

April 25, 2018

Honorable Janice Hahn
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor, Fourth District
500 W. Temple Street, Room 822
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Reference: Measure "A" Funding for Wilmington

Dear Mrs. Supervisor Hahn,

On behalf of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council, we thank the Board of Supervisors for their leadership in conducting the first ever County needs assessment of existing parks to improve the quality of life for all County residents.

We are writing to inform you about the lack of accurate reporting that was submitted into what was suppose to be a Comprehensive Park & Recreation Needs Assessment. Furthermore, we are seeking funding for parks and recreation spaces that fall outside of the existing facilities identified in the needs assessment for Study Area ID #121- City of LA Wilmington-Harbor City, City of LA Port of Los Angeles. And, we respectfully request dedicated funding to be used for an updated Wilmington Comprehensive Park & Recreation Needs Assessment.

The Wilmington Neighborhood Council approves this letter to express how we strongly disagree with our community identifying in the Moderate needs category as our communities' park and recreation spaces were not properly accounted for.

- Harbor City, and Wilmington were combined for the assessment leading to skewed data and misrepresentation of true funding needs.
- Wilmington's population is around 55,000 where as the study area is a combined population of over 80,000, this leaves us unaware of Wilmington data for percentage of population living within ½ mile of a park and other park metrics.
- Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park is not within safe walking distance for most Wilmington residents, leading to a lack of community ownership for this park by the majority of Wilmington stakeholders.
- The Wilmington Waterfront Park should not have been included because it is funded and maintained by the Port of Los Angeles not the County of Los Angeles.
- Not all park and recreation facilities were included, such as; Wilmington Athletic Complex-home to Banning High School's girls softball team, Drum Barracks Park, and the Native Garden adjacent to the historic Powder Magazine.
- Park facilities were misrepresented in the count of "Amenity Quality and Condition," which did not account for some of our most worn-down park facilities.
- During the community meetings that were held to gather input and outreach, there was no Spanish translation provided and no outreach materials were given in any language.

- For publication of the community meetings the wrong address and location were on the website calendar/flyer therefore, low turnout for input.

Noteworthy things that took place during the assessment and were overlooked. Funding request could be used for these listed items.

1. The East **facilities** at our Banning Park have NOT been renovated since they were built.
2. There are poor restroom facilities and low restroom count.
3. No air conditioning in the childcare building, which operates during the hot Summer months.
4. There's no air conditioning in the **gym** which is too small, with no seating and is not ADA compliant.
5. Park lighting is out in the tennis courts and parking lots. There is dim lighting throughout the rest of the park which is not sufficient for security. This park has a large homicide assessment year after year.
6. The Banning Park West Wall (which separates the residents from the public) is falling due to overwatering by the park. For safety, there needs to be a dividing wall on the Public Parkway.
7. We have visitors from throughout the State who bring school busses of children to visit therefore, Banning Park is one of the most visited parks in the South Bay area.

We would like funding to correct the false assessment made for Wilmington's Banning Park and other parks in our community.

Supervisor Hahn, as you are well aware, Wilmington stakeholders, residents and community members are heavily inundated with industry impacts and pollution. Urban parks and large open park space is limited, *brownfields* and *superfund sites* go undeveloped and appear to be unaccounted for in potential park projects.

Additionally, we would be most grateful for the opportunity to meet in person with you and/or your staff to share some of the park amenities and conditions that did not make it into the assessment. These potential projects would benefit greatly from Measure A funding and are taxpayer recommended projects.

Respectfully,

Sylvia Arredondo, Chair
Wilmington Neighborhood Council