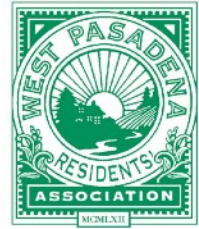


April 18, 2011

VIA EMAIL

Recreation & Parks Commission
c/o Kelley Holmes, Chair
City of Pasadena
Pasadena, CA
(kholmes@cityofpasadena.net)



RE: Lower Arroyo Roving Archers Safety Issue

Dear Commissioners:

Stewardship of Pasadena parks and open spaces is a quality of life issue for all Pasadena residents. During the review of the Arroyo Seco Master Plan (ASMP) in the early 2000s, WPRA board members led the citizen review by creating the Coalition for the Protection of the Arroyo Seco (CPAS). CPAS represented environmental foundations, non-profits and neighborhood associations throughout the city by collaborating to preserve our precious open spaces and establish a long-term vision for stewardship of the Arroyo Seco. One of the plans incorporated in the ASMP is the Lower Arroyo Seco Master Plan (LAMP).

It has been brought to our attention that despite the countless hours and hard work by citizens and staff that went into establishing and adopting the LAMP on September 29, 2003, elements of the LAMP related to safety have still not been implemented by the City.

WPRA believes that **all** users of the lower Arroyo Seco should be able to coexist safely, including archers, birders, hikers, joggers and walkers sharing the Westside area.

The space that is used by the Pasadena Roving Archers (PRA) has historically been shared with users who wish to enjoy this special area. Although it is recognized that there have been no accidents reported over the past 75 years of shared use, it has been called to our attention that solution(s) need to be found and instituted so that safety of all users is ensured. Towards accomplishing this goal, we respectfully ask the Recreation & Parks Commission (Commission) to:

1. Fulfill its duty to Pasadena citizens by continuing to engage the community in the process of reviewing safety issues related to the PRA and other Lower Arroyo users. We request that this be accomplished by compelling the Subcommittee assigned at its February, 2011 meeting to continue to investigate safety solutions with the goal of agreeing on recommended solutions to be presented back to the Commission. It should be mandatory that this Subcommittee also review the terms and conditions for the PRA Agreement (or MOU) with the City of Pasadena and make recommendations for the Commission to consider, prior to submitting the PRA Agreement to the Council for final approval.

2. Slow down this review process by pushing back the date for the PRA Agreement to be submitted to the Commission to give all stakeholders an opportunity to bring their concerns to the table.
3. Provide WPRA with a copy of the draft agreement to review at the same time it is presented to the Commission for review. WPRA will review the agreement related to:
 - Boundaries of the Lower Arroyo (both private and public), and of the PRA range;
 - Hours of operation;
 - Revenue for the City;
 - Mitigation of possible conflicts between archers and all other users;
 - Oversight, maintenance, hillside erosion and compliance with LAMP.

We hope you will agree that complete and comprehensive citizen/user review will help us to protect the precious asset that is known as the Arroyo Seco for us and for many generations to come.

Please let me know if I can provide any additional information that will assist in this review process.

Best regards,



Michael Udell, President
West Pasadena Residents Association

cc: Hon. Bill Bogaard, Mayor, City of Pasadena: bbogaard@cityofpasadena.net
Michael Beck, Manager, City of Pasadena: mbeck@cityofpasadena.net
Steve Madison, Pasadena City Council: smadison@cityofpasadena.net
Ann Scheid: alund.ann@gmail.com
Gary Spiers, President, Pasadena Roving Archers
Loren Pluth: lploth@cityofpasadena.net
Charles Peretz: CPeretz@cityofpasadena.net
Kelley Holmes: kholmesmhna@earthlink.net
Claire Bogaard: cwbogaard@earthlink.net
John Fauvre: fauvrejc@aol.com
Maggie Belton: maggie@pascla.org
Don Bremner: donbremner@earthlink.net
Tom Seifert: tdseifert@aol.com
WPRA Board: newboard@wpra.net