

Communication from Public

Name: Jennifer Ho

Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 05:43 PM

Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, thank you for providing the opportunity to comment and for your dedication in this important civic work. My name is Jennifer, I was born, raised, and live in Los Angeles. I am writing to oppose the LA Zoo's 20 year vision plan. We all want the very best care for Zoo animals, but this project goes far beyond modernizing the Zoo. Here is why the zoo expansion plan is a bad idea: 1) It's a threat to healthy, balanced ecosystems: The conversion of LA Zoo's remaining native woodland habitat areas for amusement-park-like attractions and major event centers is overly ambitious and runs counter to all principles of sustainable practices. As a shared humanity, we are already facing unprecedented biodiversity loss, of which we are already facing the consequences of: an unbalanced ecosystem resulting in intensified drought, wildfires, and heat waves. Rather than worsening these problems via development, let's work together to honor and carefully steward our precious lands in a healthy, regenerative manner. 2) It's a threat to public health: Recreational portions of Griffith Park will also suffer from traffic congestion caused by this massive project. Los Angeles already suffers from an F in ozone grade and F in short- and long-term particle pollution grade according to the American Lung Association, of which much is caused by transportation. The effects of pollution disproportionately affects people of color, children and adults, and people like me with underlying health conditions. The LA Zoo's massive development plans adds fuel to the fire, which will worsen public health outcomes. Please prioritize a healthy, livable future for generations to come and deny the LA Zoo's 20 year vision plan. Thank you for your time and consideration. Sincerely, Jennifer H. Resident of Los Angeles

Communication from Public

Name: George Hladky

Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 10:16 AM

Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: I remember the current zoo with its shady tree canopy, as the perfect toddler heaven. The annual pass encouraged me to frequently take the children there when they were young. Almost an off peak, alternate playground. A serene, semi tropical world where the animals fit unobtrusively into the landscape. Over the years I have also seen a lot of reclusive wildlife enjoying its surroundings in the tucked away canyon. Bobcats and I even remember P22, the mountain lion got in trouble for eating a koala bear or two, when he had first arrived here. There are many theme parks around the world but the LA zoo has a totally unique charm. The zoo should use, build and improve upon it rather than bulldozing it away.

Communication from Public

Name: Spencer Keelan

Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 11:55 AM

Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: The zoo expansion inside Griffith Park runs counter to our climate and transit goals. Do not kill trees; do not add more parking. We need more trees and fewer cars. Griffith Park is the best public park in the country, and expanding the zoo will only hurt its value to LA residents.

Communication from Public

Name: Amelie Cherlin

Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 11:19 AM

Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed zoo expansion inside Griffith Park runs counter to our climate and transit goals. Do not kill trees; do not add more parking. We need more trees and less parking. We need more public transportation and fewer cars. Like so many other things the city of LA does, this is going backward. I'm so tired of having to defend my city from getting worse — it doesn't leave much time for actually improving it.

Communication from Public

Name: Rachel Hastings Saunders

Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 11:39 AM

Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: To whom it may concern, I have been a resident of the Los Angeles area (both in Los Angeles and Burbank) for the past 11 years, and that whole time, I have lived in very close proximity to Griffith Park. And I am vehemently opposed to the current version of the LA Zoo expansion plan. Griffith Park is LA's most valuable green space, and is home to a variety of native plants and wildlife. The planned expansion would consume 23 acres of this incredible space, decimating 227 city-protected trees in the process. The expansion would also increase car traffic in the park, which is already an issue. It seems as though the plan favors drawing in more tourists at the expense of residents' use of the park. The current plan is bad for the environment, bad for the residents of Los Angeles, and just wildly unnecessary. I do support Alternative 1, which would still allow for zoo improvements while maintaining the sustainability goals that Los Angeles should always be striving so hard to achieve. And therefore, I urge you to switch to the Alternative 1 plan. Sincerely, Rachel Hastings Saunders

Communication from Public

Name: Tamsin Rawady
Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 11:44 AM
Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: I am the mother of two children (6 and 9) and do not support the expansion of the LA Zoo (even though I have been a prior member). The zoo already consumes a huge amount of Griffith Park and needs to focus on updating what it has before expanding beyond its borders. We do not need to destroy more trees to make way for more parking. This is counter to what Los Angeles should be doing right now to combat climate change. Our children don't need to frequent an expanded zoo now only to destroy their future. Sincerely, Tamsin

Communication from Public

Name: Mary Robertson
Date Submitted: 10/24/2021 09:02 PM
Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: This is written in strong opposition to the current L.A. Zoo Expansion plan. If this were merely spending more money on the animals, and their care and habitat, and education about them, I'd be all for it. But we absolutely do not need a new cut-rate Disneyland (trams? A new fake blasted-out "canyon," rock-climbing, the destruction of 23 acres of endangered native woodlands, killing more than 100 live oaks, touristy restaurants and shops, and more than a million new visitors to this small corner of Griffith Park? What's next, a Jungle Ride with fake guides and fake alligators? Piped in "nature sounds" to drown out real nature sounds? This is an embarrassingly bad and destructive idea, and I'm not surprised conservation groups are so strongly opposed. Not to mention the waste of more than \$600 million dollars that could be much better used in multiple social programs for LA and its people. I am surprised that the plans got this far along before the LA Times story alerted the public. I hope you will oppose this loopy plan. Thanks for listening.

Communication from Public

Name: Gwendolyn Ostrosky

Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 01:45 PM

Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: I stand with Friends of Griffith Park regarding the L.A. Zoo expansion. The Zoo should not be allowed to destroy the trees and natural habitat enjoyed by animals and people alike. What will be lost cannot be regained.

Communication from Public

Name: Grant Blakeman
Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 12:29 PM
Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: The proposed Zoo expansion just seems dated in perspective: if successful, it will not only destroy some existing forest (a resource that we do not have enough of within the city), but it will also induce higher demand on the roadways around Griffith Park. Yes, a parking garage will be built as part of the proposed plan, but why not use more of the land taken up by the current parking lot for the expansion rather than expand into the much more precious woodland currently behind the zoo? As a city, we cannot continue to simply reach for the “develop undeveloped land” tool in our toolbox and reach our climate goals or expect the city to become a more livable/desirable city. If none of the current parking lot at the zoo can be spared than perhaps we need to take a broader look at the expansion and ask ourselves if it’s necessary. Or, if it should be put on hold until better public transit options can be put in place to reach the zoo and Griffith Park as a whole.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 01:20 PM

Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: I just wanted to say that the expansion of the Griffith Park zoo would run counter to Los Angeles' climate goals, and consequently our nation's and world's climate goals. We need more trees, not less, and a project of this magnitude would create untold waste from construction as construction inherently creates.

Communication from Public

Name: Diana I. Williams

Date Submitted: 10/25/2021 12:04 PM

Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: Writing to oppose adding more surface parking to the zoo. There is too much parking and there are too many cars in Griffith Park already. The zoo expansion proposal runs counter to our climate and transit goals. We need more trees and fewer cars.