

Communication from Public

Name: Pilar Diaz

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Comments for Public Posting: Dear Councilmembers, I want to express my wholehearted support for the permanent appointment of Mr. Jimmy Kim as the permanent general manager of the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP). I was a former LA Rec & Parks Commissioner (Commission) and watched Mr. Kim's leadership in the various roles he has had, especially in leading the Emergency Management Services Department. But importantly, before my commissioner role, I had an opportunity to work with Mr. Kim when I was a program officer at LA84 Foundation, from 2005 to 2015. At the time, Mr. Kim was assigned to LA84 Foundation/John C. Argue Swim Stadium, where we had the annual swim meet with thousands of youth from throughout Los Angeles County. Mr. Kim went above and beyond his role. I watched him work well with staff, city and community leadership, and external partners with grace, especially under pressure. I saw how he was not only well-respected and trusted by staff, but also the community-at-large, including partners. When I served on the Commission, I witnessed his leadership from the operational level. Mr. Kim got things done. Because of the foundation he had set and the training he provided staff, they were ready to serve and act quickly. This was especially apparent during one of the fires a few years ago in the Sunland area, when Mr. Kim and his staff had to activate quickly and provide shelter for residents, help ensure safety, and help relocate horses. Because of his leadership and the solid foundation he has set, the services operated seamlessly. Finally, Mr. Kim has always served in his roles with joy. Anyone who has ever worked with Mr. Kim can see the love and dedication he has to the City of Los Angeles and its residents. Thank you. Sincerely, Pilar Diaz