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1840 S. Gaffey St., Box 45, San Pedro, CA 90731 * Board@harborcitync.com * www.HarborCityNC.com

May 5, 2025

General Manager Jimmy Kim
LA City Dept. of Recreation and Parks
221 N. Figueroa St., Suite 350
Los Angeles, Ca 90012

RE: 2025 Parks Needs Assessment - Comment Letter/Report

Dear General Manager Kim,

On behalf of the Harbor City Neighborhood Council, we wish to provide you with a short report of conditions and priorities of our two major parks in our community, Harbor City Park and Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park, in hopes that you will consider our recommendations for improvement via the Department's 2025 Parks Needs Assessment.

Harbor City (Recreation) Park:

- There is a dire need to expand the Harbor City Recreation Park Building Facility. The Harbor City Neighborhood Council typically sponsors two events that happen seasonally: A Thanksgiving Feeding Event and a Christmas/Holiday Toy Drive. Community members continue to outgrow just these two events due to the small community room space, which is in need of modern upgrading.
- Currently there is no facility for Senior activities or a Senior Center.
- The outdoor bathrooms that are connected to the community room building have not been used due to maintenance. They remain closed. **According to past Presidents and Board Members of the Harbor City Neighborhood Council, \$500,000 was earmarked and secured through a special city budget fund to upgrade/rehabilitate the outdoor bathrooms, however, services were never rendered.**
- The lighting in the facility either needs upgrading and/or some lights are out within the park.
- Upgrading to inclusive, age-appropriate play equipment would cater to a broader range of children, including those with disabilities.
- Continue to ensure that playground surfaces are shock-absorbent and well-maintained to prevent injuries.

- Adding shaded picnic tables or pavilions would provide families and groups with comfortable spaces for gatherings, especially during hot weather.
- Designating areas for community events, such as outdoor movie nights or farmers' markets, could foster a stronger sense of community.
- Ensuring all pathways, restrooms, and facilities are accessible to individuals with disabilities.
- Installing more recycling bins and promoting clean-up initiatives could help maintain the park's cleanliness.

Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park

- While we appreciate the recent announcement of the City to re-deploy Park Rangers at Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park, we would advocate for additional park rangers on site and to make their presence.
- Continue the vegetation management, invasive species removal, and trash clearance to maintain the park's ecological health.
- Ongoing maintenance is essential to ensure its continued success and address any emerging challenges.
- Continue to clear RVs illegally parked on park grounds overnight and that are not in accordance with city code.

Thank you for your consideration. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on our recommendations on ways we can improve our local parks in the Harbor City Community. Engaging with local residents through surveys or town hall meetings can ensure that the upgrades align with the community's needs and preferences. Collaborating with local schools, businesses, and organizations can also provide additional support and resources for the park's improvement projects.

If additional information is needed, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Harbor City Neighborhood Council

CC: LA City Councilmember Tim McOsker, 15th District