

Proposed motion requesting signage – George Wolfberg Park in Potrero Canyon

Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) urges the City of Los Angeles (City) and the Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) to expedite preparation and installation of signs in George Wolfberg Park in Potrero Canyon (GW Park) containing the following rules and regulations:

- No smoking
- No open flames
- No fireworks
- No camping, no campfires
- No tents or other bulky items
- Specific reference to applicable Code section/s (including LAMC Sec. 63.44)
- Hours of park operation (i.e., closed from dusk to dawn)

The preparation and installation of such signs should be expedited in order for the signs to be in place *at all park entrances and in other potential strategic locations*, in time for the publicly-announced GW Park opening on December 3, 2022.

PPCC further urges City and RAP officials to meet and confer on site as soon as possible with LAPD officers who are thoroughly familiar with conditions in our bluff and canyon areas, to determine the most strategic and effective locations for placement of such signs within GW Park (*in addition to* locating signs at all park entrances) in order to deter camping, fires and other real and potential risks to community safety. These officers should include Senior Lead Officer Brian Espin and lead Beach Detail Officer Jose Bermudez.

This motion is made with reference to the following facts and concerns:

- LAMC Sec. 63.44 prohibits the above-referenced unsafe and dangerous activities in all City parks, including GW Park, and expressly requires “No smoking” and “No open flames” signs to be posted in “conspicuous” locations.
- The Coastal Commission permit for GW Park also specifically requires signage to be posted at the “Friends St. Trailhead,” indicating “hours of operation of the park, park rules and regulations, and amenities available.”
- GW Park – as is the entirety of Pacific Palisades – is located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone (VHFHSZ).
- Based on long community experience, PPCC reasonably expects that illegal, unsafe and dangerous activities (including lighting fires and homeless camping/erecting tents or makeshift shelters in brush areas) will occur or be attempted in GW Park, just as such activities often occur in other nearby *restricted* bluff and canyon areas of Pacific Palisades.
- Posting of park rules and regulations is not only required but is necessary for LAPD and LAFD enforcement and thus is critical for the safety and security of park users, of the residential neighborhoods surrounding the canyon, and of the entire Palisades community.