

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** lois harrison <loiswardharrison@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 05, 2018 10:25 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** El Molino Park

I'm excited about the ***Playhouse District Park*** on Union . . . *extending over to El Molino*. Our Playhouse District (I'm a homeowner at 700 E Union Street) needs this green, airy, resting space where homeowners and visitors in this attractive area of Pasadena can take their toddlers, dogs, infants and elders *and themselves* for relaxation and green in our lovely city.

I see young parents living on Oak Knoll and grandparents nearby who will value such a green area . . . there is NO AREA of this nature in The Playhouse District. It will bring additional value and desirability to The Playhouse District and enhance property value and quality of life here.

*Thank you for your strong support of this project: it's the time and place for this park on Union Street, Pasadena.*

with respect and high regard for all you do for our city,  
Lois Harrison, home owner,  
700 E Union Street, unit 303, Pasadena 91101

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Linda Vogler <l.vogler@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 06, 2018 5:40 AM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Cc:** greg.b.gunther@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Playhouse park

As a relatively new home owner at 700 e union, I was unaware that there was not a single park within walking distance of my home until I moved in. I find this shocking.

I strongly support the Playhouse Park plan knowing that I would use the park often, not only for myself but as a place for my grandchildren and dogs(if permitted). It would be wonderful if the park could be extended into the parking lot and provide actual pkyground equipment for the children of the district. The proposed plan looks beautiful.

Sent from my iPhone  
Linda Coffing Vogler  
847.209.3838

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Sheryl Peters <sheryl.peters@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 06, 2018 7:40 AM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Cc:** Ed Peters Home  
**Subject:** Support for AR18

Dear Mr. Jomsky:

My husband and I (Ed and Sheryl Peters) live at 700 East Union St, directly across from the Banner Bank Building. It would be lovely to have green space in our neighborhood. I think that every neighborhood in Pasadena should include a park! It would be a place to walk dogs, bring children to play, or just a spot to sit and think. This proposed park project would be a great way of utilizing that entire block on Union between Oak Knoll and El Molino.

I love living in the Playhouse District, with its shops, restaurants, movies and arts venues. Green Space here would make it just perfect! Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Sheryl and Ed Peters

Sent from my iPad

## **Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Greg Gunther <greg.b.gunther@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 06, 2018 12:54 PM  
**To:** Tornek, Terry; Hampton, Tyron; McAustin, Margaret; John Kennedy; Masuda, Gene; De La Cuba, Vannia; Madison, Steve; Wilson, Andy  
**Cc:** Jomsky, Mark; Mermell, Steve; Gutierrez, Julie; Maloyan, Ara; Pluth, Loren; Duyshart, Eric; Klug, David  
**Subject:** Council Agenda Item #18 > SUPPORT Playhouse Park

Dear Mayor Tornek, Councilmembers and City Staff -

**I usually come before you representing one or another community organizations (drawn from the alphabet soup of PDA, DPNA, PasCSC, or TAC) - however, today I'm approaching you from the perspective of my most important affiliations. I am writing to you as a husband, a father, a senior and a Playhouse District resident. Some day - although the matter is definitely outside of my control - I expect to add "proud grandparent" to that list as well.**

Regarding my SUPPORT for completing the purchase of the Banner Bank property at 717 E. Union Street for the future development of a park - I have two important thoughts to relay.

### **First of all, "Thank you very much!"**

- In pursuing this property, Council and City Staff proactively seized a potentially elusive opportunity - "Bravo!"
- And in doing so, you have begun to tangibly address a critical community need in our neighborhood

### **Secondly, while this is a "very good start" we must also E-X-T-E-N-D this toehold of green space across the footprint of the adjacent Union / El Molino Municipal Parking Lot**

- We now have a chance to build an urban pocket park that is appropriately sized for the population in this park-starved neighborhood (high-density now, with even more in the pipeline)
- We now have a chance to create green space that addresses the wide variety of resident needs
  - A place to walk your dog
  - A place to play with your children (and grandchildren)
  - A place to enjoy outdoor music and arts performances
  - And a place to just sit in the shade and people watch
- And most importantly, we now have a chance to leave a mark - for rather than "checking a box", we can create a park that Pasadena will be proud of for generations to come!

Again, thank you so much for moving this forward...

// Greg Gunther  
700 E. Union Street #301  
Pasadena, CA 91101

**01/08/2018**  
**Item 18**

**Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Morey Wolfson <moreywolfson@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 06, 2018 10:28 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** AR18 Support for Banner Bank purchase

January 6, 2018

To: Mayor Tornek and Members of the Pasadena City Council

Regarding: Support for AR 18

Greetings-

I have been a resident at Trio Apartments, 44 N. Madison Street, 91101, for five years.

I write in support of Council action on January 8 to use Residential Impact Fee (RIF) monies to purchase the Banner Bank parcel at Union Street and Oak Knoll.

I support the purchase as an important step leading to expansion of a proposed Playhouse Park at the corner of Union Street and El Molino Avenue.

The Central District has been a major contributor to the RIF, and those contributions are expanding as more development occurs in the District.

Despite the outsized contribution to the RIF funding from residential renters and owners in the Central District, residents have not witnessed a commensurate targeting of RIF investment into badly-needed parks in this District.

The City's purchase of the Banner Bank parcel will provide a positive signal that the City is moving in the direction of supporting the community's long-held conceptual objective of converting the El Molino/Union municipal parking lot into a pocket park.

Thank you for considering my views on this matter.

Best regards,

Morey Wolfson  
Resident, Council District Three  
44 N. Madison Street  
Pasadena, CA 91101

**01/08/2018**  
**Item 18**

**Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Peg Rogers <pegjrogers@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 07, 2018 11:36 AM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** AR18 Support for Banner Bank Purchase

Regarding: Support for AR 18

I am a home owner at 700 East Union for seven years.

I write in support of Council action on January 8 to use Residential Impact Fee (RIF) monies to purchase the Banner Bank parcel at Union Street and Oak Knoll.

I support the purchase as an important step leading to expansion of a proposed Playhouse Park at the corner of Union Street and El Molino Avenue.

The Central District has been a major contributor to the RIF, and those contributions are expanding as more development occurs in the District.

Despite the outsized contribution to the RIF funding from residential renters and owners in the Central District, residents have not witnessed a commensurate targeting of RIF investment into badly-needed parks in this District.

**The City's purchase of the Banner Bank parcel will provide a positive signal that the City is moving in the direction of supporting the community's long-held conceptual objective of converting the El Molino/Union municipal parking lot into a pocket park.**

Thank you for your work on this important matter.

Best regards,  
Peggy Rogers  
700 E Union Unit 301  
Pasadena, CA 91101

01/08/2018  
Item 18

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Jennifer Hafner/USA <Jennifer.Hafner@cushwake.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 07, 2018 12:02 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Support for AR18 - Playhouse Park

I am a resident at 137 N Oak Knoll Ave and would like to support the City's purchase of the Banner Bank Building. I have lived in my condo since 2001 and have a dog. We walk our wonderful neighborhood every day and a park is the one amenity that would help unite our community. I also support extending the park to the parking lot parcel, as I was part of the community planning several years ago when the Grant was being applied for. A park of this size would expand the community and create more synergy and interaction with the residents and businesses.

I am commercial real estate appraiser by trade and have seen how having amenities within a community enhance property values and make it a more desirable place to work and live.

Thank you for the support.

**Jennifer Hafner MAI**  
Director  
Valuation & Advisory

Direct: +1 909 942 4676  
Mobile: +1 626 318 0593  
Fax: +1 909 989 4440  
jennifer.hafner@cushwake.com



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## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Scott Newkirk <snewkirk2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 07, 2018 12:10 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Support for AR18 - Playhouse Park

I am a resident at [137 N Oak Knoll Ave](#) and would like to support the City's purchase of the Banner Bank Building. I have lived in my condo since 2001 and have a dog. We walk our wonderful neighborhood every day and a park is the one amenity that would help unite our community. I also support extending the park to the parking lot parcel. A park of this size would expand the community and create more synergy and interaction with the residents and businesses.

Thank you for the support.

Scott Newkirk  
[626-272-0374](tel:626-272-0374)

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**Item 18**



## **Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Sharon Higuera <sharonghm@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 07, 2018 1:49 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Support for AR 18 Playhouse Park

Members of the City of Pasadena City Council;

My name is Sharon Graham Higuera and I reside at 700 East Union Street, directly across from Banner Bank. Several years ago I worked on the design for the park suggested for the NE corner of Union and El Molino. Needless to say, my grandson and I were very disappointed when that project failed.

It is with great pleasure that I now support the proposed Playhouse Park on the Banner Bank property. And I fervently hope it will be expanded to include our plans for the Union/El Molino park.

It will be a lovely place for picnic lunches, walking, reading, places for children to play, and a delightful place to visit with friends on long summer evenings. The visual impact will be wonderful. The air quality will improve with the increased vegetation. There will be more birds and butterflies. Energetic residents might have a place to play half/court basketball. The gentlemen who spend their days on the front porch and tiny bit of lawn at the building just north of the parking lot on El Molino, will have a pleasant place to gather, and possibly meet some of our residents.

There is ample City parking nearby, so the existing parking lot will not be missed.

We need the green space!

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,  
Sharon Graham Higuera

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## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Richard Hogge <richard@tremolocreative.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 07, 2018 5:53 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Support for AR18 - Playhouse Park

Hello,

I live near Oak Knoll and Cordova with my wife and 13 month old boy. I'm just writing to express my support for the Playhouse Pocket Park at El Molino and Union. I would love to be able to walk to a neighborhood park with my family, and options are limited (which means we usually have to drive, adding to traffic congestion and local air pollution.)

As I understand it, local development is one of the primary funding sources for new parks, and the Playhouse seems to have a lot of development happening, with very little green space to show for it... hoping that changes soon :)

Thanks for your time!

Best,

**Richard Hogge**  
Tremolo Creative  
+1 805 630 1786  
[tremolocreative.com](http://tremolocreative.com)

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**Item 18**

**Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Amy Chen <amychen098@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 07, 2018 7:22 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Support for AR18 - Playhouse Park

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a Pasadena resident living in the Playhouse District. I am proponent of the Playhouse Park several years ago as it would sit across from my current residence condo complex to provide a green space that we as residents desperately need, as well as an community park to sit, exercise and congregate. Now a new prospect to add extension to make the Playhouse Park a bigger community park, I am writing to you to voice my support to extend the purchase of the Banner Bank Building. And I hope the city council will also bring the Playhouse Park proposal back and make this neighborhood park a true reality for us residents.

Sincerely,  
Amy Chen  
700 E Union St Unit 208  
Pasadena CA 91101

Sent from my iMobile

**01/08/2018**  
**Item 18**

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Jim Talley <oldemettle@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 06, 2018 12:06 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Support for AR18- Playhouse Park

Dear City Clerk Mark Jomsky:

We are homeowners residing at 700 E. Union Street, Unit 102, at the corner of Oak Knoll and Union Street, and want to affirm the need for a park in the Playhouse District. Unfortunately we will not be able to attend the City Council meeting Monday, January 8th, to register our support in person.

The Playhouse District has seen a huge uptick in population due to the opening of the Andalucia apartments on Union and several other properties that are finishing up on Walnut. We welcome them as they have brought a more diverse population with children and many dog-walkers to our area.

We love walking to events in the Playhouse District, frequenting Vroman's Bookstore, the Lammele and Playhouse Theaters, the New School of Cooking, and many more. A park would be most welcome and integrative where one can be neighborly, read books and enjoy much needed greenspace. The recent addition of Metro Bike rentals is already having an effect on our neighborhood and is slowly de-tuning it from being car-centric.

The city parking lot on Union could also be turned into a park, extending the proposed pocket space for the length of a city block. That makes sense to us as the lot runs 24 hours a day and is poorly cleaned, with patrons routinely dumping their waste.

Our bedroom and office on the second floor on Union view the lot, so we have gotten into the habit of daily picking up bottles, food wrappings and so forth - as the city does not. Collection of the money at the ticket parking kiosks and daily checking that vehicles are displaying valid tickets does happen. It would be easy and efficient for the daily city employee visiting the lot to also keep the trash picked up. And having the parking lot give way to more green space would greatly increase livability for our future and the Playhouse District in general.

So we heartily endorse the city purchasing the property where the Banner Bank is currently doing its business. Getting more people strolling and interacting has been a civilizing factor in history. Turning the parking lot into a park would align with the increased use of Lyft, Uber, biking and so forth.

Thank you for your attention and the consideration of imagining a more habitable and healthy future.

Respectfully,  
Jim and Mercedes Talley

## **Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Jane Annunziata <drjaneannunziata@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 08, 2018 1:30 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Support for AR18-Playhouse Park

Dear City Clerk of Pasadena, I am writing to express my support for the Playhouse Park in the Pasadena Playhouse District. I understand that today (1/8) Council will be asked to approve the purchase of the Banner Bank building (Union and Oak Knoll) for the purpose of a park. It would be fantastic to have green space added to our neighborhood! My husband (Gary VandenBos) and I (Jane Annunziata VandenBos) are owners of a condo on North Oak Knoll. We will enjoy using the park for relaxation in nature, and someday soon with future grandchildren. We would like to see the park to extended to Union and El Molino. We are so hoping that Council will approve this! Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely, Jane Annunziata VandenBos (Home owner)

## **Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Marjorie Lindbeck <margiel@pacbell.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 08, 2018 1:46 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Support for AR18- Playhouse Park

Dear City Clerk Mark Jomsky:

I am a homeowner residing at 700 E. Union Street, Unit 103, directly across the street from the Banner Bank, and I want to endorse the City's proposal to purchase the Banner Bank property and to proceed with developing a park in the Playhouse District. I am expecting to attend the meeting tonight but wanted to register my support in advance and do not expect to need to make a further statement.

When the City Council previously discussed the subject of a potential park in The Playhouse District, the conversation seemed to get sidetracked by a very few vocal local business people who expressed the need for more parking and the conversation got derailed. I was there to show my support for continuing the park discussion, and I am now pleased to support the idea of including the Banner Bank property in the discussion. I do not believe parking to be an issue. None of my guests has ever had a problem finding parking, and we moved in in 2007. I always tell them to contact me if they cannot find parking and I will escort them into the underground parking in our building. It never happens. In addition, we practically live in the Vroman's parking lot. We walk it practically every day. We know it could be better managed; many local workers, movie goers, etc., use the Vroman's lot. But much of the time there are vacant spots. Even at Christmas — the height of the parking needs — there is always an empty spot in the area.

The Playhouse District is quickly becoming the future for dense urban areas: with residents, workers, walkers, shoppers, diners, bicycle riders, theatre goers, and commuters as well. We all enjoy the walkability of the district and the City. Last night I walked to a restaurant on South Lake. It was stunning to see how many people were out strolling Lake Avenue and Colorado Boulevard at 5:00. Many, I'm confident, would be in a park if there were one!

But, this district has no park. We have paid for a park through fees assessed by developers and we deserve a park. The city parking lot on Union was originally going to be turned into a park. Many of us participated in a design that made sense for that space and for this area. I still believe it is the right solution. Adding the property that the Banner Bank sits on could create many more opportunities for a good sized park, something usable by so many that are coming to this District because of all it has to offer. It just needs a park.

Walkability, fostering healthy lifestyles and creating community are good goals for a City. I believe that a park in the Playhouse District would enhance the opportunities towards achieving these goals — the very ideas that are the cornerstones of this District.

I heartily endorse the purchase of this property by the City and the continued discussion of creating a real park for this deserving District.

Thank you,

Marjorie

**Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** gary vandenbos <drgaryvandenbos@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 08, 2018 3:44 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** AR-18 SUPPORT -- Playhouse Park

Dear City Clerk of Pasadena: I am writing to support the proposal for the City to acquire the Banner Bank building as a step towards establishing a park -- and some "green space" in the Playhouse district. I would hope that it could be extended from Oak Knoll to El Molino. My wife and I are owners and residences of a condo in the area, and our son and his wife will be starting a family soon. We look forward to play with our grandchildren in the park. We hope the Council will approve this project. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Gary R. VandenBos, 128 N. Oak Knoll, Pasadena.