Original Concept Lever: The Fallbrook Avenue Project and Park (VTT 72373) in West Hills allowed the developer to enhance the marketability of 90 single family homes by building a public park and “... to convey the fully developed park to the City in order to satisfy the project’s requirements ... in lieu of \$337,330.00 in Park Fees,” RAP 20-135 on July 16, 2020.