

11/18/2008 08:03 AM

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Subject Re: Sports Park

Honorable Mayor, Councilmembers and Mr. West:

I cannot believe my eyes! Are you actually trading Central and Westside parkland and providing the landswap to benefit the Eastside?

While residents in <u>East Long Beach enjoy over 16 acres for every 1,000 residents</u>, the residents in <u>Central and in West Long Beach are left with just 1 acre per 1,000</u>! The Sports Park is a significant piece of the puzzle to add active recreational space to an **underserved** community. Do you think that the children's needs in Central and the Westside are not as important as the needs of the children on the eastside. You keep taking things from us and dumping other things in our neighborhoods. When will you start thinking that all areas of the city are equal? Yes, the wetlands habitat is just as vital and necessary to Long Beach

even though budgetary restraints limits the action that may be taken, but please take a look at how this will look to the community, the children and community leaders of Central and the Westside. Everything that has been said about the majority of the council dumping on Central and the Westside will appear to be true.

Trading one portion of the city for another is bad policy and sets a precedent that is costly to the future of our children. It says one portion of town is more important than another. That cost to these westside areas of the city is not replaceable by dollars and cents nor is the unintended consequeces the swap might bring. Considering the limited recreational resources on the Westside and Central and discounting the Sports Park and the needs of the 7th District for a land swap is **not equal to an area that already has a 16 to 1 acreage ratio** that is greater than the other. You must also consider if it is equitable to discount the needs of the Westside. The wetlands is a great idea but not when you are robbing Peter to pay Paul.

The cost of restoration to the wetlands is considerable but so is eliminating park land for the Sports Park and the 7th District. Please do not trade away this valuable piece of the recreation puzzle for the Westside.

Sincerely,

Annie Greenfeld 1951 Chestnut Ave. (on the Westside) LB 90806 562-225-9462

Think Green! Before printing this e-mail ask the question, is it necessary?

