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LOS FELIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
"Your Neighborhood. Your Voice. Your Council"



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July 20, 2016

Mr. Michael A. Shull, General Manager
Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
Via Email: Michael.Shull@lacity.org

Re: Griffith Observatory Circulation and
Parking Enhancement Plan

Dear Mr. Shull:

The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council writes to offer our support for the Griffith Observatory Circulation and Parking Enhancement Plan.

The largest urban park in the country, containing some of our region's most-visited tourist destinations, Griffith Park is accessible almost entirely only by driving through Los Feliz. As LA continues to see record numbers of visitors every year, our neighborhood is feeling this change acutely, with our otherwise quiet residential streets now regularly backed up for blocks by cars attempting to enter and exit Griffith Park. Further, we have seen first-hand the difficulty for cars trying to move and park in Griffith Park.

We are grateful to Mr. Joe Salaices for his efforts to tackle this vexing challenge. No solution is perfect; however, Mr. Salaices has not only offered possible solutions, he has also listened to and incorporated concerns from the community along the way. As a result, Griffith Park is now poised to provide substantially improved access via public transit without unnecessarily closing park roads to private traffic and while still maintaining one of the park's most popular hiking and biking trails. Mr. Salaices heard our community's concerns around the proposed change to traffic flow along Western Canyon Road, and the Plan now keeps this important access road as a two-way street. Further, Mr. Salaices heard our community's concerns around motorized vehicles along Mt. Hollywood Drive, which currently is accessible only to people walking or biking, and the Plan now keeps this path closed to traffic.

By utilizing new parking revenues to provide substantially-improved transit connectivity to Griffith Park, the Plan provides Angelenos and the myriad tourists who visit Griffith Park every day with a reliable, useful alternative to driving through our neighborhoods. We do request as a condition of our support that, in order to be a useful alternative to driving, the new DASH service operate on 15-20 minute intervals and that it have hours of operation covering the entirety of the Observatory's operating hours, at a minimum.

No solution is perfect, and we expect that there will still need to be additional efforts to provide improved access to Griffith Observatory and the Park, but this is a strong first step, and we support it. The Los Feliz Neighborhood Council approved this letter by a unanimous vote in support.

Best regards,



Luke H. Klipp, President
Los Feliz Neighborhood Council

CC: Hon. David Ryu, Councilmember, District 4
Catherine Landers, District Representative, City Council District 4
Adam Miller, District Representative, City Council District 4
Joe Salices, Superintendent, Griffith Park
Sylvia Patsouras, President, Recreation and Parks Commission