

# CORRESPONDENCE



"Dedicated to the art of the bow and arrow in the Lower Arroyo Seco since 1935."

September 11, 2013

Via Email

Pasadena Mayor, Honorable Bill Bogaard, and Pasadena City Council

We understand from conversations with city staff that the city will bring a proposal to the council on Monday that addresses the future of the historic range in the Lower Arroyo, the oldest field archery range in the country. At this time Pasadena Roving Archers has had frequent verbal discussions with staff about this issue and we would like to recognize staff for the hard work they have done on this difficult issue. Our understanding is that the proposal is in broad agreement with the excellent recommendations made by the Recreation and Parks Commission supported by the Pasadena Police Report. However until such time as we see the text of the proposal we feel we can not provide a suitable written response. It is our intent to provide such a response once the text of the proposal is made public on Thursday.

Sincerely,

Gary Spiers, President

Pasadena Roving Archers  
P.O. Box 683  
Pasadena, CA 91102

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Sam Dolinar <samdolinar@alum.mit.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 1:07 PM  
**To:** City\_Council; Bogaard, Bill  
**Cc:** Jomsky, Mark; city\_letters@rovingarchers.com  
**Subject:** Please DON'T restrict usage of the Lower Arroyo archery range

Mr. Jomsky -- can you please include a copy of my letter (below) in the agenda packet for next Monday's Council meeting?

Thanks,  
-Sam Dolinar

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Dear Mayor Bogaard and Pasadena City Council members:

Though not myself a resident of Pasadena, I write to you as a long-time "honorary resident" after 33 years of working at JPL and occasionally teaching at Caltech. For 33 years my life has revolved around the City of Pasadena more so than any other local community. Pasadena Parks and Recreation has always been the place I go to when I need to reserve facilities for JPL's softball or running clubs. Pasadena's stores and restaurants are the first places I turn to for shopping or eating out, since similar businesses are sparse in the Crescenta/Tujunga Valley where I live.

You've undoubtedly received many letters from users of the Lower Arroyo archery range describing in their own words how important this City resource has been to them and to their families. I know firsthand how strongly many archers feel about this, because some of my close friends use the range regularly with their families, and they'd be severely disappointed if proposed restrictions on usage went into effect. I'm not an archer myself, so I can't improve on the ardent personal sentiments expressed in such letters. However, I can appeal to your civic pride for the City entrusted to your leadership.

Pasadena has a long proud history, unsurpassed in Southern California and perhaps the world, of accommodating the widest range of outdoor sporting activities, particularly in the Arroyo Seco watershed. The world-renowned Rose Bowl stadium is surrounded by soccer fields, a public golf course, a paved running/jogging/walking loop, a bicycling loop, and hiking/equestrian trails. In Brookside Park, the Jackie Robinson baseball field shares space with softball fields, a large family picnicking area, and a world-class aquatics center. At Hahamongna, the world's first frisbee golf course intertwines with hiking/equestrian trails and runs alongside a baseball/softball field. In the Lower Arroyo, additional walking trails skirt the periphery of the oldest field archery range in the US.

Participants in these diverse outdoor activities have learned to coexist with each other to the benefit of all. Joggers on the Rose Bowl loop don't insist that golfers stop hitting golf balls, soccer players practice in Area H while bicyclists train adjacently, frisbees and softballs often take simultaneous flight at Hahamongna, and Pasadena's Roving Archers can coexist in harmony with their West Pasadena neighbors and Lower Arroyo walkers. Accommodating such a wide range of activities enhances both the City's prestige and local residents' quality of life.

Pasadena's reputation in one sport reinforces and broadens its reputation in others. When a quarterback from Houston wins a college football national championship for Texas over USC, the

world also remembers that this amazing game was fought on the battlefield of Pasadena's Rose Bowl. Similarly, if an archer from Glendale wins a medal at some future Olympics, the world will likely remember that she trained in Pasadena, because Glendale has no archery range and no Rose Bowl. These are the proclivities of human nature -- everyone tends to remember most strongly the details of an athlete's life that reinforce their existing notions of which cities are the true sports meccas. Please preserve Pasadena's heritage as one of these notable sports meccas!

Sam Dolinar  
8859 Riderwood Drive  
Sunland, CA 91040

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** John Gallogly <[john@theatrewest.org](mailto:john@theatrewest.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 11:36 AM  
**To:** Bogaard, Bill; Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** Archers in Lower Arroyo

Gentles:

I oppose any motion granting exclusive use of any section of the Lower Arroyo to any private group, including the archers.

I am not opposed to sharing the Arroyo, but I see no reason one small group should be granted special privileges, denying the public use of any part of the Arroyo, never mind an enormous section of 18 acres owned by the City.

I walk almost every day in the Arroyo. I rarely see archers. However, I see scores of runners, dozens of people walking their dogs and multiple horses each time I walk. Why so much for so few to the exclusion of everyone else?

Safety is purported to be the reason for exclusivity. It's bogus. I have a dog that's a natural hunter. When we walk I sacrifice the liberty of letting her off leash for the safety of others. She might cause a horse to shy, or trip a runner or even bite someone, so I keep her on lead. Archers shoot an arrow that can travel 400 yards, kill a man or a deer and frequently end up in neighbors yards. Far more dangerous than my dog. Yet, unlike me and my dog, they won't accept the proposition that they need to control their impact on others for everyone's safety.

I think curtailing the number of hours they can operate and making them be in charge of adequate and agreed upon safety measures -- at their expense -- is the best way to go. After all, I pay for my dog's leash.

Finally, I do not live in Pasadena. As I understand it, neither do most of the archers who use the Arroyo, both in the club and outside its membership. So I think my opinion should count as much as theirs.

Sincerely yours,

John Gallogly  
859 North Avenue 67  
Los Angeles, CA 90042  
323-254-2717  
323-252-7030 cell  
[john@theatrewest.org](mailto:john@theatrewest.org)  
[www.theatrewest.org](http://www.theatrewest.org)  
Supporting Artists / Impacting Community.

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**Iraheta, Alba**

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**Subject:**

**FW: Arroyo**

**Dear Members of the Pasadena City Council:**

**As a regular user of the Lower Arroyo, I object to awarding exclusive use of any part of the Lower Arroyo to the Pasadena Roving Archers. This is an unconscionable award of public land to a private club, which reduces access to precious open space for all.**

**If this does go through, I will walk and run less often in the Arroyo. There are other trails that will be more attractive to me if the proposed reduction in access is realized. If I use the Arroyo less often, I will not find it convenient to buy coffee at Jones, groceries at Whole Foods and Vons. I will not drop off my dry cleaning and mending at the shop a few blocks away, and I will not park at the DelMar Gold Line station to go to work after my morning run.**

**Christina M. Gray**

**Los Angeles CA**

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Morales, Margo  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 12, 2013 11:15 AM  
**To:** 'Kaz Kasnetsis'  
**Cc:** McAustin, Margaret; Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** RE: I support the CITY Archery Proposal

Thank you for your e-mail.

*Margo Morales*  
*District 2 Field Representative*  
*(626) 744-4742*  
*(626) 744-3814 fax*  
*To Join Our Mailing list go to [www.cityofpasadena/district2](http://www.cityofpasadena/district2)*

**From:** Kaz Kasnetsis [<mailto:kasnetsis@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 11, 2013 11:02 PM  
**Subject:** I support the CITY Archery Proposal

Hi - I support the CITY Archery Range Proposal which is unrestricted and calls for continued use of the archery range as a full time archery range, incorporation of the range rules into Pasadena Municipal Code, the improvement of signage, eliminating the unofficial hiking path between targets, improving the perimeter of the range and require archers using the range during periods of public use to have taken a range safety course, that will be provided by PRA, with a credential (like a fishing license) that shows they have done so.

Michael Kasnetsis, currently resident of Monterey Park and long time resident of Pasadena on Nina Street and an archer using the range.

James J. Keatley  
665 Westbridge Place  
Pasadena, CA 91105

September 10, 2013

Pasadena City Council

Dear Council Members:

I have lived near the Lower Arroyo on Westbridge Place for 42 years and have been a frequent walker and runner in the Arroyo. When in town I am there on a daily basis. During the first 30 or so years there was seldom a problem but recently the situation has become more strained as the archers sometimes try to assert their "right" to the area, sometimes saying that they rent it from the city and a significant part of it is for their sole use. Of all the groups using the Arroyo – walkers, runners, horseback riders, school track teams, birders, etc. – the archers are the only ones who pose a physical threat to other users and adjacent landowners. My understanding is that the Council may grant them exclusive use of 18 acres or so of the Arroyo and exclude the rest of us from that area. This would be an inane and outrageous assignment of public park land to a private group.

I request that you ensure that the Arroyo remains open to all of us who value and enjoy it.

Sincerely,

James and Jean Keatley



## **Iraheta, Alba**

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**Subject:** FW: Please include in Agenda Packet

Dear Councilmembers:

I am writing to express my strong concern for the public safety issues of allowing archery in the Lower Arroyo.

I understand Los Angeles County banned archery from the public parks in the 1950s. Bows and arrows have become over the years much more powerful than they were then to the point that they now should be considered lethal weapons. There have been a number of close calls in the Lower Arroyo of arrows narrowly missing hitting people because the archers were not shooting in the designated areas. Some of the properties surrounding the Arroyo, I am told, are littered with the spent arrows that have gone far astray. And some archers have been observed shooting at tennis balls that they toss into the air. I certainly hope that we don't have to wait until someone is seriously injured or killed before the City takes action.

Since the Roving Archers will not supply their membership list, they have not revealed how many of their members are actually Pasadena residents. If AYSO has to supply its roster of soccer players each year to prove the percentage of Pasadena residents, shouldn't the Roving Archers have the same requirement as a condition of their continued use of city property? Also, as the arrangement currently stands anyone (whether a member of Roving Archers or not) may use the archery range and someone with no training whatsoever may use the range at will.

I do not see shared use of Archery with hiking and enjoying our natural landscape as being a viable option in the Arroyo. The current archery range is just too close to personal residences and human activity. If another more suitable location can be found within the boundaries of Pasadena, then perhaps the Roving Archers could lease that space under conditions that are set by the city and strictly enforced.

The Roving Archers should be required to carry adequate liability insurance just as all other private groups who lease city property. The basic insurance that archery clubs carry may not be sufficient from the point of view of the city. Will the Roving Archers club insurance cover all of the non-club members who use the archery range as well as the general public who might be injured? To rent La Casita del Arroyo for just four hours, for example, the City charged over \$80 for insurance (no alcohol and no lethal weapons involved). The Roving Archers club wants 84 hours per week of access to the Lower Arroyo which at the same rate would cost upwards of \$87,360 per year and the insurance cost for the Archery Range should probably be higher because of the increased risk of bodily injury to the participants as well as the general public. And if someone were hurt as a result of archery on City property what kind of liability might the City of Pasadena face?

I feel it is important that the City Council take a leadership stand on protecting our residents and others who use the Arroyo Seco. Please vote "yes" to protect public safety in the Lower Arroyo Seco.

Thank you for your consideration,

Kathy Wimmer  
Treasurer of San Rafael Library Associates  
President of Wimmer Associates

## **Jomsky, Mark**

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**From:** Suzuki, Takako  
**Sent:** Monday, September 09, 2013 4:10 PM  
**To:** Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** FW: Archery in the Arroyo Seco

Please distribute to all Councilmembers as part of public input on the issue.

**From:** [annie2away@yahoo.com](mailto:annie2away@yahoo.com) [<mailto:annie2away@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 07, 2013 11:29 AM  
**To:** [president@WPRA.net](mailto:president@WPRA.net)  
**Cc:** Madison, Steve; Suzuki, Takako; Bill Bogaard; Claire Bogaard ([cwbogaard@earthlink.net](mailto:cwbogaard@earthlink.net))  
**Subject:** Archery in the Arroyo Seco

**Bill Urban**  
**President WPRA**

**Dear Bill,**

**As concerned citizens of Pasadena and members of WPRA, we strongly recommend that the WPRA propose City policy limiting the use of the Arroyo Seco for Archery activities.**

**Limitations should include:**

- 1. Bow strength not to exceed twenty pounds**
- 2. Only non-metal tipped arrow**
- 3. Clearly marked range boundaries -( no archery beyond boundaries)**
- 4. Targets located a safe distance from range boundaries**
- 5. Range available only at prescribed times**
- 6. Range use only when supervised**

**Bows with strength greater than twenty pounds are lethal weapons and should be prohibited.**

**Thank you for your attention to this safety issue.**

**Roger and Anne Wolf**  
**1249 Canedo Place**  
**Pasadena, CA. 91105**  
**626-405-0514**

Sent from my iPad

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Morales, Margo  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 12, 2013 2:18 PM  
**To:** 'sue laughton'  
**Cc:** McAustin, Margaret; Jomsky, Mark  
**Subject:** RE: Pasadena City Council: Preserve the Historic Lower Arroyo Archery Range

Thank you for your e-mail. I will make sure Council Member McAustin receives it.

*Margo Morales*  
*District 2 Field Representative*  
*(626) 744-4742*  
*(626) 744-3814 fax*  
*To Join Our Mailing list go to [www.cityofpasadena/district2](http://www.cityofpasadena/district2)*

**From:** sue laughton [<mailto:quiltzyx@yahoo.com>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 12, 2013 12:22 AM  
**To:** Bogaard, Bill  
**Cc:** district1; Morales, Margo; Cruz, Christian (Field Rep); Sullivan, Noreen; De La Cuba, Vannia; Madison, Steve; Tornek, Terry  
**Subject:** Pasadena City Council: Preserve the Historic Lower Arroyo Archery Range

Dear Mayor & Council of the City of Pasadena,

I am a former resident of Pasadena and would like to express my support for the preservation of the historic archery range in the lower Arroyo as stated by the Recreation and Parks Commission proposal. As I understand it, this proposal calls for the continued use of the range as a full-time archery range, incorporating the range rules into the Pasadena Municipal Code, as well as improved signage, improving the perimeter of the range and eliminating the unofficial hiking path between the targets. It would require any archers using the range during times of public use to have taken an archery range safety course provided by the Pasadena Roving Archers with a credential that shows they have taken the course.

I know two of the certified archery instructors of the PRA, who work with the classes of young archers, and have heard how much archery means to these young people. They are learning focus, self-control, discipline, confidence, and respect for others. Archery is also a very safe sport. According to the National Safety Council's 2011 edition of Safety Facts, there were less than 1% of injuries per 1,000 participants!

Please vote to accept the Recreation and Parks Commission's proposal. We need to safeguard this part of Pasadena's history - in fact, a piece of the United States' history - the oldest field archery range in the U.S.

Respectfully,  
Sue Laughton

## Jomsky, Mark

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**From:** Julie Robinson <dmpls\_2@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 12, 2013 4:14 PM  
**To:** City\_Council  
**Cc:** Jomsky, Mark; city\_letters@rovingarchers.com  
**Subject:** City Proposal for Keeping Archery Range

Dear Mr. Mayor and Councilpersons of the City of Pasadena,

My name is Julie Robinson, and I am a World Class Champion athlete in the sport of archery. I am also an employee of a business in Pasadena, CA. I am a member of the Pasadena Roving Archers Club, which utilizes the historic field archery range in the Lower Arroyo Seco Natural Park. I moved to a neighboring area of Pasadena primarily so I could utilize the field archery range to prepare myself for state, national and world competitions in field archery. This field archery range is the only public accessible range that I can practice at seven days a week from dawn to dusk. No where else in the Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside Counties is that available. This field archery range also has target distances (11-80 yards) that are needed for the various competitions in which I compete at.

When I am at the field archery range, whether practicing, competing or just walking the trail path around the field archery range, I notice archers enjoying the sport in a fun and safe manner. There have been many times when I am on the field archery range practicing, and joggers or dog walkers (dogs off leash) will run in front of the targets with no regard to whether there are archers present on the range. An archery range is designated as such, an archery range, and not an avenue for hikers/joggers to waltz through at their leisure, with no regard for their own safety. I am not going to hike or shoot arrows through a golf course, because it is a golf course designated for golfing. This goes well for other sports in their represented fields of space...e.i. softball, soccer, tennis. There is a lot more space utilized and dedicated for hiking in Pasadena and surrounding areas, but limited for the sport of archery.

I have been trained to participate in the sport of archery in a safe manner and am cognizant of my surroundings when doing so. I could only hope, wish, and pray that those walking/hiking through the middle of an archery range would do the same.

The historic archery range in the Lower Arroyo Seco Natural Park has been a designated archery range since before 1935, and is a great asset to the City of Pasadena. As you review the City Proposal for Keeping the Archery Range in the park, I hope that you vote to keep it as such...an archery range and not an aspect for multi-use.

Sincerely,  
Julie Robinson

*"You never know unless you try. Take every adventurous opportunity life offers you, and have fun with it!"  
- Julie Robinson*