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Long Beach, CA.

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I am asking the City Council to reverse the decision made by city staff to install a skate park and gym in McBride Park. McBride Park is in the building healthy community's endowment area.

All residents of Long Beach should have the opportunity to live in a safe and orderly community free of excessive noise, traffic, vandalism and graffiti. Overuse of McBride Park will create all of these problems. McBride Park is too small to accommodate a senior center, a gigantic teen center, a skate park and a gym. Overuse of McBride Park will create an unsafe environment for the users and an unsafe and unhealthy environment for the residents.

A 12,000 sq ft skate park should not be built approximately 15 ft from family homes. This will not create healthy living conditions. The excessive noise associated with skating should not be allowed on Martin Luther King Ave. We should not do anything to defame the name Martin Luther King.

Staff should not treat the residents around McBride Park as subjects. We are citizens of Long Beach and should have an opportunity to participate in decisions that affect our lives.

City Staff, on the skate park issue, act as though they are lobbyist for the skate park activist. I am not sure that all actions taken by staff relative to the McBride Park expansion are or was legal. I am asking all of you to stop the skate park.