

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: There is little reason that the department of Public Works and the BOE cannot consider and submit a budget to change the side of the river that this bike path is built on. We just had arson started at Lindley and Victory last Sunday 12/10/23 on the wash. There are fires in this area and bike path arsons are not an uncommon occurrence. There is no enforcement at all included in this plan and we cannot even get enforcement to be honest about the area because of council backlash. There are two bike paths adjacent to this park, one 350' away on Victory Blvd and another on Oxnard less than a 1/4 mile away. Since there is a motion to add \$500,000 for a consultant to find 100,000M to fund the gap project that has not found funding for 6 years, there should be serious consideration to not spend the 20M dollars per mile to put another bike path along the river at this location and connect to the two existing bike paths as was passed in Council File 18-0600-S71. There is an attachment showing the bike path connecting to the existing Victory Blvd bike path. Our community has a petition of over 2,000 against this path being on the north side of the wash. There is nothing that we have heard from the Army Corps, the Designers and even the public works contact Chris Adams that would stop the south side from being considered, and makes more sense since the path is predominantly on the south side and should continue from White Oak. We understand this was a desire from one of the council offices so there was a back entrance to the farmers market one day a week. Both sides dead end into the bus overpass and that would have to be rebuilt for it to pass through. We have suggested to everyone to start on the south side and cross over at this point and continue onto the north. We have asked for that to be budgeted because the south side does not land that has to be taken away from another park, the access road on that side is wider and there are no trees at the edge that can be easily caught on fire in this isolated area where it would burn for some time before it would be noticed. And will not take the chance to trigger dogs at a park that should be a safe place for them. It is shocking to our community that the city council, instead of listening to the community our Neighborhood Council and even the advice of the Wildlife Steering committee, ignores our concerns, now advises that people who are elderly and disabled who come to our park, some walking with canes, should follow leash laws when this path

will trigger adverse dog behavior. A simple google will show dog reaction to bikes and skateboards. A Cesar Milan video shows a Doberman who is so triggered that he attacks his own owner. Tell us how someone at the park will be able to hold back a dog that has this aggression towards skateboards and bikes? The city attorney should review this as setting up a situation that can cause injury to people and cause the attacking dog to be quarantined and euthanized and we have been advised it very well could be a city liability if they allow this known behavior to be triggered after being alerted. And there is an alternative. How many times are there alternatives? We love our park experience. We are outside along with the dogs. To have a fence put up and block our nature experience and have that covered with graffiti as the bike path is in CD3 is also not fair to our part patrons. So we are asking our city council to support more than just our request to have the alternative considered, but reconsider what money they keep spending on something that funders do not seem to see as transportation, Council File: 23-1208 A 20M bike path would go a long way to build many "bike lanes" that do more than connect to a farmers market one day a week with another entrance 350' away. It is your responsibility to oversee that these projects be fiscally responsible and if the money could not be raised over 6 years, then Public Works should come back to the table with cut backs, redesigns, input from the community and not pass this off hand because this is something you have supported for so long. Stand back and reconsider the budget, problem with funding, the cement, asphalt and steel that is going to line the river and see if there are cost cuts that can save Los Angeles taxpayers another 100M plus a \$500,000 consultant fee and see what can actually be accomplished without a stubborn effort to just get what you think is "for the better good". We can tell you, our dog park has been and will continue to be "for the better good" and our warnings are not guesses. A dog will get loose, they will hurt their owner and a bike rider. We will have a fire. The fence will be a blight. And if spending 2M per mile on a third bike path is what you want, please consider the alternative.