

Los Feliz improvement association

April 12, 2015

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Recreation and Parks Board of Commissioners
Attn: Sylvia Patsaouras, President
221 N. Figueroa St. Suite 1510
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: RAP File 15-082 RAP Self-operation of the Greek Theatre

Dear Commissioners:

The Los Feliz Improvement Association (LFIA), representing 1000 households on the edge of Griffith Park hereby submits comment pertaining to your review of the Staff Report regarding the Department assuming operation of the Greek Theatre to be considered on April 15.

The LFIA stands opposed to this course of action and strongly concurs with the points expressed in the April 8th letter sent to you by the Greek Theatre Advisory Committee (GTAC).

We would especially like to emphasize our agreement with GTAC on the following:

- 1. Opposition to the Department taking on the operation of the Greek:** It would be ill advised for Staff to take on this massive and complex task for which it has no prior experience and few resources. We would like to add that there is strong opposition in the community that arises out of skepticism as to the Department's ability and resources, along with a strong sentiment that this course is inconsistent with the Department's core mission. The depth of this opposition stems from past and present experience, such as the current disruption imposed on Los Feliz due to the relocation of Hollywood Sign tourism traffic. It is largely felt that the Department is at its best when focusing on core park management functions.
- 2. Support of a two-year extension of the current contract:** Such an extension would allow time for the Department to design and issue a new RFP. The Department's repeated claim that this cannot be done has been publically refuted so often that it is no longer believed to be the case. Unless Staff can produce and make public an official written ruling from the City Attorney's Office stating that an extension is not legally possible, we request that the impossibility of an extension no longer be represented in staff documents as a statement of fact.

Considering the two big issues that impact our residents, there should be no surprise at the wide community bafflement as to why the Department should be exploring such an

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option at all, given that the Greek Theatre, under its current management, is a national, award-winning model for smooth operations and neighborhood relations.

We urge you to continue the item for thirty days to allow for in-depth public review and comment (per previous City Council recommendation) and ask the staff to come back with more detailed financial projections or, better yet, outright reject the staff recommendation that the Department self-operate the Greek Theatre.

Respectfully yours,
Los Feliz Improvement Association

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Laib', written over a circular scribble.

Chris Laib, President

Cc: Tom LaBonge, Councilmember CD 4
Mitch O'Farrell, Chair, Arts, Parks, Health, Aging & River Committee
Michael Shull, General Manager, Recreation and Parks