

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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<http://www.highlandparknc.com>
Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

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November 5, 2015

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Members of the Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: 14-0356 Protections of animals in designated wildlife park areas

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council which represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood would like to express support for Council File 14-0356 which would enforce and expand protection of birds and animals in designated wildlife park areas in the City.

Purportedly, increasing numbers of people are treating the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area as hunting and fishing grounds including aiming at birds with rocks and slingshots, taking birds and eggs for food, bringing dogs and other pets into the area which disturbs wildlife, and leaving marked trails which disturb wildlife and crush native plants. This needs to be stopped, both there and across the City.

In addition, our Council supports specifically prohibiting three behaviors not currently covered under the Los Angeles Municipal Code: disturbing birds and other animals in a manner that does not constitute hunting; disturbing or taking nests and eggs (whether of birds, reptiles or amphibians); and venturing off of marked trails and visitor areas within wildlife areas.

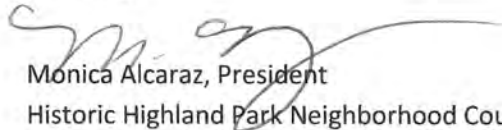
HHPNC/Protection of animals in designated wildlife park areas

To this end, we support the reinstatement of LAMC Subdivision 63.44(B)(7) and the amendment of LAMC Section 63.44(B)(11) as the most effective ways to accomplish the goal of protecting wildlife in the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area and other designated wildlife areas. It is critical that law enforcement has the ability to cite persons whose observed behavior is detrimental to wildlife.

The 225-acre Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve is one of the finest refuges of its kind within a major urban area in the country. It serves not only as a restored natural habitat for wildlife but as a living laboratory for all to enjoy. Here in the northeast, we have several wildlife preserves which are important to stakeholders to enjoy and to maintain as a legacy for our children.

Therefore, the Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council strongly recommends that City Council expedite the above changes in order to protect the flora and fauna in the Sepulveda Basin and all other nature preserves within City jurisdiction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Monica Alcaraz', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Monica Alcaraz, President
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council