

## WHY DOESN'T A DOG PARK BELONG NEAR THE NATURE CENTER?

\*A DOG PARK WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE NATURE CENTER HABITAT, used for research by the Audubon Society, CA Fish & Game, L.A. Natural History Museum, North American Butterfly Association and Cornell Un. Lab of Ornithology.

\* THE NATURE CENTER PROVIDES HABITAT FOR URBAN WILDLIFE, including birds, coyotes, skunks, raccoons, opossums and squirrels, not compatible with canines.

RESEARCH SHOWS A 41% REDUCTION IN INDIVIDUAL BIRD SPECIES and a 35% REDUCTION IN SPECIES DIVERSITY WHERE OFF LEASH DOGS ARE PRESENT.

\*DISEASE CROSSOVER CAN OCCUR BETWEEN DOGS AND COYOTES including Distemper, Parvovirus, Rabies and Mange.

\*Increase NOISE levels, ODORS, FLEAS and FLIES in the Nature Center and Community Gardens. A number of Dog Parks around the country have been closed because of Salmonella, Hookworms, Ringworms and Tapeworms.

\*During the rainy season, there is a danger of runoff of urine and feces into the Community Gardens and Coyote Creek, the San Gabriel River and the ocean.

\*The existing fence is not adequate for keeping out Coyotes WHO PERCEIVE DOGS AS COMPETITION--AND FOOD. There are examples of coyotes attacking dogs as large as Rottweilers and scaling 10 foot fences.

#### SHOULD PUBLIC \$\$\$\$\$\$ BE USED TO BUILD AND MAINTAIN THIS DOG PARK?

When This Project was approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission, Friends of El Dorado Dog Park were told the dog park must be Built and Maintained with **NO PUBLIC FUNDS**.

As was revealed in the 6/18/12 Budget Oversight Committee Meeting, Councilmember O'Donnell is planning on GIFTING THE EL DORADO DOG PARK WITH \$65,000 FROM UPLANDS OIL FUNDS AND DISCRETIONARY INFRASTRUCTURE MONEY. THESE ARE PUBLIC FUNDS!

### THE CITY NO LONGER HAS EXCESS MONEY FOR SUCH LUXURIES.

Existing Parks, Libraries, Roads, Sidewalks, Fire and Police all need every \$ available.

Nature Center funding has been cut drastically for 2013.

INSTEAD OF BUILDING A NEW DOG PARK, CLEAN UP EXISTING ONES!

# NATURE CENTER TO LOSE MANY PROGRAMS AND STAFF IN 2013 BUDGET CUTS! MEANWHILE, COUNCILMEMBER O'DONNELL IS GIFTING A NEW DOG PARK WITH \$65,000 OF PUBLIC FUNDS!

## LB HAS 6 DOG PARKS BUT ONLY ONE NATURE CENTER. WHERE DO YOU WANT YOUR \$\$\$ TO GO?

Please contact your COUNCILMEMBER AND MAYOR FOSTER Protesting this WASTEFUL USE OF PUBLIC MONEY. Remind them that the NATURE CENTER SERVES PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER LB, While another Dog Park is for a very small elite group.

QUESTIONS FOR COUNCILMEMBERS:

district9@longbeach.gov

- \* IF the NATURE CENTER is earning REVENUE, why is it being CUT?
- \* What will happen to the school tour programs?
- \* What could be better Crime Prevention than Park and Library programs?
- \* With loss of STAFF AND PARK RANGERS, who will PROTECT The NATURE CENTER from vandalism, illegal fishing, abandoned pets, smokers and habitat destruction?
- \* If the City is depending on Private Donations to provide programs and support for lost programs and staff, WHO IS STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE?

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6th Councilmanic District - Dee Andrews district6@longbeach.gov	570-6816
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9th Councilmanic District - Steven Neal	

Brought to you by SAVE EL DORADO NATURE CENTER Volunteers

570-6137

