



July 19, 2018

Honorable Mayor Tornek
Honorable Members of City Council
City of Pasadena
100 N. Garfield Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101

Dear Mayor Tornek and Councilmembers:

RE: New construction of public restroom facility
10 N. Arroyo Blvd., Desiderio Neighborhood Park

The West Pasadena Residents' Association appreciates the opportunity to comment on the above project, and submits the following comments for your consideration and action.

WPRA has reviewed the staff report and the draft project sketches, and is concerned about the size, design and the location of the structure.

It was long-debated whether to have public toilet facilities in Desiderio Park or not. Placing a restroom building similar in size to those that meet the needs of much larger parks seems misguided at best. The structure is patently oversized and its size difficult to reconcile with the limited area and nature of the park. The stated 875 square feet is larger than the maximum square footage allotted for a majority of accessory dwellings units under the recently-approved ordinance, designed with multiple stalls, and four ancillary and utility use areas. A much smaller structure (example photos attached) would be far more suitable for this small area. A large public toilet building ought not be shoehorned into this tiny neighborhood park. One size does not fit all.

We request that this public toilet's location be very carefully evaluated, and the final recommended placement provide a reliable confidence factor for being the least intrusive and most safe for its neighbors and users alike. The current recommended placement is 15-20 feet from the neighboring residences, and this proximity is both unsightly and unhygienic. Further, it is adjacent to Arroyo Blvd. This proposed location can potentially serve as an attractive post-event alternative relief station, causing traffic congestion, noise, and loitering. Locating a small

public toilet close to the tot-lot, in an unobtrusive and more practical area distanced from neighbors, reduces the possibility of a potential public nuisance and provides additional enhanced safety for children.

Lastly, although the current design has moderately improved our stylistic concerns, the structure remains a rectangular concrete box with superficial Arts and Crafts references. Given the setting and the restroom's adjacency to the historic Arroyo Bungalows, as well as the new Habitat construction which manifest the Craftsman style, it seems more appropriate that Arroyo stone and wood siding, exposed rafter tails, darker colors, etc. would be more applicable and compatible.

WPRA appreciates your consideration of these comments and concerns, and looks forward to an appropriately-sized structure with a more compatible design that is located in a much more appropriate location where it will be useful and easily accessible to park patrons.

Respectfully yours,



Dan Beal
President

cc: Steve Mermell, City manager
Taka Suzuki, Deputy to Councilmember Madison, District 6
David Reyes, Director of Planning and Community Development
Ara Maloyan, Director of Public Works
Charles Loveman, Board Chair, Vista del Arroyo Bungalows HOA
Marcelline Solway, Vista del Arroyo Bungalows HOA



**WEST PASADENA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
POST OFFICE BOX 50252 • PASADENA, CA 91115**