

RIO DE LOS ANGELES STATE PARK

General Plan and Final Environmental Impact Report

Volume 2

SCH No. 2004091126

Section 3 (cont) Correspondence and Responses to letter #6



MAY 2005

California State Parks Mission:

To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high-quality outdoor recreation.



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VIA E-MAIL, FACSIMILE, & U.S. MAIL

April 29, 2005

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly
California Department of Parks and Recreation
8885 Rio San Diego Drive, Suite 270
San Diego, CA 92108
Fax: (619) 220-5400

Re: *Public Comments Related to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*

Dear Ms. Martinez-Lilly:

The Center for Law in the Public Interest and Anahuak Youth Soccer Association submit these comments to the California Department of Parks and Recreation ("Department") concerning the Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report ("General Plan/DEIR") for Rio de Los Angeles State Park ("Park").¹

I. Unit Classification, Vision Statement, and Interpretive Themes

In Section 1.1.4 of the General Plan/DEIR, the Department proposes classifying the Park as a "State Recreation Area."² The Park is a spacious area, relative to the densely-populated, highly urbanized community surrounding it. Moreover, the Park is intended to preserve outstanding natural, scenic, biological, cultural, and indigenous values (See General Plan/DEIR Section 4.4 Park Goals and Guidelines). Classifying the Park as a State Recreation Area is short-sighted because of the potential for the Park to expand over time and because ongoing efforts to restore the Los Angeles River are a strong indication that the Park will one day provide critical protection for indigenous aquatic and terrestrial fauna and flora. For these reasons, the Park should be classified as a State Park as defined in Section 5019.53 of the Public Resources Code.

6.1

¹ We incorporate by reference the public comments related to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report for Los Angeles State Historic Park, submitted to State Parks under separate cover.

² Preliminary General Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Report for Rio de Los Angeles State Park [hereinafter General Plan/DEIR] at 1-13

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly

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Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly

Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*

April 29, 2005

Page 2 of 13

Limitations on recreation in State Park units is consistent with the recreational plans for the Park as outlined in the General Plan/DEIR.

6.1
cont

In Section 4.1.2, the General Plan/DEIR sets forth the vision for the Park. One sentence in the vision appears to be incomplete (“A river community that supports riparian and upland vegetation ecosystems, flourishing along the Los Angeles River.”).³ Two sentences below, we recommend eliminating the words “another sort of visitor” so the sentence reads “The Park’s recreational appeal also entices local residents who have fought for years to ensure that what was once a blighted, industrial wasteland would be transformed into a beautiful park and enriching asset for the entire City and region.”⁴ The last segment of the sentence just quoted should say “for the entire City, region, and state.”

6.2

Under the discussion of Interpretive Themes in Section 4.4.3 of the General Plan/DEIR,⁵ it is essential that the community struggle for a State Park at Taylor Yard be included as a primary interpretive theme. In addition to learning about sustainability, natural and cultural change, transportation, Native Americans, the impact of the railroad on natural resources, and recreation, park visitors must also have the opportunity to learn about the community struggle to create the park. We recommend that the theme called “Conflict,” which addresses the impact of the railroad on natural resources at the site, be merged with the theme of Transportation.

6.3

Without the support of the community, the Park site would be an industrial development and the prospect of habitat and riparian revitalization would be a lost dream. Moreover, the community stood strong in its desire for a park that truly reflects the unique urban needs of a diverse community. The struggle for active recreation at Taylor Yard, which was ultimately resolved by the partnership between the city and state, is worthy of inclusion under the interpretive theme of recreation. It is important for visitors and community members alike to know that the Park “provides a unique place for reflection, relaxation, recreation, rejuvenation, and inspiration” because of the determination and passion of community members who were not willing to let the railyard at Taylor Yard be replaced by yet another industrial development in a neighborhood that is park-poor. Cultural Guideline 5 under Section 4.4.8 of the General Plan/DEIR (Cultural Resources)⁶ offers one important way to honor the stories and experiences of those who contributed to the site’s acquisition.

6.4

³ General Plan/DEIR at 4-1.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ *Id.* at 4-9.

⁶ *Id.* at 4-31.

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly
Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*
April 29, 2005
Page 3 of 13

II. Goals and Guidelines for the Park

One way to meet the Staffing and Maintenance Goals for the Park, discussed in Sections 4.4.10.1 and 4.4.10.2 of the General Plan/DEIR,⁷ is to work with Los Angeles Conservation Corps to train at-risk youth from the community to assist with park maintenance and programming. This would be an excellent way to serve the community, while meeting statewide goals for the Park.

6.5

The Department must invest in the communities surrounding the Park by awarding construction contracts to small business enterprises and provide local jobs for local workers. The Department should apply a certified apprenticeship program requirement for all construction contract bids. One model is the General Administration Service's National Capitol Region apprenticeship program that awards ten points on a 100-point scale to all Requests for Proposals that include a certified apprenticeship program. The Department should explore the best practices models for apprenticeship programs. By requiring apprenticeship programs from all contractors, the Department will be investing in the local workforces who are in need of decent wage paying jobs and skills in order to serve statewide recreation goals.

The General Plan/DEIR proposes to "Develop a Concession Plan that recommends potential concession opportunities in the Park."⁸ The Department must award concession opportunities to minority, and women-owned businesses, and should favor businesses located in the surrounding communities for such opportunities. LAUSD has a program for small business enterprises and local jobs for local workers that State Parks should emulate. Moreover, suggested concessions, such as an environmental library and book shop, gift shop, and guided tours, must all be culturally sensitive and must fairly represent the environmental and cultural history of the diverse communities surrounding the Park.

6.6

III. Demographic Profile

The General Plan/DEIR provides a valuable demographic profile of the community surrounding the Park. However, the list of general characteristics of the surrounding community⁹ should include another bullet point that says "Limited access to a vehicle." According to 2000 Census data, 27% of the population within a five-mile radius of the Park does not have access to a vehicle. This is a stunning figure for car-dependent Los Angeles. Communities with limited

⁷ *Id.* at 4-35 to 4-37

⁸ *Id.* at 4-36.

⁹ General Plan/DEIR at 2-51

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly

Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*

April 29, 2005

Page 4 of 13

access to a vehicle will more heavily rely on public transportation, bikeways, and pedestrian walkways to get around the city. Demographic information regarding access to a vehicle is important for planning for methods of access into the Park.

6.6
cont

IV. The Coalition for a State Park at Taylor Yard

The list of organizational members of the Coalition for a State Park at Taylor Yard appears to be missing some groups. Our records include the following organizations (elected officials omitted):

6.7

Anahuak Youth Soccer Association
Arroyo Arts Collective
CANDER
Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Center for Law in the Public Interest
Citizens Committee to Save Elysian Park
Coalition for Clean Air
Coalition LA
Concerned Citizens of South Central Los Angeles
Cypress Park Advisory Council
Cypress Park Chamber of Commerce
Divine Saviour Church Youth Group
Eagle Rock Victory Outreach
Echo Park Improvement Association
El Centro del Pueblo
Friends of Atwater Village
Friends of the Los Angeles River
Heal the Bay
LA County Bicycle Coalition
Latino Urban Forum
Lincoln Heights Neighborhood & Preservation Association
Reverend Eugene Williams and Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches
Mt. Washington Association
Natural Resources Defense Council
North East Trees
Northeast Renaissance Corp.
PLAYS (Parks for Los Angeles Youth Soccer)

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly
Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*
April 29, 2005
Page 5 of 13

- People for Parks
- Planning & Conservation League
- The Advancement Project
- Sierra Club
- Southern CA Council on Environment & Development
- St. Ann Church Youth Ministry
- St. Bernard Glassel Park Youth Ministry
- The Ad Hoc Committee for Safe Children
- The River Project
- Tree People
- United Nations Youth Organization
- Wetlands Action Network

6.7
cont

There appears to be some typos on Page 2-53 of the General Plan/DEIR under the discussion of anticipated park visitors, so we are unable to comment on this section.

6.8

V. Issues and Analysis

The following comments are in response to the Issues and Analysis discussion in Chapter 3 of the General Plan/DEIR

6.9

Under Section 3.1.2, the General Plan/DEIR focuses on the need for connectivity and cohesiveness between the two parcels that constitute the Park (Parcel D and Parcel G-1).¹⁰ However, it is equally important to discuss connectivity and cohesiveness between the Department's Parcel D and the adjacent interests, including the Parcel that will be operated by the City of Los Angeles. The General Plan/DEIR should include the Project Concept Statement for Taylor Yard, issued by the Department and the City of Los Angeles in November 2003, which says "Develop a seamless park design that fulfils the mission statements of the state and the city for the benefit of all stakeholders in a sustainable manner." Moreover, the General Plan/DEIR should describe how the city and state interests will be connected to eliminate the possibility of physical or figurative barriers between different areas.

Under Section 3.3, Access and Transportation,¹¹ we recommend that parking facilities at the Park be limited to make the optimal use of natural space and recreation at the Park. The Department

6.10

¹⁰ General Plan at 3-2.

¹¹ *Id.* at 3-3 to 3-4

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly
Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*
April 29, 2005
Page 6 of 13

should provide parking off-site, and shuttle service to the Park. The shuttle service would provide one more opportunity for the Department to link visitors to Los Angeles State Historic Park, Rio de Los Angeles State Park, El Pueblo, and other environmental, recreation, and cultural resources through the Heritage Parkscape in the heart of downtown Los Angeles. See our 2004 Policy Report on *The Cornfield and the Flow of History: People, Place, and Culture*, submitted to State Parks at the Cornfield Project Workshop in April 2004, and incorporated by reference here.

6.10
cont

Under Section 3.5.1, Diversity Over Time, the General Plan/DEIR presents the following issue: "A plethora of stories related to changing land use patterns over the course of the last two centuries needs to be integrated into park development, design, and programming."¹² It is necessary to incorporate the community struggle to stop industrial development on the site in order to create the Park, into the discussion of "changing land use patterns," as discussed above.

6.11

Under Section 3.5.2 Local Ethnic Diversity,¹³ it is important to restate the need for signage in multiple languages and culturally sensitive and inclusive programming, as discussed elsewhere in the General Plan/DEIR. Moreover, the General Plan/DEIR on page 3-7 suggests the "Park need to be a safe and inviting location, and it needs to be sensitive to the needs of the ethnically diverse local community as well as statewide interests. To this end, the Department should ensure that a wide range of activities, attracting these diverse cultures, are encouraged to take place in a welcoming and safe environment." Members of the community representing the diversity of the surrounding community can help the Department develop appropriate activities that will attract people to the park, keep the park safe, and be culturally sensitive.

6.12

VI. High Speed Rail

The General Plan/DEIR does not address potential impacts of the proposed High Speed Rail on the Park. The Department recognized in its comments regarding the California High Speed Train Draft Program Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement that the High Speed Rail will have adverse environmental justice impacts on the Park. Specifically, the Department noted:

6.13

Proposed alternative HST corridors impacting both the Taylor Yard and Cornfield properties clearly raise the environmental justice issue.

¹² *Id.* at 3-6
¹³ *Id.*

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly

Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*

April 29, 2005

Page 7 of 13

The children of the Cornfield/Taylor Yard community are disproportionately low income children of color. The community within a five mile radius of the Cornfield is 68% Latino, 14% Asian, 11% non-Hispanic white, and 4% African-American with thirty percent of the population below poverty level as compared to 14% for the State of California as a whole. Within five miles of the Cornfield there are 282,967 children and 235,000 children within five miles of Taylor Yard.

Yet, to serve this population, Los Angeles has fewer acres of parks per thousand residents than any major city in the United States, having less than one acre of park per thousand residents. The National Recreation and Park Association standard is ten acres per thousand population. Compare this standard to the 0.9 acres per thousand in the community surrounding Cornfield and the 0.3 acres of parks per thousand residents surrounding Taylor Yard (one of the least park-served areas in Los Angeles) with the 1.7 acres in disproportionately white and relatively wealthy parts of Los Angeles.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation recognizes that the Greater Los Angeles Region is an area that is under-served in regard to park facilities and that many of the area's residents, particularly those least able to afford it, are either unaware of, or feel isolated from, state and federal parklands and recreational facilities. This Department on behalf of the people of the State of California has invested \$78,000,000 in the purchase of the Taylor Yard/Cornfield properties in this decade specifically to address these disparities. **This effort will be undone unless alternative routing or a fully subterranean system is chosen to bypass all impacts to these properties.**

Comments submitted by Ruth Coleman, Director, California Department of Parks and Recreation, August 19, 2004 (emphasis added).

The Center for Law in the Public Interest has submitted comments in opposition to any high speed rail that would adversely impact the communities surrounding Taylor Yard and the Cornfield, and other environmental justice communities throughout the state.¹⁴

¹⁴ Public Comments submitted by the Center for Law in the Public Interest on the Draft Program EIR/EIS for the California High Speed Train (Aug 31, 2004), available at <http://www.clipj.org/pdt/comments-highspeed.pdf>.

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Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly
Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*
April 29, 2005
Page 8 of 13

The General Plan/DEIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park should re-emphasize these concerns about the High Speed Rail, to underscore the importance of coordinating Park development with any rail line development

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cont

VII. Important Planning Influences

The General Plan/EIR fails to mention the Department's own *Five Views: An Ethnic Historic Site Survey for California* and other important planning resources in Section 2.2 of the General Plan/DEIR, which lists systemwide and regional planning influences for the Park.¹⁵

6.14

Five Views (discussed more fully below in Part VIII.B of these public comments) must be one of the Department's Planning Influences, discussed in Section 2.2 of the General Plan/DEIR.

In addition to *Five Views*, Section 2.2. should include a discussion of state and federal civil rights and environmental justice statutes and the Integrated Resources Plan for Los Angeles.

6.15

Title VI of the Civil Rights of 1964 and its implementing regulations prohibit both intentional discrimination based on race, color or national origin, and unjustified discriminatory impacts for which there are less discriminatory alternatives, by applicants for or recipients of federal funds, including the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the City of Los Angeles. Title VI provides: "No person in the United States shall on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."¹⁶

The regulations that every federal agency has enacted pursuant to Title VI bar criteria or methods of administration by recipients of federal funds that have the effect of subjecting persons to discrimination because of their race, color, or national origin, or have the effect of defeating or substantially impairing accomplishment of the objectives of a program with respect to individuals of a particular race, color, or national origin. An important purpose of the statutory schemes is to assure that recipients of public funds not maintain policies or practices that result in racial discrimination.

¹⁵ See General Plan/DEIR at 2-43 to 2-50

¹⁶ 42 U.S.C. § 2000d (2004). The Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution also prohibits intentional discrimination. See also Section 1983 of the Civil Rights Act of 1871.

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly
Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*
April 29, 2005
Page 9 of 13

California law also prohibits intentional discrimination and unjustified discriminatory impacts under Government Code section 11135¹⁷ by recipients of state funds, including the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the City of Los Angeles.

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In addition, California law defines environmental justice as "the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies."¹⁸

For the first time in the history of Los Angeles, over 100 community leaders have joined Los Angeles City engineers and planners to develop an Integrated Resources Plan (IRP)—that is, alternatives for wastewater, stormwater, and recycled water infrastructure for the year 2020 and beyond. The IRP reflects the community's very strong desire for clean urban and stormwater runoff and reuse of this resource within the basin, locally, and regionally.¹⁹ The IRP is directly related to efforts to restore the Los Angeles River, and should be included in Section 2.2 of the General Plan/DEIR for the Park.

6.16

VIII. State Parks in Urban Los Angeles

Full and fair public participation and public disclosure surrounding the Park, ongoing community meetings to guide the development and design of the Park, and monthly or quarterly community meeting once the Park is opened to shape Park programming and meet the goals of the Park as outlined in the General Plan/DEIR, are all necessary to maintain and build upon the positive relationship the Department has started to build with the community.

6.17

The Department's presence in urban Los Angeles and has been marked by challenge, and the General Plan/DEIR for the Park must not lose sight of these struggles, for they are a critical part of the story of Rio de Los Angeles State Park.

¹⁷ See Cal Gov. Code § 11135 *et seq.*; 22 CCR § 9810.

¹⁸ Cal. Gov. Code § 65040.12 The Governor's Office of Planning and Research is currently working on implementing this code section

¹⁹ City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation, Integrated Resources Plan: Partners in Planning for 2020 and Beyond, Newsletter (Spring 2004)

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly

Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*

April 29, 2005

Page 10 of 13

A. El Pueblo de Los Angeles

6.18

El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historic Monument encompasses the oldest section of Los Angeles.²⁰ El Pueblo includes the Plaza built between 1818 and 1824; La Placita, the first Catholic Church in Los Angeles; the tourist attraction Olvera Street; and a total of 27 historic buildings.²¹ The original Pueblo de Nuestra Señora la Reina de Los Angeles was founded by a diverse group of settlers, Los Pobladores, along the Los Angeles River in 1781. Los Pobladores included 44 Spanish, Native American, Black, mestizo and mulatto settlers, and four Spanish soldiers. See materials on Los Pobladores and Gabrielino/Togva Indians (Tab A). The original Pueblo covered about 28 square miles and included the area east across the River now known as Boyle Heights and Lincoln Heights.²² In the early days of statehood after 1850, El Pueblo entered a period of vigilante justice imbued with racial, ethnic, and class overtones, particularly against lower class Mexicans. Vigilante groups called the Los Angeles Rangers and the El Monte Rangers lynched 15 Mexicans in 1857.²³

In 1953, the State committed to preserve El Pueblo and its history through a state historic park. However, in the 1990's, the State of California abandoned El Pueblo, leaving the City to run and operate the Monument. By abandoning the Monument, the State withdrew considerable resources that were and are needed to restore and develop the historic buildings. The State failed to deliver on its promise to operate a State Historic Park in the heart of Los Angeles. The State must never walk away from its commitment to the people of Los Angeles again.

B. Five Views: An Ethnic Historic Site Survey for California

Five Views: An Ethnic Historic Site Survey for California was originally conceived in order to broaden the spectrum of ethnic community participation in historic preservation activities and to provide better information on ethnic history and associated sites. This information will help

²⁰ See generally Robert Garcia et al., *The Cornfield and the Flow of History: People, Place, and Culture*, Center for Law in the Public Interest (2004).

²¹ See generally Jean Bruce Poole and Tevvy Ball, *El Pueblo: The Historic Heart of Los Angeles* (2002); *El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park General Plan* (1981).

²² The Pueblo included the area between what is today Exposition Boulevard on the south, Fountain Avenue on the north, Hoover Street on the west and Indiana Avenue on the east. Blake Gumprecht, *The Los Angeles River: Its Life, Death, and Possible Rebirth* at 311 n.12 (2001).

²³ Carey Williams, *Southern California: An Island on the Land* 60-61 (1973); Jean Bruce Poole and Tevvy Ball, *El Pueblo: The Historic Heart of Los Angeles* (2002); *El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park General Plan* 26-27 (1981).

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly
Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*
April 29, 2005
Page 11 of 13

planners identify and evaluate ethnic properties, which have generally been under represented on historic property surveys.²⁴

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cont

Five Views is an excellent study of the historic tales of California's people of color. It documents the history of American Indians, Blacks, Mexican Americans, Chinese Americans, and Japanese Americans in California.

This report was issued in 1988, and unfortunately it still has not been implemented by the Department. The Department must make a commitment to represent the ethnic diversity and the contributions that have been made to our collective heritage by Californians of widely differing backgrounds at Rio de Los Angeles State Park and at other State Park facilities, including the new Los Angeles State Historic Park.

C. Active Recreation at Taylor Yard

The State did the right thing by creating a community advisory committee by statute to guide the development of Los Angeles State Historic Park. Unfortunately, a similar community advisory committee was not established for Rio de Los Angeles. The Department first began planning for the Park without community participation and without regard for the importance of a park that meets the needs of a diverse community, including active and passive recreation.

6.19

D. Corn Growing Project at Los Angeles State Historic Park

At a time when the Department was beginning to properly engage with the community in the park planning process, the Department betrayed the community and the vision of Los Angeles State Historic Park by failing to involve the community in discussions about the proposal to grow corn at the Los Angeles State Historic Park with Lauren Bon and the Annenberg Foundation. It is unacceptable for the Department and elected officials to have attempted to bypass the community and the Cornfield Advisory Committee during this process. The Los Angeles State Historic Park was created through the efforts and sacrifices of a dedicated community that is tired of being short-changed in the allocation of public resources.

6.20

In light of these recent events, and with El Pueblo, *Five Views*, and the Struggle for Active Recreation at Taylor Yard in recent memory, we stress in the strongest possible terms the need for continued public participation in the decision making process to determine the future of Rio

²⁴ California Department of Parks and Recreation, Office of Historic Preservation, *Five Views An Ethnic Historic Site Survey for California* 1988.

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly
Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*
April 29, 2005
Page 12 of 13

de Los Angeles State Park. The last thing the community wants is to be blindsided again by an Annenberg-like proposal or other new plan for the Río de Los Angeles State Park site. *See* letter to Assemblymember Jackie Goldberg from Anahuak Youth Soccer Association (Tab B). We encourage frequent communication with the community that is forthcoming throughout the park planning process so that the mistakes made with Los Angeles State Historic Park are not repeated here.

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cont

IX. Conclusion

Los Angeles is park poor, with fewer acres of parks per resident than any major city in the country. All communities suffer from the lack of parks and recreation, but low-income people of color suffer first and worst. There are unfair disparities in access to parks, playgrounds, beaches, and recreation based on race, ethnicity, and class. Inspired by a collective vision for a comprehensive and coherent web of parks, playgrounds, schools, beaches, and transportation that serves the diverse needs of diverse users and reflects the cultural urban landscape, the Center for Law in the Public Interest, Anahuak Youth Soccer Association and our colleagues in the urban park movement are addressing park and recreation inequities and greening Los Angeles. This is part of a broader vision for distributing the benefits and burdens of public resources in ways that are equitable, protect human health and the environment, promote economic vitality for all, and engage full and fair public participation in the decision making process.

6.21

The struggle for the Río de Los Angeles State Park demonstrates how the urban park movement in Los Angeles is building community and diversifying democracy from the ground up and giving people a sense of their own power in deciding the future of their city, their lives, and their children's lives. The urban park movement is making Los Angeles a greener, more just, and more sustainable community for all. With the creation of Río de Los Angeles State Historic Park, the Department will help provide recreational, cultural, educational, and economic benefits to a deserving community for the entire region and state to enjoy.

Ms. Dianna Martinez-Lilly

Re: *Public Comments Relating to the Preliminary General Plan and Draft EIR for Rio de Los Angeles State Park*

April 29, 2005

Page 13 of 13

Respectfully Submitted,

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LOS POBLADORES

The Founders of the City of Los Angeles

El Pueblo de la Reina de Los Angeles sobre El Río de la Porciúncula was founded near this site on or about September 4, 1781 as the first Spanish civilian settlement in Southern California. Eleven families, including twenty-two adults and twenty-two children, were recruited from the Provinces of Sinaloa and Sonora in New Spain, now called Mexico, by Captain Fernando de Rivera y Moncada, emissary of the Governor of California Felipe de Neve. Their task was to provide food for the soldiers of the presidios and to help secure Spain's hold on this region. They included farmers, artisans, and stock raisers necessary for the survival of the settlement. Escorted by soldiers they departed Los Alamos, Sonora on February 2, 1781 and arrived in several groups during the summer of 1781. The following list of the forty-four pobladores was taken from the official Spanish Census of 1781 which recorded their names, race, sex and age:

CAMERO				QUINTERO			
Manuel	<u>Mulato</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	30	Luis	<u>Negro</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	55
María Tomasa	<u>Mulata</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	24	María Petra	<u>Mulata</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	40
				María Gertrudis		<u>Niña</u>	16
				María Concepcion		<u>Niña</u>	9
				María Tomasa		<u>Niña</u>	7
LARA				María Rafaela		<u>Niña</u>	6
José Fernando	<u>Español</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	50	José Clemente		<u>Niño</u>	3
María Antonia	<u>India</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	23				
María Juana		<u>Niña</u>	6	ROSAS			
José Julian		<u>Niño</u>	4	Basilio	<u>Indio</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	67
María Faustina		<u>Niña</u>	2	María Manuela	<u>Mulata</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	43
				José Máximo		<u>Niño</u>	15
MESA				José Carlos		<u>Niño</u>	12
Antonio	<u>Negro</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	38	María Josefa		<u>Niña</u>	8
María Ana	<u>Mulata</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	27	Antonio Rosalino		<u>Niño</u>	7
María Paula		<u>Niña</u>	10	José Marcelino		<u>Niño</u>	4
Antonio María		<u>Niño</u>	8	José Estebán		<u>Niño</u>	2
				ROSAS			
MORENO				Alejandro	<u>Indio</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	19
José	<u>Mulato</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	22	Juana María	<u>India</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	20
María Guadalupe	<u>Mulata</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	19				
				VANEGAS			
NAVARRO -				José	<u>Indio</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	28
José Antonio	<u>Mestizo</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	42	María Bonifacia	<u>India</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	20
María Regina	<u>Mulata</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	47	Cosme Damien		<u>Niño</u>	1
José Eduardo		<u>Niño</u>	10				
José Clemente		<u>Niño</u>	9	VILLAVICENCIO			
Mariana		<u>Niña</u>	4	Antonio Clemente	<u>Español</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	30
				María Seferina	<u>India</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	26
RODRIGUEZ				María Antonia		<u>Niña</u>	8
Pablo	<u>Indio</u>	<u>Hombre</u>	25				
María Rosalía	<u>India</u>	<u>Mujer</u>	26				
María Antonia		<u>Niña</u>	1				

The pobladores (settlers/founders) ranged in age from one to sixty-seven and reflected the cultural heritage and racial diversity that link the city's past to the present.
Dedicated September 4, 1981 Los Angeles Bicentennial Committee

<http://www.lmu.edu/pages/5460.asp>
7/06/04

Gabriellno/Tongva Indians: the First Angelinos Outdoor Memorial and Library Exhibit

The Tongva Memorial

The Tongva Memorial is located on the Leavey Campus, just west of the O'Malley Residence Hall on the bluff side of LMU Drive. The memorial serves several purposes. First and foremost, it is a tribute to the people who were the original settlers of the Los Angeles basin. Second, it memorializes the two archaeological sites that were destroyed during the development of the Leavey Campus, as well as the other seventeen known Tongva sites along the Westchester bluffs and Ballona wetlands. Third, it is a place where one can quietly think, meditate, or simply enjoy the panoramic view of the Santa Monica Bay and the Santa Monica Mountains. Finally, it is a place to learn more about the first Angelinos and some of the plants they used. The memorial opened on April 28, 2000 with a Tongva Indian blessing ceremony.

The memorial site consists of three concentric circles. The outer circle/walkway of decomposed granite has a series of boulders located around it with timeline plaques attached to the boulders.

Tongva History Timeline

Year	Historical Event
1542	First contact is made by Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo of Spain.
1602	Sebastian Vizcalno arrives with Catholic priests.
1769	Don Gaspar de Portola arrives with Father Crespi. Crespi begins his diary.
1770	Father Junipero Serra arrives from Spain via Mexico to establish the first missions
1771	Fathers Somera and Cambon arrive. Missions San Gabriel and San Fernando are founded, and the name "Gabriellno" is born.
1781	El ciudad de la reina de los angeles (Los Angeles) is founded. Tongva Indians already living there call it "Yangna."
1785	San Gabriel Mission Indians stage a revolt against the Spanish. Led by a female chief, Toy Purina, the revolt is soon crushed by the Spanish. All Indians who participated in the revolt are either killed or exiled to Santa Barbara Island.
1824	Mexico gains independence from Spain. Mexican culturalization of Gabriellno/Tongva Indian continues. Many Indian religious rites, customs, and languages (dialects) are lost.
1833	Missions are secularized and indians are left to work on rancherias owned by Spanish soldiers and noblemen. In as little as two hundred years, a great and caring indian culture has been almost

	virtually destroyed.
1850	Few full blooded Gabrielino/Tongva Indians remain. Some intermarry with the Spanish. Some cultural artifacts of the tribe survive, such as clamshell bead money, waterproof baskets, steatite jewelry, cooking vessels, bowls, and pipes.
1900	Tribal elders struggle to keep the old traditions alive, continually meeting as a tribe in San Gabriel and Los Angeles.
1994	The Gabrielino/Tongva Indians are recognized as the indigenous people of Los Angeles by the city of San Gabriel and the state of California.

Directional Plaques

The memorial's middle circle consists of four stone benches oriented to the cardinal directions. On the inside portion of the benches are special plaques recognizing the Tongva Indians' history and spirituality:

- **Mother Earth:** We are the caretakers of the land. It is our duty as caretakers to treat Mother Earth with kindness and respect. We must cultivate with care, always keeping in mind that Mother Earth is the giver of all life with her waters, rocks, trees, plants and animals. (north)
- **Grandfather Sky (Creator):** We give thanks and pray to our Creator for the very air we breathe, for the food that we eat, and the land that we live upon. We cannot ever own the land. Rather, the land owns us. Thank you Creator for all that You have given us. Grandfather Sky, we ask for Your guidance in all that we do. Please bless our time here until we return, once again to you. (west)
- **The Legend of Torovim:** A Tongva Chieftian was being pursued by an enemy tribe somewhere in Topanga - Where the Mountains meet the Sea. He came to a cliff. Rather than submit to his captors, he dove into the sea. As he fell, he changed into the Dolphin, or Torovim, our brother of the ocean. He now swims around the world, staying ever vigilant and alert to ensure the safety of our people. It is his duty as caretaker of the ocean. And, when the Torovim is no more, our people will cease to be. (east)
- **The Tongva People** have lived in the Los Angeles basin for hundreds of years and continue to do so. Two thousand years ago native people worked and lived where you are now standing. Further east along the bluff was another village site that native people used from about 900 years ago to the time the Spanish arrived. Some of the typical material cultural items are displayed in an exhibit case in the library. (south)

Memorial Centerpiece

The paved flagstone inner circle and centerpiece of the memorial is a large concrete medallion designed especially for the site by Mathew Dorame, a Los Angeles area artist and Tongva/Gabrielino Indian. The legend of Torovim is represented by dolphins, a sacred animal to the Tongva people, swimming around a map of the western hemisphere.

Native Plants

A small ethnobotanic garden accompanies the memorial. The outside of the outer circle and between the outer and middle circles contain plants that the native peoples used in their daily lives.

Plant's Common Name	Use by Tongva	Garden Location
White sage	Religious, purification	Inner circle
Purple sage	Medicinal	Inner circle
California buckwheat	Medicinal	South garden
California lilac	Basketry; soap	North garden
Chia	Medicinal	West garden
Deer grass	Basketry	Garden entry
Lemonade berry	Food source	South garden
Manzanita	Medicinal	Garden entry
Toyon	Wooden implements	West garden
Yarrow	Medicinal	Outer circle
Yucca	Twine; rope	Outer circle boulders

Tongva History

At the time the Spanish arrived in this area, the Tongva people (people of the Earth) occupied most of what is now Los Angeles County and part of northern Orange County. The channel islands of Santa Catalina, San Clemente, San Nicholas, and Santa Barbara were part of their territory.

For thousands of years, the Tongva Nation had a vital and thriving civilization with a working government, legal system, religion, music, dance, art, cultural exchange and monetary system. Because of the long distances between tribal settlements, each Tongva village was led by its own chief. All of the village chiefs reported directly to a central chief who was responsible for the welfare of all the Tongva people. The Tongva lived as hunter-gatherers, eating nuts, berries, sage, seafood and small game. The Tongva travelled to Santa Catalina and other channel islands by plank canoe.

After the establishment of the Spanish Mission system, coastal native peoples, such as the Tongva, were brought to the missions to provide the requisite labor. Over time the original names of the native groups dropped out of the historical record and the general term "Mission Indians" or the name of the mission was applied and thus the Tongva are known in most of the literature of today as the Gabrielinos. However, the people refer to themselves as Tongva or Gabrielino/Tongva. Before the arrival of the Spanish, the Tongva population was estimated at 200,000 people. By the end of the mid-18th century that total had dwindled to 70,000, and by the late 1800s only 6,000 Tongva remained.

The Tongva people continue to live in the Los Angeles area. Today tribal elders struggle to keep alive the old traditions, regularly meeting as a tribe in San Gabriel

and Los Angeles. They have a tribal saying, "We have always been here, we are still here, and we will always be here." ✓

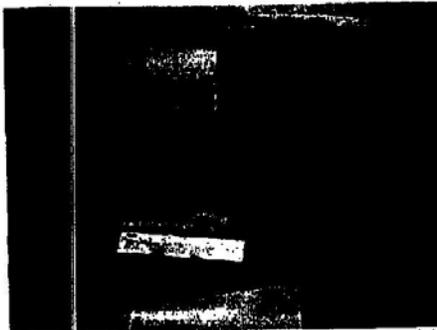
Archaeological Background

Located on the bluffs overlooking the Ballona wetlands and Santa Monica Bay in the "Leavey Campus" area of Loyola Marymount University there were two village sites of the people who first lived here. Analysis of data collected during excavations of the sites prior to development as well as collected during the monitoring of the grading operations, indicated people lived here in seasonal villages from approximately 1,000 B.C. to 1,000 A.D. Although the two sites were officially known to archaeologists as LAN61A and LAN61B, workers soon began calling LAN61A "Marymount" and LAN61B "Loyola."

The researchers concluded that "the artifactual material from Loyola Marymount is typical of virtually any California coastal Indian site dating to around 1,000 B.C. or thereafter. Groundstone items, for instance, are dominated by the usual manos, metates, mortars, and pestles. However, the groundstone collection did include both a doscoidal from "Loyola" and a rare five-pointed cogstone from "Marymount," both of which would normally be regarded as artifacts of more considerable antiquity. Nevertheless, the bulk of our chronological data indicate that neither site was occupied prior to about 1,000 B.C." (p.240, Van Horn and Murray, 1985).

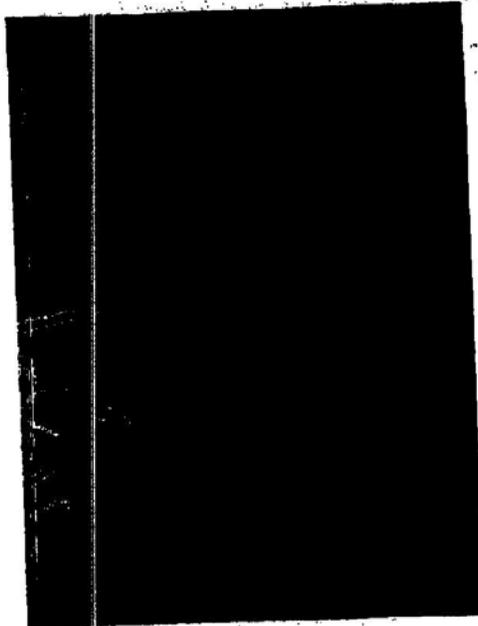
Researchers further state that "In some ways, the collection from Loyola Marymount is most notable for what it lacks. Most remarkable, in our judgement, is the complete lack of marine shell artifacts. This includes not only fishhooks but marine shell ornaments as well....Rather, we believe that the Loyola and Marymount deposits prove that large-scale marine shell bead manufacture was a late development which did not take place until well after 1,000 A.D." (p.242, Van Horn and Murray, 1985).

Projectile points from the site are somewhat atypical of Southern California coastal peoples. Van Horn argued that the appearance of the "Marymount" point style can be viewed as evidence of Shoshonean occupation of the coastal area sometime after 500 A.D. (p.35, Van Horn, 1990).



Library Exhibit

Accompanying the outdoor memorial is an exhibit in the Charles Von der Ahe Library on the lower level in the atrium. The exhibit recounts the history of the Tongva with early photographs and more recent photographs of current Tongva/Gabrielino tribe members living in the Los Angeles area. Visitors to the exhibit will also see cultural artifacts from the archaeological site: a mortar, stone tools including knives and manos, and pendants and beads. A key to the ethnobotanic garden lists the botanic names with specimen plant color photos. The exhibit is open all hours the library is open. Visitors to the library register at the lobby information station.



Gabrielino/Tongva Bibliography

This 60-page bibliography compiled at LMU in 2002 brings together publications about the Gabrielino/Tongva Nation of Southern California. It includes citations for books, periodical and newspaper articles, dissertations, and government documents, and covers the Nation's rich history from prehistoric times to the present. Of the 556 items listed, the library has 476 items and the bibliography notes where items can be located if not at LMU. We believe the LMU Gabrielino/Tongva holdings are among the most comprehensive in Southern California. Funding for the project came from LMU and private parties. ✓

The bibliography is inspired by Mary La Lone's *Gabrielino Indians of Southern California: An Annotated Ethnohistoric Bibliography*, and continues where she left off in 1976. Her bibliography contained 182 items, all of which are included in this volume as well as 374 items post-1976.

The 2002 Gabrielino/Tongva Bibliography in a comb-binding is available for \$15.00 plus \$1.04 in Los Angeles County sales tax. Send your letter of request with check or money order made payable to Loyola Marymount University to:

Friends of the Library
Charles Von der Ahe Library
Loyola Marymount University
One LMU Drive, MS8200
Los Angeles, CA 90045-2659

Be sure to include the name and address of the requestor. Allow 3 to 4 weeks for delivery by U.S. mail.



April 13, 2005

VIA FAX

Jackie Goldberg, Assemblymember
State of California
District Office
106 North Avenue 56
Los Angeles, CA 90042

Dear Assemblymember Goldberg,

The March meeting you facilitated at the LA River Center regarding the Cornfield Annenberg Public Art Project has raised concerns regarding process and notice.

As you know, we pride ourselves in having open, honest and timely communication with the ANAHUAK family and its supporters. To maintain our credibility and good standing in the community, we need to be kept apprised of all matters regarding Taylor Yard. This is not the time for surprises of any kind. All of us worked very hard to make this dream become a reality and our goal is to witness the realization of our dream.

ANAHUAK is requesting to be kept fully informed about all matters pertaining to Taylor Yard.

We appreciate your efforts on our behalf.

Sincerely,

Raul Mañas
President/Founder
ANAHUAK

cc: Robert Garcia, CPLI
Erica Flores Baltodano, CPLI
Sean Woods, State Parks
Irma Munoz, Mujeres de la Tierra

RESPONSE TO LETTER 6

Robert Garcia and Erica Flores Baltodano, Center for Law in the Public Interest

Raul Macias, Anahuak Youth Soccer Association

April 29, 2005

6.1 The PRC (5019.50) provides several classifications for State Park System units. The two most appropriate options that were considered include State Recreation Area and State Park. At this time the park is not considered spacious, nor does it contain significant or outstanding resource values or represent a significant example of one of California's ecological regions. In addition, the limited acreage and the disconnection between the two parcels, which are severed by an active railway line and multiple private properties, the State Park classification is not appropriate. However, in the future if additional property is acquired and the restoration of the Los Angeles River progresses, a General Plan Amendment and EIR update may be appropriate, at which time, the Department could revisit the classification. The Department is requesting RLASP be classified as a State Recreation Area. The Public Resources Code describes the classifications as follows:

5019.56(a) State Recreation Areas (SRA) units are areas selected, developed, and operated to provide outdoor recreational opportunities. SRA's provide multiple recreational opportunities to meet other than purely local needs. The areas shall be selected for having terrain capable of withstanding extensive human impact and for their proximity to large population centers, major routes of travel, or proven recreational resources such as manmade or natural bodies of water. Areas containing ecological, geological, scenic, or cultural resources of significant value shall be preserved within the recreation area. Improvements may be undertaken to provide for recreational activities, including, but not limited to, camping, etc. Improvement to provide for urban or indoor-formalized recreational activities shall not be undertaken within state recreation areas.

5019.53(a) State Parks (SP) units consist of relatively spacious areas of outstanding scenic or natural character, oftentimes also containing significant historical, archaeological, ecological,

geological, or other similar values. The purpose of state parks shall be to preserve outstanding natural, scenic, and cultural values, indigenous aquatic and terrestrial fauna and flora, and the most significant examples of ecological regions of California. Each state park shall be managed as a composite whole in order to restore, protect, and maintain its native environmental complexes to the extent compatible with the primary purpose for which the park was established.

- 6.2** The Department has amended text on pages 4-1 and 4-2 of the General Plan/EIR in response to comment 6.2. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.
- 6.3** The Interpretive Themes in **Section 4.4.3** provide general direction for the park while avoiding specific details in each thematic category. The **“Conflict and Transportation Themes”** will be further developed when funding is secured to proceed with an Interpretive Prospectus and Natural/Cultural Surveys which will allow the Department to explore and gather data to strengthen future interpretive programming.
- 6.4** The Department has amended text on page 4-20 of the General Plan/EIR to reflect comment 6.4. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.
- 6.5** With regard to awarding construction contracts to small business enterprises and providing local jobs for local workers, the Department is mandated to grant preference to proposers properly certified as small businesses as defined in Title 2, Section 1896, et seq., California Code of Regulations by the Office of Small Business Certification and Resources. The Department is held accountable for the same guidelines when bidding and awarding concession contracts (Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Chapter 3, Section 4400).
- 6.6** The Department has amended text on pages 2-50 and 2-51 of the General Plan/EIR in response to comment 6.6. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.
- 6.7** The Department has amended text on pages 2-52 of the General Plan/EIR in response to comment 6.7. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.

6.8 The Department has amended text on page 2-53 of the General Plan/EIR in response to comment 6.8. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.

6.9 The General Plan/EIR describes a transition plan on page 4-6, **4.3.3 Transitional Open Space Element**, to eliminate the physical or figurative barriers between the components of Parcel D.

The Department has amended text on page 3-2 of the General Plan/EIR in response to comment 6.9. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.

6.10 The plan addresses limiting the use of parking on page 3-4 in the **Issues and Analysis Section**: “The limited amount of Park area and the intent of Park planners and other stakeholders to maximize recreation open space indicate that the land area for parking is at a premium. Land set aside for onsite parking will be competing with potential recreation uses.” In addition, **Access Guideline 4** on page 4-46 proposes to minimize onsite parking and vehicular circulation within the Park to allow for maximum open space and visitor-serving activity areas.

6.11 The Department has amended text on page 3-6 of the General Plan/EIR in response to comment 6.11. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.

6.12 The plan addresses the need for signage in multiple languages in **Section 4.4.3 Education and Interpretation, Interpretation Guidelines 14 and 28** and in **Section 4.4.10 Facilities** section. Chapter 4 also includes guidelines that involve coordinating with the surrounding community (**Section, 4.3.4 Interpretive Element, 4.4.3 Education Interpretation, and 4.4.4 Cohesiveness/Connectivity**).

6.13 **Access Guideline 9** in Section 4.4.11 of the General Plan/EIR recommends coordination with appropriate local, regional, state and other applicable authorities regarding any future impacts on the Park from potential future development of high speed use in rail rights-of-way adjacent to the Park. The Department has amended text on page 2-49 of the General Plan/EIR in response to comment 6.13. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.

6.14 The Department has amended text on page 2-50 of the General Plan/EIR in response to comment 6.14. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.

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- 6.15** Comment noted. The Department adheres to all laws and regulations pertaining to state and federal mandates.
- 6.16** The Department has amended text on page 2-49 of the General Plan/EIR in response to comment 6.16. Refer to Chapter 4 for changes to the text.
- 6.17** Thank you for your comments regarding future inclusive planning with community participation. The Department has encouraged public participation in the planning process and will continue to do so as the park development proceeds. The Department has outlined several guidelines to implement processes to include partners in the development of the Park. Please see **Section 4.5.1 Partnerships and Outreach** (page 4-47), **Section 4.4.10.4 Safety/Security, Safety 4** (page 4-38), **Section 4.4.10 Park Operations, Staffing-Support 2** (page 4-36), and **Section 4.4.5 Recreation Opportunities**, (page 4-26).
- 6.18** The Department concurs that *El Pueblo de Los Angeles and Five Views: An Ethnic Historic Site Survey for California* provides a framework and valuable information regarding the history of California and the region and will be a significant and valuable interpretive tool. When funding becomes available for an in-depth cultural survey and Interpretive Prospectus of Parcel D and G-1, a more detailed analysis will be the framework for future programming for the Park. The Department will represent the ethnic diversity that shaped the land over the centuries as outlined in Chapter 4 in the Preliminary General Plan/Draft EIR for RLASP.
- 6.19** Refer to response to comment 6.17, and **Section 2.2.6 Public Concerns and Comments**, and **Section 5.9 Public Comments** in the General Plan/EIR regarding the public outreach process that was undertaken for this project. As indicated, an advisory committee was not established for this project.
- 6.20** The proposed Annenberg Project is not associated with this General Plan/EIR. Please see response to comment 6.19 above regarding the need for continued public participation in the decision making process to determine the Park's future.
- 6.21** Comment noted.