

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 11/14/2021 09:33 PM

Council File No: 21-0828

Comments for Public Posting: I would like to voice my support for the full expansion project of the LA zoo's vision plan. I believe it will benefit animals and be a benefit to the community.

Communication from Public

Name: Robert Young, Co-President, The Oaks Homeowners Association
Date Submitted: 11/14/2021 02:59 PM
Council File No: 21-0828
Comments for Public Posting: Attached is a letter of support from the Oaks Homeowners Association for Alternative 1 of the proposed expansion of the Los Angeles Zoo. Thank you for your consideration. The Board of the Oaks Homeowners Association



PO Box 29155 Los Angeles, CA 90029-0155

November 15, 2021

Councilmembers John Lee (Chair), Mike Bonin, Joe Buscaino
Arts, Parks, Health, Education, and Neighborhoods Committee
Los Angeles City Council

Re: Los Angeles Zoo CF 21-0828; Support for Alternative 1

Honorable Chair John Lee:

The Oaks Homeowners Association is a homeowners group representing about 800 homes in the area bordered by Griffith Park on the north and east, by Canyon Drive (and its subsidiary streets) on the west and by Foothill Drive on the south. Because of our proximity to Griffith Park we are acutely interested in all issues involving Griffith Park and its institutions.

Having studied the proposed Zoo Vision Plan, we find ourselves in opposition to the full proposal in that it is predicated on the loss of many acres of native habitat and woodlands that contain large numbers of protected trees and shrubs. The plan is too destructive of the Zoo property contained within the Park.

We note that CEQA guidelines require the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) analysis to identify the Environmentally Superior Alternative (the alternative containing the fewest adverse impacts and greatest benefits) and Alternative 1 was declared to be the Environmentally Superior Alternative – superior to the proposed Project and superior to Alternative 2. So we at Oaks join the EIR in supporting Alternative 1 as the preferred version of the Zoo expansion.

The two most important goals of the Zoo Expansion – animal welfare and care, and the creation of a world-class destination zoo – are achieved by both Alternative 1 and the full Project. So let's go with Alternative 1 and reduce the habitat/woodland destruction of the full Project. We'll still be growing the Zoo's audience and capacity significantly but we'll be growing it in a more sensible way. The full Project would create more attendance/activity/disruption/traffic than can possibly be supported by the infrastructure available at the Zoo's location.

We support Alternative 1 for the Zoo. Thank you.

Cordially,

Linda Othenin-Girard
Caroline Schweich
Robert Young
Co-Presidents, The Oaks Homeowners Association

CC:
Councilmember Nithya Raman
Helen Rotolo, Field Deputy, Council District 4
Oaks HOA Boardmembers

