

## Communication from Public

**Name:** lance alspaugh

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 04:47 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Lance Alspaugh and I own and operate 2 movie theaters in CD4, spanning over 30 years. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** stephen skuris

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 04:47 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sandra Luna

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 04:50 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please support our public park funding. Los Angeles needs green spaces with employees to keep maintaining them. Take out from the 3 billion you set aside for the over the top, violent police department. Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jon Neustadter

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 04:50 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Jon Neustadter and reside in Council District 4. Because of my love for Griffith Park and Pan Pacific Park (among others), I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement the upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks ("RAP") staff positions. These were pre-pandemic positions that are necessary for further opening up our City (and City Parks). Delaying the filling of these critical positions will be more costly in the long run. Thank you for carefully considering this message, which is similar to many others your Committee is receiving and has received. Jon Neustadter (90036)

## Communication from Public

**Name:** LUCINDA PHILLIPS

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 04:51 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am, Lucinda Phillips, reside in CD4 Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget:

1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation.
2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Douglas P Williams

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 04:53 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear City Clerk, City Council and Mayor, My name is Douglas Williams, I reside at 2033 High Tower Dr. (90068) in Council District 4. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Griffith Park is one of the gems of our city and we need this staff to help keep the park safe and provide information to all users of the park. Thank you, Douglas Williams

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Elizabeth Rowin

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 04:55 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Elizabeth Rowin and reside in Council District 4 (Los Feliz). Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you very much for your anticipated cooperation!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sarajo Frieden

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 04:57 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I'm Sarajo Frieden and I love the city parks, in particular Griffith Park. I reside in Council District 13. I recommend the following corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you, Sarajo Frieden



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Monica Dadivanian

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:00 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Monica Dadivanian and reside in Council District 4. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you, Monica Dadivanian

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kay Tornborg

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:00 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Kay Tornborg, a homeowner in CD 4. Like thousands in Los Angeles I have a love of Griffith Park. Parks are ESSENTIAL to a person's wellbeing. I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget. 1. Save the 4 critical staff positions within City Planning to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measures to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. These requirements are based on wildlife SCIENCE. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 RAP staff positions. Griffith Park cannot be shortchanged. It is essential to healthy living in Los Angeles.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cheryl Weinfeld

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:00 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Cheryl Weinfeld and reside in Burbank, CA Council District  
Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I  
request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to  
the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff  
positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife  
Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife  
connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring  
authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Brett McKenzie

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:00 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Brett McKenzie and reside in Burbank and am a member of Friends of Griffith Park. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you Brett McKenzie

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Norma Faith Rockman

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:03 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Please grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks staff positions. Please save the four staff positions in City Planning to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study, and to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. To me and others, this is so vitally important. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** David Dassey

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:07 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Dr David Dassey and I reside in Council District 4. I am a big user of Griffith Park's amenities, going there to run, bike ride and hike 4 or 5 days a week. I also ride the local bike paths especially along the LA River. Because of my love for City Parks generally, and especially Griffith Park, I respectfully request the Committee take the following actions to correct the Mayor's proposed budget: First, please save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure intended to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. Second, grant hiring authority for the vacant 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions lost over the past year of COVID changes. Thanks for your serious consideration of these steps.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jamie Lawrence  
**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:08 PM  
**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Jamie Lawrence and reside in Council District 4. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park - which has been a garden of Eden for me in troubling times this past year as well as in the 10+ years I've lived here - I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Yesterday my friend and I took a nice walk up the various trails past Trail's Cafe and collected trash. We collected 3 large bags full of everything from clothing to numerous used condoms. I can't help but think how much worse it would be if staff is reduced and there is less oversight, in general. I pick up trash when I visit Griffith Park, which is mostly everyday, and also spent my birthday there in the beautiful area under the trees. I'm happy to do my part, because I love this park, but there is only so much we as citizens can do. I hope everything will be done to ensure that there are people who work for the city planning and for the park, who care about it, and it's wildlife. The city can be loud, dirty and unbearable at times. Griffith Park should continue to offer the opposite experience. In my recent visits I've seen so much wildlife, including grazing deer at twilight. It's truly magical. We must remember it's a place we visit, but it is their natural home. We must respect that, as well, and do everything we can to help our animal friends. It not only enhances their lives, but ours as well. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mark Stratton

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:10 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Mark Stratton and I reside in Council District 11. Because of my love for City Parks, especially Griffith Park, and for the Santa Monica Mountains, I urge the Committee to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. The Wildlife Pilot Study and Ordinance needs to become a reality this year. No more delays, no more excuses. Los Angeles is one of only two megacities in the world where big cats—mountain lions in LA, leopards in Mumbai, India—live within the city limits! But their habitat is endangered, as are the animals themselves. These animals and the Santa Monica Mountains across which they must travel in order to maintain their health as a species – these are treasures belonging to all of Los Angeles, and it is our privilege and responsibility to be their stewards. We are losing our precious mountain lions on what seems like a monthly basis, and our protection of the wildlife corridors is their only hope for survival. Fully fund the Wildlife Pilot Study and Ordinance AND THE FOUR STAFF POSITIONS (one environmental specialist, one city planner and two planning associates), which are ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY if the Wildlife Pilot Study is going to work, and do it now, while we still have some wildlife left to protect! Currently, the Mayor's proposed budget will eliminate these four staff positions. These positions must be reinstated in the budget. The City and the State are supposed to be moving as fast as possible toward sustainability and a green future. Lip service is not enough. This Study and Ordinance are key to the survival of not just the wildlife but our city. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. LA City Parks must continue to be safe environments, and if they're not well-maintained, equitable access becomes more limited.



## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:13 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** It is hard enough to keep our parks clean and safe with the cuts from 2009, now you are asking the impossible. Please give use our positions back.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Rosalind Helfand

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:22 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Rosalind Helfand and reside in Council District 4. I am an independent Environmental Policy Advisor and I hold a Bachelor's in Environmental Studies from UC Santa Cruz and a Master's in Conservation Leadership from the University of Cambridge. It's come to my attention that funding for the four staff positions in City Planning that are necessary to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement the upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation is threatened. This would be a critical error as timeliness is essential and multiple threats to habitat integrity and the survival of wildlife are rapidly increasing. Los Angeles must not de-prioritize the integrity of our ecosystems or we will lose them. The short and long term consequences will be enormous. Now is the time to double down on this investment, regardless of economic challenges. Furthermore, we must properly staff and maintain our parks. Again, we cannot afford to degrade or lose our critical natural resources that provide green buffers for issues like climate change while helping to increase the health and wellbeing of Angelenos. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measures to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Jack Linares

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 12:24 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Jack Linares, Education Policy Coordinator at the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN-LA). I strongly support the proposed budget's 1.1 million allocation to create City's 1st ever youth development department. I want to uplift that although the 1.1 million is the initial funding to get the department started, the city still need to ensure that there is long-term investment and funding stream for this youth department. We need to have a centralized youth department to support youth in receiving the programming and resources our youth need throughout LA. We need city council to support and make sure this happens and we want to make sure it is reflected in our city's budget to support the over 3,000 youth experiencing homelessness, the over 480,000 living in poverty, and stop the 18,753 youth arrests. It is for this reason we need to fully fund the Youth Development Department.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kiersten

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 12:31 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Kiersten Comer and I am an organizer with the Invest in Youth Campaign. I will like to give public comment on item #1. I strongly support the proposed budget's 1.1 million allocation to create the City's 1st ever youth development department. This investment is the first step to fully funding a department that will serve the City's youth. I also want to UPLIFT that while this first step is so important we will need all of your support to ensure that there is long-term investment and a funding stream for this youth department. We need to have a centralized youth department to support us in receiving the programming and resources our young people need throughout LA. We need city council to support and make sure this happens and we want to make sure it is reflected in our city's budget to support the over 3,000 youth experiencing homelessness, the over 480,000 living in poverty, and stop the 18,753 youth arrests. It is for this reason that we need to fully fund the Youth Development Department.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Benjamin Garcia

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 12:52 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello my name is Benjamin Garcia and I would like to give public comment on #1. I strongly support the proposed budget's 1.1 Million allocation to create Los Angeles's first ever youth development department. In these times as we reflect on the learning loss and struggle students and educators have overcome it would be an inspiring and welcome sight for the people and city of Los Angeles to see this investment and support continue for many years to come. We need city council to support and make sure this happens and we want to make sure it is reflected in our city's budget to support the over 3,000 youth experiencing homelessness, the over 480,000 living in poverty, and stop the 18,753 youth arrests. It is for this reason that we need to fully fund the Youth Development Department.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Dana Hall

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 12:54 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Dana Hall and I am an organizer with the Invest in Youth Campaign. I will like to give public comment on item #1. I strongly support the proposed budget's \$1.1 million allocation to create the City's 1st ever youth development department. This investment is the first step to fully funding a department that will serve the City's youth. I also want to UPLIFT that while this first step is so important we will need all of your support to ensure that there is long-term investment and a funding stream for this youth department. We need to have a centralized youth department to support us in receiving the programming and resources our young people need throughout LA. We need city council to support and make sure this happens and we want to make sure it is reflected in our city's budget to support the over 3,000 youth experiencing homelessness, the over 480,000 living in poverty, and stop the 18,753 youth arrests. It is for this reason that we need to fully fund the Youth Development Department.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Emmet

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 01:15 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I vehemently oppose Mayor Garcetti's 40million dollar LAPD budget increase. It is unacceptable that we should be increasing police budget while decreasing and cutting vital services for the city of Los Angeles. I urge the mayor to restructure the budget to put more into education, housing, and other crucial services instead of the police department. By funding services that help the people of Los Angeles instead of penalizing them, we can reduce injustice and create a better city for everyone. Please, please do not increase LAPD's already over-bloated budget!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Betty Marín

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 01:31 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Betty Marín and my organization the Alliance for CA Traditional Arts is part of the Invest in Youth Coalition. I would like to give public comment on item #1. I strongly support the proposed budget's 1.1 million allocation to create the City's 1st ever youth development department. This investment is the first step to fully funding a department that will serve the City's youth. I also want to UPLIFT that while this first step is so important we will need all of your support to ensure that there is long-term investment and a funding stream for this youth department. We need to have a centralized youth department to support us in receiving the programming and resources our young people need throughout LA. We need city council to support and make sure this happens and we want to make sure it is reflected in our city's budget to support the over 3,000 youth experiencing homelessness, the over 480,000 living in poverty, and stop the 18,753 youth arrests. It is for this reason that we need to fully fund the Youth Development Department. Youth investment is about addressing a lot of the issues plaguing our city with regards to education, housing, and criminalization.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Philip

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 02:12 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Budget Committee City Council Members, Please do not allow the 140 positions at the Dept. of Rec and Parks, that were curtailed due to the pandemic to become permanent cuts. I live near Elysian Park, which is woefully understaffed, as is Echo Park Lake, which suffered severe wear and tear due to homeless camps during the pandemic. Our parks are precious refuges for the peace of mind and natural tranquility that they offer the public. They are NOT non-essential services. The parks need more personnel and better maintenance, not less. If you want to enhance the quality of life in this city, you could start by treating the parks as valuable assets. If you need to cut the budget, start by trimming the police budget instead of giving them a 3% raise as the Mayor suggests. By increasing the budget for parks and social services that help the homeless as well as the general public, you would greatly enhance the quality of life in this city.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kasandra Cordova

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 12:08 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Kasandra Cordova, Youth Organizer with the Invest in Youth Coalition, and I will give public comment for agenda item #1. I need City Council to recognize the 1.1 million in the proposed budget allocated to create this City's first-ever Youth Development Department as a historic win. While in the same breath recognize that it is more than unfortunate that this proposed budget will spend only 0.59%, 66 Million on youth-related costs, it suggests spending over 27%, a whopping 3 billion on the police department. In meetings and spaces with some of you present, you share that you know the importance of investing and supporting young folks, so I call to you to amend this budget and secure long term funding for the Youth Development Department while committing to consolidate all youth-related funding to fall under this department. Los Angeles needs to step up and adopt a structured foundation and vision for youth investment that enables an opportunity for accountability.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sara Gernsbacher

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 09:36 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I, along with so many Angelenos, deeply disapprove of the Mayor stripping all funding for the wildlife corridor pilot program. We can not willfully allow our wildlife to slip towards extinction, allowing them to be killed on our roadways. We must invest in this wildlife corridor. What will we have left when all our native animals are gone? It will have disastrous consequences for us humans as well. It is a moral and literal imperative to fund this wildlife corridor. It is incredibly popular amongst Angelenos and would be a great example for other cities to follow suit. Please, you must refute the mayor's slashing of the budget and invest in it fully. Thank you.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Maria Melo

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 10:50 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Maria Melo. I am the Policy and Operations Manager for the Los Angeles LGBT Center . I would like to speak about agenda item no. 1, relative to the Department of Aging's budget proposal. I would like to urge the Finance and Budget Committee to pass the budget for the Department of Aging which has done incredible work for older adults this past year. We would also like to express (our/my) deep appreciation to Mayor Garcetti, the City's Department of Aging, and Council Member Nithya Raman for taking a bold step for LGBT older adults in Los Angeles by supporting renewed funding for the city's first and only LGBT specific Mini-Multipurpose Senior Center in the 2021-2021 city fiscal year budget proposal. Thanks to this renewed funding from the city, and amid the reality of increased health risks, housing, and food insecurity in the life of LGBT older adults, we are relieved that LGBT older adults will continue to have access to critical programs and services that include case management, daily lunch and access to a food pantry, housing navigation, employment assistance, support groups, and social isolation interventions; all of which are further supported by the work of the Center's Federally Qualified Health Center. Amid the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, and the reality of increased health risks, housing, and food insecurity in the life of LGBT older adults, we cannot underscore enough the urgency in providing these services to LGBT older adults. In Los Angeles alone, where an estimated 65,000 LGBT seniors live, the legacy of discrimination has left many LGBT older adults facing frightening economic and housing insecurity, and isolation. With one-third of older LGBT adults living at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level, LGBT seniors are struggling to afford housing and other necessities because they are four times less likely to have children and grandchildren to support them and twice as likely as their heterosexual counterparts to live alone. We are confident that the Department of Aging's work with the LGBT-Specific Mini-Multipurpose Senior Center, located at the Los Angeles LGBT Center's Anita May Rosenstein Campus in Council District 4, will be key to helping LGBT low-income older adults from all over the city get the necessary and culturally competent care they need both to survive during this crisis and moving forward.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Belinda

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 11:13 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Belinda Campos Bresnahan and I am Program Manager for Public Health Advocates and a proud supporter of the Invest in Youth Campaign. I will like to give public comment on item #1. I strongly support the proposed budget's 1.1 million allocation to create the City's 1st ever youth development department. This investment is the first step to fully funding a department that will serve the City's youth. I also want to UPLIFT that while this first step is so important we will need all of your support to ensure that there is long-term investment and a funding stream for this youth department. We need to have a centralized youth department to support us in receiving the programming and resources our young people need throughout LA. We need city council to support and make sure this happens and we want to make sure it is reflected in our city's budget to support the over 3,000 youth experiencing homelessness, the over 480,000 living in poverty, and stop the 18,753 youth arrests. It is for this reason that we need to fully fund the Youth Development Department.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lucy Herrera

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 11:39 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Lucy Herrera and I am a resident of Boyle Heights and a youth advocate. I want to start off by saying this meeting is not accessible for calling in. A few of our youth have been trying to call to give public comment and when they call it states the meeting has not started. I strongly support the proposed budget's 1.1 million allocation to create the City's 1st ever youth development department. After year's of advocacy, the youth of LA are finally being listened to. This investment is the first step to fully funding a department that will serve the City's youth. However, we also need to identify a way to fully fund the Youth department that LA's youth need and deserve. We want a department that provides equity, inclusion, and decision making for youth. We need to have a centralized youth department to support us in receiving the programming and resources our young people need throughout LA. We need city council to support and make sure this happens and we want to make sure it is reflected in our city's budget to support the over 3,000 youth experiencing homelessness, the over 480,000 living in poverty, and stop the 18,753 youth arrests. It is for this reason that we need to fully fund the Youth Development Department. Please support the \$1.1 million being advocated to start this department and also ensure the right folks are staffing these positions as well. Thank you

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Blanca Isabella

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 11:46 AM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Blanca Isabella and I am a youth organizer with the Invest in Youth Campaign. I will like to give a public comment on item #1. I strongly support the proposed budget's 1.1 million allocation to create the City's 1st ever youth development department. This investment is the first step to fully funding a department that will serve the City's youth. I also want to UPLIFT that while this first step is so important we will need all of your support to ensure that there is a long-term investment and a funding stream for this youth department. We need to have a centralized youth department to support us in receiving the programming and resources our young people need throughout LA. We need the city council to support and make sure this happens and we want to make sure it is reflected in our city's budget to support the over 3,000 youth experiencing homelessness, the over 480,000 living in poverty, and stop the 18,753 youth arrests. It is for this reason that we need to fully fund the Youth Development Department.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** John Gabaldon

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:25 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am John Gabaldon and reside in Council District 5. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Karen Minkowski

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:27 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Karen Minkowski and reside in Council District 4. I love the City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, and thus I'm requesting the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement the upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. These actions are essential for ensuring the perpetuation of the wildlife species that occur in the Santa Monica Mountains. Connecting currently fragmented habitats throughout the SM Mountains will allow for the introduction of new genes, thus keeping the population's gene pool healthy and preventing inbreeding. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Michael Lyons

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:27 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Dear Good People, Trying to create a viable city budget the year after an economically devastating pandemic is very hard work. You have my respect and my gratitude. I am writing to make the case for the Park Rangers in your considerations. Last year I got to experience first hand the importance of our parks in the mental, emotional, and physical well-being of our city's inhabitants. It was life saving. I don't know how to quantify the value it provides the city but I am certain that there would have been a lot more sorrow, even violence, without the solace our parks provide. Without the care and support of the rangers, the parks deteriorate and become less safe and an essential thread in our city life begins to unravel. The rangers are necessary. I hope you can continue to fund them. Thank you. Mike Lyons

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Joel A. Davis

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 05:29 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Joel Davis and reside in Council District 4, near Griffith Park. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** linda hackett

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 06:42 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I reside in Council District 13 and frequent Griffith Park daily. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. It is critically important to ensure safe passage for wildlife now before their numbers dwindle further. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. I use Griffith park or one of the nearby parks daily and want to ensure that the parks do not suffer from lack of attention.

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 06:49 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. 3. Provide staff positions for maintaining the 53 miles of trails in the park and Martinez Arena. The trails and the Arena are critical for Burbank horse owners who may use the Arena to exercise their horses, and enjoy riding the trails throughout the year. Those staff positions should include people that can maintain the watering troughs in the park, which are needed for our horses. Thank you for your consideration.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Lee Chemel

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 07:07 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Lee Chemel and I reside in Los Feliz. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kay Ward

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 07:09 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Protect Griffith Park and provide for important personnel!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mary Haberle

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 07:13 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Mary Haberle and reside in Council District 4. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. This will help reduce the costs associated with deferred maintenance and help our local economy.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Emily Gabel Luddy

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 07:20 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Emily Gabel-Luddy and live 1000 feet from CD4. I served on the Burbank City Council and am past Mayor (10 years). I serve on the Board of an urban non-profit that works with neighbors to create small parks in the most underserved neighborhoods in Los Angeles City (Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative, [lani.org](http://lani.org)). My relationship to the park is long. Just last Winter quarter I taught a design class at UCLA Extension in Landscape Architecture about reconnecting Griffith Park to the larger area around it. I love Griffith Park and have been a trail user for 30 years walking and horseback riding, barbequing, dog parking, golfing and celebrating with many diverse people I have met along the way.

1. Wildlife Pilot - Restore Staff Positions  
Restore the 4 staff positions to the City Budget and get the ordinance written and adopted. It is critical to finish work underway and the wildlife Pilot Study delivers a small piece of the puzzle to advance the city's climate action plan. Climate action is not limited to solar and electric power, climate action is also about beneficial wildlife/plant corridors that optimize environmental connectivity and keep native animals and plants healthy. City Council Member Raman could tap the volunteer services Friends of Griffith Park to implement the Study but Friends cannot prepare and adopt the ordinance. Don't abandon the pilot. Scientifically, we fight climate change by maximizing wildlife diversity. This is a tiny but critical answer to that challenge. It is important to the Santa Monica Mtn. range with Griffith Park anchoring it on the east.
2. Restore the City Recreation and Parks Department park staff so that maintenance does not get further deferred— 140 staff positions. We need these. These work jobs help provide a living wage with health benefits and should be eligible under the Biden Infrastructure Plan. Support them now and seek reimbursement from the federal legislation once it is adopted. What is a Park but a component of city infrastructure, providing physical, mental, recreational and scientific support for a city's residents. Are these not the lungs of the City? The skills of city maintenance workers are needed to equitably keep nice parks in all neighborhoods. Thank you, Emily  
213-280-5784

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Cristina Stuart

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 07:32 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** My name is Cristina Stuart and I live in Atwater Village, Council District 13. During these terrible months of Covid, hiking in Griffith Park has saved my sanity and increased my fitness. I have travelled and lived in many places, but I have never come across such a wild and wonderful urban space, and I am anxious that it remains as it is for generations to come. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study, and implement upcoming measures to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you so much.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Christine Moore

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 08:30 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, My name is Christine Moore and I reside in Council District C, Los Feliz. I moved into my home in 1991 and I love this neighborhood and especially Griffith Park. I would like the Committee to take action recommending corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you, Christine Moore

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Kira Durbin

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 08:45 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hi, I'm Kira Durbin and I live in CD4. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I beg the Committee to take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you!!

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Nick McNaughton

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 08:49 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Hello, I am asking the Budget & Finance Committee to make two very important revisions to the Mayor's proposed budget. First, it is vital that we complete the ongoing Wildlife Pilot Study for the Santa Monica Mountains. Wildlife connectivity and the survival of species diversity are vital to metropolitan areas in general and Los Angeles in particular. The Pilot Study will help guide intelligent planning for years to come. Secondly, please approve the hiring of 140 Rec & Park staff positions. I am in Griffith Park multiple times each week and I see how many people use the park and how stretched thin the staff are, which must also be true for the rest of our parks system. Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Best regards, Nick McNaughton Los Angeles, California 90027

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Heather Sabin

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 09:32 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Heather Sabin and reside in Council District 14. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. I've heard from several groups that I'm in about the "defunding" of the Wildlife Pilot Study and it's very upsetting. Time is running out to save the wildlife and biodiversity that makes California and our city so special. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Mary Button

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 09:44 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.  
Thank you, Mary Button

## Communication from Public

**Name:** N Scott

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 04:45 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am N Scott and reside in Council District 4. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you for your consideration.



## Communication from Public

**Name:** Missy Kelly

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 09:55 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** April 29, 2021 Dear Mayor Garcetti: We, as the Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association, were surprised and dismayed at the deletion (once again) of funding for City's Wildlife Pilot Study Program and Wildlife Corridor Pilot Ordinance We are surprised at the lack of understanding by the Mayor's office of how important this program is to the environmental health of the city—which ultimately affects the people of our city. It was also surprising because of our city's commitment to the Green New Deal—of which this program would be a fundamental building block. Also, surprising in that it aligns with your Sustainability Plan of 2019, directing Planning to deliver a draft ordinance to the City Council by June 30, 2021. These are the steps necessary to protect the City's biodiversity which, in turn, supports the health and sustainability of the people, wildlife, and ecosystems of Los Angeles. Ensuring the protection of open space is critically important for the people in our city. Open space has been vital to so many of our communities during the pandemic—providing essential community spaces for safe socially distanced gatherings. The Wildlife Pilot Study Program re-affirms the need for continued preservation and increased access that will ensure that Angelenos will experience the physical and mental health benefits of nature. Native landscapes help us regulate our climate, purify our air and water, pollinate our crops and create healthy soil (Lawler et al., 2014). In addition to the direct benefits from access, the preservation of our native habitats—and the species that rely on them—is critical to our long-term health and wellbeing (Martin et al., 2020). The Plan also will prevent catastrophic wildfires by creating better buffer zones in the hillsides. We are dismayed because the Wildlife Pilot Study is a two-year program. The first year was ultimately funded by the City Council. If not funded again to complete the study, we will have wasted last year's funding—which is fiscally irresponsible. We know these times are challenging for Los Angeles and we applaud your work in protecting human health and safety. As we continue to fight the immediate threat posed by the pandemic, we must also look ahead. By supporting the City's long range Wildlife Corridor Program, the City can join other leaders in forward-thinking efforts in biodiversity and environmental health, such as Governor Newsom's 30 by 30 conservation goals, and

Representative Schiff's steadfastness in passing the Rim of the Valley Preservation Act. As our Mayor—the Mayor of Los Angeles, your job is to see the future. The Wildlife Pilot Study Program gives you and other city leaders the tools to legislate for that future. Thank you, Missy Kelly President, Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association



# Beachwood Canyon

## NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

April 29, 2021

Dear Mayor Garcetti:

We, as the Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association, were surprised and dismayed at the deletion (once again) of funding for City's Wildlife Pilot Study Program and Wildlife Corridor Pilot Ordinance

We are **surprised** at the lack of understanding by the Mayor's office of how important this program is to the environmental health of the city—which ultimately affects the people of our city.

It was also surprising because of our city's commitment to the Green New Deal—of which this program would be a fundamental building block.

Also, surprising in that it aligns with your Sustainability Plan of 2019, directing Planning to deliver a draft ordinance to the City Council by June 30, 2021. These are the steps necessary to protect the City's biodiversity which, in turn, supports the health and sustainability of the people, wildlife, and ecosystems of Los Angeles.

Ensuring the protection of open space is critically important for the people in our city. Open space has been vital to so many of our communities during the pandemic—providing essential community spaces for safe socially distanced gatherings. The Wildlife Pilot Study Program re-affirms the need for continued preservation and increased access that will ensure that Angelenos will experience the physical and mental health benefits of nature. Native landscapes help us regulate our climate, purify our air and water, pollinate our crops and create healthy soil (Lawler et al., 2014). In addition to the direct benefits from access, the preservation of our native habitats—and the species that rely on them—is critical to our long-term health and wellbeing (Martin et al., 2020).

The Plan also will prevent catastrophic wildfires by creating better buffer zones in the hillsides.

We are **dismayed** because the Wildlife Pilot Study is a **two**-year program. The first year was ultimately funded by the City Council. If not funded again to complete the study, we will have wasted last year's funding—which is fiscally irresponsible.

*(Continued on next page)*

We know these times are challenging for Los Angeles and we applaud your work in protecting human health and safety. As we continue to fight the immediate threat posed by the pandemic, we must also look ahead.

By supporting the City's long range Wildlife Corridor Program, the City can join other leaders in forward-thinking efforts in biodiversity and environmental health, such as Governor Newsom's 30 by 30 conservation goals, and Representative Schiff's steadfastness in passing the Rim of the Valley Preservation Act.

As our Mayor—the Mayor of Los Angeles, your job is to see the future. The Wildlife Pilot Study Program gives you and other city leaders the tools to legislate for that future.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Missy Kelly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Missy" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Kelly".

Missy Kelly

President,

Beachwood Canyon Neighborhood Association

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Robert Moore

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 10:11 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Robert Moore and reside in Council District #1. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. Thank you for considering these important measures. Sincerely, Robert Moore

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Peter Bodlaender

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 10:56 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am (name) and reside in Council District (x). Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions. THANKS FOR YOUR SERIOUS CONSIDERATION, PETER BODLAENDER

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Laura Bittman

**Date Submitted:** 04/29/2021 11:39 PM

**Council File No:** 21-0600

**Comments for Public Posting:** I am Laura Bittman and reside in Council District 4. Because of my love for City Parks, and especially Griffith Park, I request the Committee take action to recommend corrections to the Mayor's proposed budget: 1. Save the four critical staff positions within City Planning in order to complete the Wildlife Pilot Study and implement upcoming measure to retain wildlife connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation. 2. Grant hiring authority for 140 Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff positions.