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Certified Neighborhood Council
Certification Date 02-12-02
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April 28, 2018

Honorable Joe Buscaino
Councilmember, 15th District
638 S. Beacon St., Room 552
San Pedro, CA 90731

Dear Councilman Buscaino:

On January 24th the Community Issues Committee of the Northwest Neighborhood Council hosted a community conversation about the present and future of Harbor Highlands Park. A group of stakeholders interacted with members of the city family and each other to assess the issues at the park.

We were pleased to have the participation of Deanne Dedmon, Jimmy Newsom and Raul Leon from the Department of Recreation and Parks. Jacob Haik and Ryan Ferguson from your office also participated. They were helpful, forthcoming and patient throughout the evening.

Perhaps the most enlightening moment came when the audience was told that of the \$500,000.00 set aside to improve the park because of the development agreement for the project, between \$140,000 and \$195,000 (approximate numbers) will be available after the installation of the restroom and sewer hookup, as well as the night lighting standards already installed.

According to Jacob Haik, the community will be directly engaged in decisions regarding additional improvements in the park, and that if after a year the restroom is shown to be a hazard, eyesore or magnet for criminal activity, it will be shut down and removed.

Each member of the audience was given a "floor plan" of the park to list improvements they consider most important or desirable. The attached list shows the stakeholders' responses, from most often mentioned to least.

We learned from this community event that it can be an effective tool to convey citizen concerns and ideas. We look forward to conducting more conversations about community issues, and look forward to your attendance in the future.

Yours in community collaboration,

Ray Regalado, President
On behalf of the **Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council**

cc: Ms. Deanne Dedmon, Dept. of Recreation and Parks; Mr. Jacob Haik, Council District 15

Subject: Harbor Highlands Park

Ranked by frequency of comments, most to least often mentioned

- No Event Permits (or rules limiting permits)
- No Unauthorized Vehicles in Park
- More benches, including in play area, but designed to prevent sleeping
- No bouncy castles or jumpers
- More signage, posted at all entrances (messages to be determined)
- Video/Security measures, including locks, at restroom
- Shade cloth or large umbrellas at baby swings
- Walking trail around park
- More water fountains (with dog fountain)
- No restroom
- Pet waste bag stations
- Maintenance/Oversight, support more staff funding
- Stationary, larger trash cans
- No sand in play area
- Splash pond in play area
- Low fence line between restroom and play area
- Improve gates
- Reduce size of public openings
- Close NE entrance (across from Barrywood)
- More picnic tables
- Off-Street parking cut into park property
- Retain and maintain ballfield (replace backstop)
- Diagonal parking on Gatun @Harbor Highlands Homes
- Harbor Highlands Park Community Input
- Consider sensitivity of nearest neighbors
- Handicapped Parking on Capitol Dr.
- Paint electric service pole
- More exercise equipment
- More interactive play equipment
- Jungle Gym
- Fenced dog area
- Planting at park entrances
- Block wall/curb to prevent erosion near basketball court
- Bocce Ball/Horseshoe pits
- Security Cameras with connection to Rec and Parks for community viewing
- Shade Trellis (undefined, but presumably in open area of park)
- The committee will reach out to LADOT regarding handicapped parking spaces on Capitol near gates.