

February 5, 2020

Board Member Nick Melvoin
c/o Los Angeles Unified School District
333 S. Beaudry Ave., 24th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
LAUSD Board of Education, District 4

Attn: Allison Holdorff Polhill, Chief Advisor & District Director

Dear Ms. Holdorff:

Thank you again for educating us at the September 2019 meeting of the Westchester Playa Neighborhood Council's (WPNC) Governmental Affairs Committee about the possibility of using school grounds as parks for the community under a pilot program. As you know, Westchester has a severe lack of outdoor recreation facilities - especially in the Osage and Westport Heights neighborhoods - and anything we can do to leverage existing LAUSD facilities to provide parks would be welcome by the community.

The meeting ended with your request for us to pick the best school campuses to pilot and submit this request to Nick Melvoin's office. The purpose of this letter is to let you know that the committee has decided to recommend both Open Charter School and Wish Charter School as the best school sites for the pilot program. Our recommendation went before the full Neighborhood Council Board at our regularly scheduled board meeting on February 4, 2020. The Board voted unanimously in favor of supporting our recommendation.

In October and November, 2019, the committee performed an analysis of school campuses in Westchester as well as Playa and Playa Del Rey. From our analysis, it appears that Playa Vista and Playa Del Rey are reasonably well served by parks and other outdoor recreation facilities. We looked at the recreational assets of each school (playgrounds, courts, etc.), parking, accessibility from the street and which neighborhoods could most benefit from a park. The committee concluded that the Open and Wish Charter School campuses would be the best sites to submit for Mr. Melvoin's consideration for the pilot program. They are located at 5540 W. 77th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90045 and 6550 W 80th St, Los Angeles, CA 90045 respectively. Both schools are in areas with no other public park close by and have the recreational assets that members of the community could enjoy. They both have handball courts, playgrounds and lots of ground for children to safely ride scooters and bicycles.

Our goal is to create recreational opportunities for our neighborhood that everyone can enjoy on weekends and perhaps during the summer months on weekdays. We look forward to working with Mr. Melvoin's office on this and having more neighborhood parks! Please work with Ted Grose, NCWP Government Affairs Committee chairperson, to make this a reality. He can be reached at Ted@Ted4CA.com.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Paula Gerez
President

Cc:
Honorable Councilmember Mike Bonin
200 N. Spring St. #475
Los Angeles, CA 90012