

MOTION

Equestrian events in Los Angeles have provided moments of historical significance through the last century. The City's first Olympic Games, in 1932, showcased Dressage, Eventing, and Jumping competitions, with the United States taking home the gold medal in Team Eventing. The 1984 Games featured the U.S. winning three of the six team and individual competitions in these events. Today, the City plays host to numerous competitions and exhibitions throughout the year.

The 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, beginning in Los Angeles in the summer of 2028, will continue the equestrian athletic tradition by again featuring team and individual Dressage, Eventing, and Jumping competitions. With seven years until the Games Opening Ceremony, the City has the chance to encourage awareness and involvement in equestrian activities in the lead-up to these historic competitions.

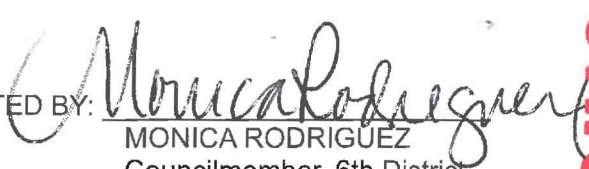
The Youth Sports Partnership (YSP), agreed to as part of the City's undertaking to host the 2028 Games, is a commitment by the International Olympic Committee to provide \$160 million for youth sports programming to significantly enhance access to sports for the City's youth during the years leading up to the 2028 Games. The Department of Recreation and Parks develops an annual Project Plan, as approved by the City Council, to expend YSP funds to increase access and opportunity for all young people, particularly the economically disadvantaged and physically disabled, through the participation in sports programs at City parks.

Equestrian services are currently offered in a limited capacity by the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP). RAP works with contractors at Griffith Park and Hansen Dam to offer horse rentals and pony rides to the public. RAP does not presently offer a program devoted to youth participation in equestrian activities.

The YSP is a unique opportunity to encourage athletic involvement and introduce children to sports to which they may otherwise never have access. Equestrian activities, which can be prohibitively expensive for most families, should be considered as a portion of the next annual YSP Project Plan. This would allow more children, including children with disabilities, to experience the joy of horseback riding, and potentially encourage participation and achievement in an equestrian event at the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

I THEREFORE REQUEST the Department of Recreation and Parks provide a report within 90 days on the inclusion of youth equestrian programs in the next annual Project Plan of the Youth Sports Partnership.

PRESENTED BY:


MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY:



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