

Jomsky, Mark

From: Jennifer Hafner <jennifer_hafner@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 8:47 AM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Playhouse Park

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I am a resident of the Playhouse District and support the City for putting in a park at Oak Knoll Ave & Union. We have owned our condo since 2001 and are excited to see more green space in our immediate area. We are pet owners and are walking the neighborhood everyday and the addition of green space is one that will not only enrich our lives, but foster community.

Thank you for supporting residents.

Address: 137 N Oak Knoll Ave

Jennifer Hafner T: 626-318-0593 jennifer_hafner@sbcglobal.net

Jomsky, Mark

From: Wesley Reutimann <wesleyreutimann@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 08, 2019 5:35 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Cc: Kristin Chew Reutimann
Subject: Agenda Item 10 - Playhouse Park

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Good evening Mayor, Council, and staff

As Pasadena residents of more than a decade now, we wanted to send a brief message in support of the long-planned park at Union/El Molino in the Playhouse District.

This part of downtown is one of our favorites to patronize thanks to its many wonderful retailers, walkable streets with artistic crosswalks, and fun programming. However, the district lacks much in the way of public space, and would benefit greatly from the proposed greening and redesign of the Union/El Moline lot.

Thank you for your consideration and have a nice weekend,

Wesley and Kristin Reutimann

Jomsky, Mark

Subject: RE: Union/El Molino Park+Parking Proposal

Dear 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, March 11th at 6:30pm, 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 in the area. 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.

Abbreviating the city parking lot on Union into a park and extending the space including the city acquired Banner Bank Building would extend the length a city block. That makes sense to us as the current 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 developing a park extending from El Molino to Oak Knoll on Union street. Getting more people strolling and interacting has been a civilizing factor in history. Turning part of 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

From: gary vandenbos <drgaryvandenbos@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 09, 2019 1:42 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Union/El Molino Park Parking Proposal

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Just a brief note to express my support for the Playhouse Park project. I strong support moving forward with the park. I have a condo at 128 N. Oak Knoll, and I live in it 2-3 months per year. The park would basically be "right across the street" from my condo. It would be great to have some "green space" in the area, and it would be a great place for children and families to exercise, be active, and be "in nature" a bit. I would love to see the park build by 2020.

Thank you,

Gary R. VandenBos

Jomsky, Mark

From: Joe Sparky <sparky5363@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 11:08 AM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Union/El Molino Park+Parking Proposal

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As a resident of the Playhouse District I enthusiastically support the creation of park space as described. Unfortunately I will be out of town for the March 11 meeting but will be there in spirit.

Joe DeAmicis
190 N. Madison Ave
91101

Sent from my iPhone

Jomsky, Mark

From: Marjorie Lindbeck <margiel@pacbell.net>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 3:17 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Cc: Kennedy, John
Subject: Re: Union/El Molino Park+Parking Proposal

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Dear Mark Jomsky and Vice Mayor Kennedy,

I am a homeowner residing at 700 E. Union Street at the corner of Oak Knoll and Union Street overlooking the proposed new park site. I have attended past Council meetings to affirm support for a park in the Playhouse District but most unfortunately I am out of the country and cannot attend the upcoming City Council meeting Monday, March 11, to register my support in person this time.

The Playhouse District is growing as an urban community as envisioned when the City permitted the development of my building and others that followed and those soon to be built. An urban park with green space is an essential part of urban planning, so this park is vital to this District, and it is funded by the various development fees passed along to us buyers.

Abbreviating the city parking lot on Union into a park and extending the space including the city-acquired Banner Bank Building would extend the length a city block. That makes sense with the flexible reduced parking as endorsed by the Playhouse District Assn.

I am aware that the three homeowners' associations (including mine at Granada Court) directly adjacent to the proposed park site have endorsed this park, and we all look forward to participating in the design process and planning for a highly activated urban park that will serve this growing urban community.

I believe this park will enliven the area, foster continued economic development and support increased livability and a healthier environment in the Central District. It is also smart to turn part of the parking lot into with the increased use of Lyft, Uber, biking and walking. It is simply the logical next step.

Thank you for your attention and the consideration of imagining a more habitable and healthy future. This is very exciting!

Respectfully,
Marjorie Lindbeck

Jomsky, Mark

From: Richard Hogge <richard@tremolocreative.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 3:25 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Union/El Molino Park+Parking Proposal

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Hi,

I would like to express my support for the Playhouse District park proposal.

My family lives down the street on Cordova, and we have limited open space that we can walk to in the neighborhood. We walk up to Colorado all the time to run errands, shop at Vroman's, and eat dinner at local restaurants... would be awesome to have a neighborhood park to stop by with our toddler and relax/play. The more green space the better :)

Thanks for your time!

Richard Hogge
Tremolo Creative
+1 805 630 1786
tremolocreative.com

Jomsky, Mark

From: Sharon Higuera <sharonghm@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, March 10, 2019 4:27 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Cc: jane@qwallace.com; margiegould@gmail.com
Subject: Union/El Molino Park+Parking Proposal

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Members of the City of Pasadena, City Council:

Dear Respected Representatives,

I have a prior engagement and may arrive too late for the agenda item related to the Union/ElMoline Park+Parking..Therefore, I am addressing all our Council Members to ask them to approve the Park+Parking motion. As a Playhouse District property owner, I have been working to support a neighbor park for at least 10 years. It is very exciting that the end is near.

Please help our dream to become a reality.

Sincerely,

Sharon Higuera

700 East Union Street #302

Pasadena, CA 91101

Jomsky, Mark

From: lois ward harrison <loiswardharrison@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 8:10 AM
To: Jomsky, Mark; Kennedy, John
Cc: loiswardharrison@gmail.com
Subject: El Molino pkg Proposal/urban Pk

CAUTION: This email was delivered from the Internet. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know the content is safe.

As a homeowner @ 700 E Union St., unit 303, I fully support this highly activated urban pk& the flexible reduced parking as endorsed by the Playhouse District.
I know its funded by development fees passed along to we buyers and I welcome and fully support this inspired urban project.
thx for all yr service to our wonderful city!!
Lois Harrison

Jomsky, Mark

From: Kim Perez <kim@kimdixonperez.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 8:23 AM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Union/El Molino Park Proposal -- YES Please!

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I live on Oak Knoll, south of Colorado, and I would love a new park in the area.

--

Kim Perez
(626) 688-5444
www.kimdixonperez.com

Jomsky, Mark

From: Deborah Dentler <ddentler@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 08, 2019 4:22 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Cc: Tornek, Terry; Kennedy, John; Klug, David; Melbourn, Hayden
Subject: documents for City Council Meeting Mon. March 11
Attachments: GRN_Board Resolution 1-15-19.pdf; RESOLUTION OF HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION OF OAK KNOLL VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS.docx; Quattro Blu HOA board resolution.pdf

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Dear City Clerk,

For item 10 on next week's City Council agenda, an item concerning a proposed new park, please provide the attached documents to council and the Mayor. I met today with my councilmember, John Kennedy, and gave him these documents. I and others plan to speak about these documents during public comment time for that agenda item.

These documents contain the resolutions adopted by the Homeowners Association board of directors of three condo complexes located adjacent to or directly opposite the former Banner Bank parcel. Collectively, our HOAs represent 115 homeowners and one commercial property owner (the medical office at 128 N. Oak Knoll Ave. directly opposite Banner Bank). The RIF funds generated by the housing units developed in the Playhouse District are shown in the second document attached here. None of the RIF funds collected by the City when it permitted the construction of high-density housing in our neighborhood have ever been returned to the neighborhood for recreational purposes in keeping with the RIF statutory scheme.

Our three HOAs strongly support creation of a public park in our under-served area that lacks public recreation facilities and open green space, and we urge the Council to adopt the staff resolution and to implement a clear timeline for design and implementation of a high-quality public park for our neighborhood.

I am cc-ing this to our Councilmember, John Kennedy, as well as the Mayor.

I am also cc-ing this to David Klug and Hayden Melbourne, the two city staff members whose names were provided to our homeowner associations a few weeks ago when we inquired about who our contact person at the city is, now that Loren Pluth is gone.

I look forward to speaking to Council and staff on behalf of homeowners and renters in our three complexes.

--

Deborah Dentler, Attorney
510 So. Marengo Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91101-3115
ph. 626 796-7555 ext. 127
fax 626 577-0124
email: ddentler@gmail.com

RESOLUTION

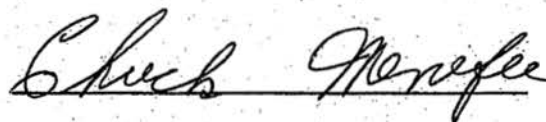
QUATTRO BLU HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION

128 N. Oak Knoll Ave., Pasadena CA

By unanimous consent of the Board of Directors of Quattro Blu Homeowner Association, the Board adopts the following resolution:

- (1.) The Quattro Blu Homeowners Association ("the Association") strongly supports the creation of a much-needed public park on City-owned property on Union Ave. between Oak Knoll Avenue and El Molino Avenue (parcels currently used for a municipal parking lot and a former bank and office building).
- (2.) The Association favors creation of a safe, well-lighted, activated public park that provides green space, trees, natural open space, play areas for families with children, and provides shade and species habitat.
- (3.) The Association urges the City of Pasadena to move forward quickly to begin the design and development process, including engagement with the local community of homeowners and renters living adjacent to and surrounding the former Banner Bank parcel.
- (4.) The Association wishes to communicate to City of Pasadena our concern about the possible premature demolition of the vacant "Banner Bank" building and an adjoining office building. Demolition and minimal remediation of the cleared site, if not coupled with and timed to coincide with, development of a park on the entire block-long area that includes the current municipal parking lot, could degrade the aesthetic appearance of our block, attract litter, crime and vagrancy problems, contribute to blight, and negatively impact our property values and quality of life.

Adopted: December 15, 2018



Chuck Menefee, President of Board of Directors

RESOLUTION OF HOMEOWNER ASSOCIATION OF OAK KNOLL VILLAGE CONDOMINIUMS

By unanimous consent of the Board of Directors of the Oak Knoll Village Homeowners Association, the Board adopts the following resolution:

1. The Association strongly supports the creation of a much-needed public park on City-owned property on Union Avenue between Oak Knoll Ave. and El Molino Ave. (contiguous parcels currently consisting of a former bank and office building, and a municipal parking lot).
2. The Association favors creation of a safe, well-lighted, activated public park that provides green space, trees, natural open space, shade, play areas for children and families, and species habitat.
3. The Association urges the City of Pasadena to move forward quickly to begin the design and development process, including engagement with the local community of homeowners and renters living adjacent to and surrounding the former Banner Bank parcel.
4. The Association wishes to communicate its concern to the City of Pasadena about the possible demolition of the vacant Banner Bank and an adjoining office building. Demolition and minimal remediation of the cleared site, if not coupled with and timed to coincide with development of a park on the entire block-long area that includes the municipal parking lot, could degrade the aesthetic appearance of our block, attract litter, crime and vagrancy problems, and negatively impact our property values and quality of life.

Adopted: January 30, 2019

Richard Hamilton, President of the Board

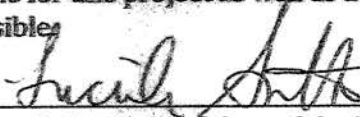
**RESOLUTION
GRANADA COURT HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**

By unanimous consent of the Board of Directors of the Granada Court Homeowners Association, the Board adopts the following Resolution:

- 1) The Granada Court Homeowners Association (the Association) strongly supports the creation of a much needed and long anticipated public park on the City-owned property on Union Street between Oak Knoll Avenue and El Molino Avenue (parcels currently used for a municipal parking lot and a former bank and office building).
- 2) The Association strongly favors creation of a safe, well-maintained, well-lighted, activated public park space that provides green space, trees, natural and flexible open space, pathways, seating, and play areas for children and families.
- 3) The Association urges the City to move forward without further delay to begin the design and development of the park utilizing the entire site (to include the current City-owned municipal parking lot and the former bank/office building now owned by the City) and to solicit community input from nearby residents and owners. Further, we support restricting parking to a minimum with no more than the 48 spots suggested by the Playhouse District Association's consultant's concept drawing which has been approved by the PDA Board of Directors.
- 4) The Association wishes to express concern about premature demolition of the existing building as suggested by the project manager. Demolition and minimal remediation of the cleared site, if not coupled with and to coincide with development of the park of the entire block-long area could degrade the esthetic appearance of our neighborhood, could attract litter, crime and vagrancy, contribute to blight, and could negatively impact our property values and our quality of life.

We further request that the City supply the name and contact information for the City staff who will be responsible for this project as well as a timeline for implementation as soon as possible.

Adopted: January 16, 2019



Lucinda Smith, President of the Board of Directors

What's Your \$\$\$-Number??

If You Live in the Playhouse District, You've Contributed \$\$,\$\$\$ towards a Neighborhood Park

City of Pasadena levies a "Residential Impact Fee" upon construction to ensure that new residential developments have adequate park facilities.

Unit Size	RIFs in 2017 \$s
Studio	\$17,984. ⁹⁸
1 Bedroom	\$18,979. ⁸⁸
2 Bedrooms	\$21,079. ⁴⁶
3 Bedrooms	\$24,240. ⁶¹
4 Bedrooms	\$29,453. ⁰⁵
5+ Bedrooms	\$33,290. ⁹⁶

- Fee was built into the original price of your condominium
- Or, for rentals, costs are folded into your monthly lease charges

More than \$6,200,000 has been collected to fund a park in this area

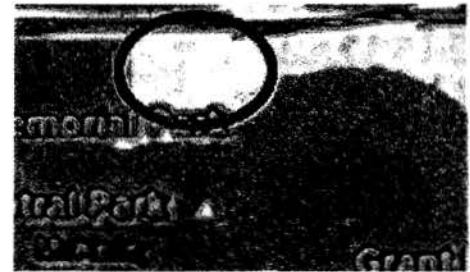
The Playhouse District has recently experienced **dramatic growth** in high density housing...



The future of a park in the Playhouse District will be the subject of Community Meetings and City Council action over the next few months...

Competing voices want to use these funds elsewhere!

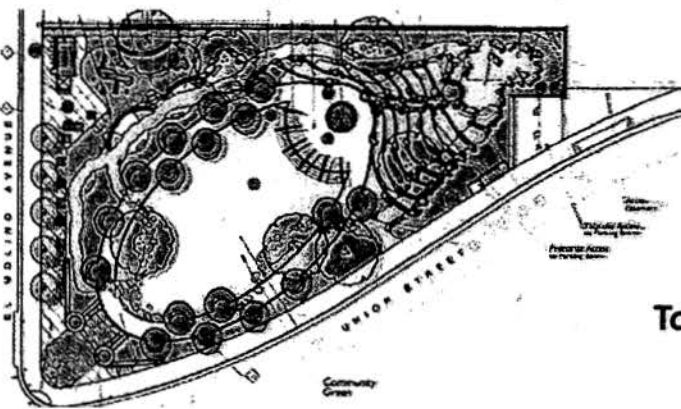
...and while City goals state "an accessible public park will be within 1/2 mile of every resident," **our nearest park is more than 1.0 miles away!**



Red Circle = Playhouse District
Blue Tint = 1/4 mile radius from park
Pink Tint = 1/2 mile radius from park



PLAYHOUSE PARK



Please support this initiative if you'd like to enjoy a Neighborhood Park in the Playhouse District!

We're a group of area residents who want to see safe and welcoming green space where you can:

- Walk your dog
- Play with your children or grandchildren
- Enjoy outdoor music and arts performances
- Sit in the shade and "people watch" etc.

To register your support, please send an e-mail to:
PlayhouseDistrictPark@gmail.com

Jomsky, Mark

From: Colin Bogart <colintbogart68@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 1:28 PM
To: Tornek, Terry; Stone, Rhonda (CTW); Hampton, Tyron; Bell, Cushon; McAustin, Margaret; Morales, Margo; Kennedy, John; West, Jana; Masuda, Gene; Sullivan, Noreen; Gordo, Victor; De La Cuba, Vannia; Madison, Steve; Suzuki, Takako; Wilson, Andy; Thyret, Pam
Cc: Jomsky, Mark; PasadenaCSC@googlegroups.com; playhousedistrictpark@gmail.com; Dock, Fred; Dilluvio, Richard; Siques, Joaquin; tbutler@tooledesign.com; ngale@tooledesign.com
Subject: Playhouse District Park

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Dear Mayor Tornek and City Council Members,

I'm writing to express my support for a park in the Playhouse District at Union and El Molino. New parks are good for a multitude of reasons, but especially in dense areas where there is a lack of open space. I hope that this project is approved.

Regarding concerns about "lost" parking at the proposed site (which I see is part of the staff report), I certainly hope that you are also considering bicycle or scooter parking for the area. Given that the City is investing in a 2-way protected bicycle lane on Union Street, even simple racks for private bikes or dockless shared bikes/scooters could be an extremely low-cost solution to provide more parking for area visitors. The easiest route for out-of-town visitors would be from the Memorial Park Metro station. It would be a lost opportunity if the City did not leverage its investment in the Union Street bike lane to add bicycle parking in the Playhouse District as well as other key locations along the Union Street corridor. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Colin Bogart
1788 N. Marengo Ave.
Pasadena, CA 91103

Jomsky, Mark

From: Bin Lee <bin@imaginebin.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 12:10 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: I support Union/El Molino Park Parking Proposal

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Dear city council,

I'm a homeowner in District 1 and I support the proposal for a public parking Playhouse district on Union. Our city needs more green spaces for all residents. Having an eco friendly public space within walking distance of Playhouse district will be important way to make our city livable for our aging population who are unable to drive. I believe at public and the upcoming Union street street safety improvements will mutually benefit each other and the community.

Thanks for your time,
Bin Lee

Playhouse District Park - Acquisition of Land and Transfer of Funds to Parking Fund – Conditional Approval



DOWNTOWN
PASADENA
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 967
Pasadena, CA 91102
626-539-3762
DPNAlist@gmail.com

Officers and
Board of Directors:

Jonathan Edwards,
President
Marsha Rood,
Vice President
Fried Wilson,
Treasurer

Joao Huang-Anacleto
Barbara Bell
Christine Fedukowski
Wesley Reutimann
Mitchell Tsai

Monday, March 11, 2019

Mayor Terry Tornek
Pasadena City Council
Vice Mayor Tyron Hampton
Margaret McAustin
John J. Kennedy
Gene Masuda
Victor Gordo
Steve Madison
Andy Wilson
City Manager Steve Mermell,

Dear Mayor Tornek and Members of the City Council,

The Downtown Pasadena Neighborhood Association ("DPNA") supports the staff recommendation to appropriate \$2,500,000 of RIFs for purchase of the El Molino/ Union city-owned parking lot adjacent to the former Banner Bank site ("El Molino Parking Lot"), which shall be rezoned as dedicated parkland to permit construction of a park. We would support transfer of the \$2,500,000 sale proceeds to the Off-Street Parking Facilities Fund (Fund 407) ("Parking Fund") subject to the conditions outlined below.

As noted, the areas of Downtown Pasadena in the Playhouse area subdistrict have experienced and are targeted for much-needed new housing, but do not have a nearby public park for those new and existing residents to enjoy.

The creation of a public park at Union & El Molino is long overdue and we strongly support expedient implementation. Our support for this item and transfer of the \$2,500,000 to the Parking Fund, is conditioned upon the following items:

1. The boundary line adjustments and designated park land should yield a minimum of 0.665 areas of **contiguous** dedicated park space. Some prototype drawings seem to suggest including parking areas in the middle of the three lots, thus splitting the park area into 2 smaller park areas separated by parking spaces, and this should be avoided;
2. The \$2,500,00 sale proceeds could be transferred to the Parking Fund, provided that such funds:

Playhouse District Park - Acquisition of Land and Transfer of Funds to Parking Fund – Conditional Approval



DOWNTOWN
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- Be designated to be spent on parking initiatives that serve the Central District, Playhouse Subdistrict;
- Should *not* be limited to off-street parking. The Playhouse District Association (“PDA”) is engaged in a wholistic Parking Management approach to include solutions such as a district valet program, reconfiguration of street parking, metered parking, transportation alternatives, and other “Big Picture” initiatives, and the funds might be better spent in this manner.

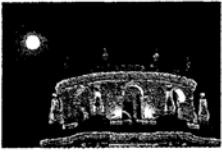
3. Consistent with the PDA’s recommendation, the portion of the El Molino/Union Parking Lot designated to contain the remaining 48 parking spaces should be repaved and re-imagined for parking+flexible event space, so that the park can be temporarily enlarged to accommodate farmers markets, art & craft fairs, festivals, etc. Also, repaving should be with permeable material.

4. A budget and timeline for construction and maintenance of the park should be developed.

We also **strongly** support the PDA’s recommendation to amend the Zoning code to reduce or eliminate the required parking for restaurants, and also for other uses. The Council has heard from citizens the familiar questions, “Why are there so many vacant shops?” and “Why are we building new mixed use buildings when so many existing storefronts are unoccupied?” Although it would be an oversimplification to blame *all* vacancies on parking requirements, this insidious aspect of the Zoning Code is responsible for many negative unintended consequences, to the detriment of Pasadena, and to cities in general. Historic properties built prior to zoning codes go underutilized because tenants cannot fulfill parking requirements, or don’t find it worthwhile to jump through the hoops to apply for an exception. New developments must charge higher rents to recoup the cost of underground parking, making it harder for undercapitalized mom & pop businesses to open up. With rapid changes in technology, transportation, and development patters, outdated parking requirements are stymieing economic development and a thriving urban life. Junk them.

It is inevitable that some objections to this park will arise from those who value easy & convenient driving and parking above all else, and from those who are concerned that businesses will be unable to attract shoppers who are accustomed to driving and parking in front of their destination. We remind the council that there is no shortage of bland cookie-cutter drivable suburbia in Southern California, indeed the nation, where parking is oversupplied and the built environment suffers as a result. Pasadena is *not* such a city and should not strive to be one. Pasadena will only succeed by enhancing its *unique* qualities, chiefly its walkability and architecturally-rich built environment. We applaud the PDA’s recent visioning process which recognizes the value of the

Playhouse District Park - Acquisition of Land and Transfer of Funds to Parking Fund – Conditional Approval



district's unique authentic character, and which has built consensus around strategic parking management and improvements to streetscapes and park areas that will enhance the district as a destination.

DOWNTOWN
PASADENA
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

A park at El Molino/Union will help to fill our residents' need and will enhance and beautify the Playhouse business district. Let's get it done!

P.O. Box 967
Pasadena, CA 91102
626-539-3762
DPNAlist@gmail.com

Sincerely,

Jonathan Edwards, President

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the

Downtown Pasadena Neighborhood Association

Officers and
Board of Directors:

Jonathan Edwards,
President
Marsha Rood,
Vice President
Fried Wilson,
Treasurer

Joao Huang-Anacleto
Barbara Bell
Christine Fedukowski
Wesley Reutimann
Mitchell Tsai

March 11, 2019

Honorable Terry Tornek, Mayor
City Councilmembers
City of Pasadena
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91109

Dear Mayor Tornek and City Council,

The Playhouse District Association (PDA) Board of Directors supports the staff recommendation to designate a portion of the Union/El Molino/Banner Bank site as a new public park, along with retention of some surface parking. The PDA's extensive planning and visioning work has resulted in unanimous Board support for a host of critical initiatives, and we believe that such a project will help transform the Playhouse District into the robust pedestrian-oriented arts and entertainment heart of downtown Pasadena. The PDA also supports staff's recommendation to utilize Department of Transportation (DOT) parking lot funds – to be bolstered through the sale of a portion of the Union/El Molino lot – to fund enhancements to the remaining surface parking lot consistent with an integrated park design.

Additionally, the PDA requests:

1. A comprehensive, collaborative community engagement and park design process – including area residents, business owners, property owners and others – should begin as soon as possible. To expedite the effort, the PDA stands ready to assist and/or lead such an effort with City Council's endorsement.
2. New DOT parking lot funds should also be utilized for parking and pedestrian enhancements in the Playhouse District, beginning near Colorado/El Molino as mitigation for lost public parking and to improve walkability. Such a commitment from the City would leverage significant PDA resources recently allocated for such initiatives to continue transforming the Playhouse District.

As park planning moves forward, the PDA will also work with the City and stakeholders to ensure that the new park will be managed in a way that creates a safe, attractive and activated space. We look forward to a dynamic addition to the city's open space system and the beginnings of an exciting future for the Playhouse District.

Sincerely,


Brian Wallace
Executive Director


Bernard Chua
Chair, PDA Board of Directors

cc: Steve Mermell, Fred Dock, Ara Maloyan, Eric Duyshart, Dave Klug

03/11/2019
Item 10

Jomsky, Mark

From: Topher Mathers <tophermathers@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 4:27 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark; Tornek, Terry; thampton@cityofpasadena.ne; McAustin, Margaret; Kennedy, John; Masuda, Gene; Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Wilson, Andy
Subject: Union/El Molino Park Parking Proposal

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Dear Mayor Tornek and City Council Members

I'm writing to you to show support for the proposed community park in the Playhouse District. One of the defining features of Pasadena is accessibility to public space and the proposed Playhouse Park in the heart of the Playhouse District with fill a much needed void.

I am concerned that too much of the existing surface parking lot will remain. Good community parks are designed for people and nature and not the storage for privately owned vehicles. Existing neighborhood parks in Pasadena that do not have onsite parking include McDonald Park, Jefferson, Grant Park, Central Park, Singer Park and Brenner Park. I'd like council to keep in mind that the future of transportation and autonomous vehicles is in the not so distant future which calls into the question the continued investing in parking for privately owned vehicles.

I'd also like to support for a plant pallet that is as close to 100% native plants as possible. With climate change, the decline of native bee and butterflies populations it's important that cities lead the way in providing habitat where they can.

Sincerely,
Topher Mathers



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Jomsky, Mark

From: lorraine montgomery <lorrainemontgomery@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 4:26 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Playhouse Park

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Hi,

I want to state my support of having a beautiful park in the Playhouse District.

In this time of Global warming, we need all the green area we can get.

Sincerely,

Lorraine Montgomery
1414 N. Chester Ave,
Pasadena 91104

Jomsky, Mark

From: Susan Buchanan <susanbuchanan@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 4:06 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark; Masuda, Gene; McAustin, Margaret; Hampton, Tyron; Gordo, Victor; Madison, Steve; Kennedy, John; Wilson, Andy; Tornek, Terry
Subject: Playhouse District Park and traffic

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Dear Mayor Tornek and City Council Members

I am writing in regards to the proposed park at the corner of Union and El Molino. I am not against a park but am concerned about the cumulative effect that all of the proposed development and transportation plans will have on the area.

The proposed cycle track on Union will be on the opposite side of the road from this park. It's siting there seemed wrong to me before as there are lots of points of conflicts with shoppers and residents entering driveways for the businesses on Colorado. Access to the park from the opposite side of the street seems like it will also be problematic. The park development will be reducing available parking by 53 spaces and the cycle track is scheduled to take out an additional 48 spaces. Making the retail district more difficult to access is likely to negatively impact the businesses especially of Laemmle and Vromans.

The Playhouse District and Metro have lots of plans for this area. How will a BRT bus only lane be incorporated with reverse angle parking on Colorado or with the cycle track on Union? How will commuters traverse the city to their jobs, shopping or entertainment with the mess this creates?

My husband and I frequently go to the Paseo, to Laemmle, to Vroman's, and to dine along Colorado. We rarely if ever go to Old Pasadena anymore. When this area becomes a hassle too, it is just as easy to go to Arcadia or Monrovia and with free parking. I already do much of my shopping to the east/south as it is going to Costco and Home Depot. I also shop in East Pasadena but with future plans to increase density and reduce driving, I will likely curtail that as well.

Sincerely
Susan Buchanan

Jomsky, Mark

From: Cary D Belling <carybelling@me.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 3:53 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Union/El Molino Park+Parking Proposal

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Dear Honorable Mayor Tornek, City Council, and Union/El Molino Park+Parking Proposal project administrators,

I live in the Lake North district, a short bike ride from the Playhouse district, and I frequent the area regularly. I would really welcome creating more green space and parks in this part of Pasadena as its makes the area more pedestrian friendly, lowers temperatures , acts as a sink for carbon and water as well as adds tremendously to the natural beauty of Pasadena. I heartily support the Union/El Molino Park+Parking Proposal!

Cary Belling

Jomsky, Mark

From: Gill Brown <gillbrown@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 1:36 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Cc: Kennedy, John
Subject: The New Park and Parking Proposal on the corner of Union St and El Molino Ave in Pasadena

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Dear Mark Jomsky and Vice Mayor Kennedy,

I am a homeowner residing at 700 E. Union Street at the corner of Oak Knoll and Union Street overlooking the proposed new park site. I have attended past Council meetings to give my, and my partners, support for a park in the Playhouse District but unfortunately I cannot attend the upcoming City Council meeting that is being held today Monday, March 11, to register my support in person this time.

The Playhouse District is growing as an urban community as envisioned when the City permitted the development of my building and others that followed and those soon to be built. An urban park with green space is an essential part of urban planning, so this park is vital to this District, and it is funded by the various development fees passed along to us buyers.

Abbreviating the city parking lot on Union into a park and extending the space including the city-acquired Banner Bank Building would extend the length a city block. That makes sense with the flexible reduced parking as endorsed by the Playhouse District Assn.

I am aware that the three homeowners' associations (including mine at Granada Court) directly adjacent to the proposed park site have endorsed this park, and we all look forward to participating in the design process and planning for a highly activated urban park that will serve this growing urban community.

I believe this park will enliven the area, foster continued economic development and support increased livability and a healthier environment in the Central District.

Many thanks in advance

Gill Brown
(408) 476 6902
gillbrown@sbcglobal.net

19 MAR 11 03:19PM
CITY CLERK



SINGPOLI CAPITAL CORPORATION

March 11, 2019

Honorable Terry Tornek, Mayor
City Councilmembers
City of Pasadena
100 North Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91109

Dear Mayor Tornek and City Council,

As a significant property owner and investor in the Playhouse District, I write to support the City's proposal to designate a portion of the Union/El Molino/Banner Bank site as a new public park, while retaining some surface parking. Since my time as Chair of the PDA Board of Directors, concepts around placemaking and creating a district that suits both business and resident needs continue to be critical, and this project is a long-awaited and much needed first move in that direction. A park will add to the beauty and vibrancy of the district – particularly to the Union Street corridor – making for an even more attractive place to live, run a business, and invest.

Thank you for your support of the Playhouse District.

Sincerely,

William Chu
Chief Financial Officer

Jomsky, Mark

From: Anita Pemstein <anitalp27@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 11, 2019 4:58 PM
To: Jomsky, Mark
Subject: Union/El Molino Park Parking Proposal

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I think it would be vry nice to have a park like area instead of another building for which we have so many being built. We no longer seem to be the City of Gardens and wonderful trees, Anita pemstein Resident