Jan 4th, 2023

Councilwoman Traci Park

Los Angeles City Council District 11

200 N Spring St #475

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Councilwoman Park,

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa (NCWP) requests that your office collaborate with County Supervisor Mitchell's office to develop a litter campaign to augment the work of the Interceptor servicing the Ballona Channel. Not enough is done to prevent trash entering waterways and flowing east toward the ocean.

The focus if this campaign would identify and implement solutions to litter sources such as: storm drains without mesh covers, the lack of trash cans near the LA river and unhoused communities, and the construction dumping (apparent during the Hyperion plant failure when giant pieces of wood with nails were found). Additional issues to be addressed via the anti-litter campaign include: trashcans without lids, allowing the wind to carry trash into waterways, and additional boom nets in Marina Del Rey, Compton Creek, and Malibu Creek .

This campaign requires collaborative education and action by the City and County. Both are necessary for the health and safety of our waterways and to ensure a successful outcome with the Interceptor. Additionally, our beaches are the jewel of our city and county, attracting millions of tourism dollars. The lack of Enforcement via fines and current programs do not address sufficiently the magnitude of this issue.

We need a multifaceted policy campaign enacted to address the origin points to stop trash and litter from entering our waterways.  Nothing is more important than the health of our residents.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know how our Neighborhood Council of Westchester / Playa can assist with this effort.

Regards,

Paula Gerez

President, Neighborhood Council Westchester/Playa

 CC: Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly Mitchell