

# Los Feliz improvement association

3 July 2015

Michael Shull, General Manager  
City of Los Angeles Recreation and Parks  
350 South Grand Ave., 46<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

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Chris Laib

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Demian Wyma

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Debbie Simons

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Re: Recreation & Parks management of the Greek Theatre

Dear Mr. Shull:

The Los Feliz Improvement Association, representing a membership of some 3,000 in the Los Feliz, respectfully submits specific requests regarding the Department's plan to assume management of the Greek Theatre.

While we remain opposed to this plan, we do appreciate meeting with you personally to convey community concerns regarding noise, traffic and safety. In support of those ongoing concerns, we submit the following regarding RAP's Greek Theatre management plan.

## Sound Monitoring and Control

LFIA strongly requests that the following be taken into account when finalizing the "Open Venue" plan wherever sound and noise bleed-over is addressed, whether in the Management RFP, the User (Promoter) Agreement or elsewhere.

1. Stationary sound monitoring devices should include measurement of decibel levels, frequency (treble/bass) and sound pressure levels (intensity at a distance from the speakers).
2. LFIA would like no less than three stationary remote devices placed on the perimeter to monitor sound impacts on the surrounding homes. Further, we would like to be consulted on the placement of all remote sound monitoring devices.
3. During concerts, there should be an in-house sound engineer whose sole responsibility is monitoring sound levels at the house mixing board during events.
4. The Sound Board should have constant, accurate, real-time input from the remote monitoring stations so that the sound engineer responsible for enforcing the sound restrictions can make immediate adjustments when sound levels move up into the infraction range.
5. We would like a dedicated webpage on the Greek Theatre website that shows real-time remote monitor readings that neighbors can access at any time during concerts. The page should show the name of the artist, the promoter and the monitoring engineer.
6. Penalty fees for infractions must be substantial enough to be meaningful and repeated infractions over the course of three concerts must result in an ultimate penalty such as loss of booking privileges for a specified period of time.
7. Penalty fees must not become a revenue source for the Department. Collected penalty fees should be assigned to a dedicated account to be used to defray expenses related to the monitoring system and upkeep of the online sound-monitoring page and/or to defray costs of Community Events at the Greek Theatre.

## Directors

Nyla Arslanian

Laura Balverde Sanchez

Marilyn Bush\*

Mica Campbell

Dennis Chew

Jean Daly

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Barbara Ferris

Monique Frese

Faith Ford

Philip Gastier

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Rob Menz

Randy Myer

Deanne Paul

David Roberti

Joel Rochlin

Patricia Ruben

Paul Schiada

Mary Beth Sorensen

Angela Stewart

Mark Stong

June Teal

Valerie Vanaman

Denise Weintraub

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### **Compulsory Parking Fees added to the price of each ticket**

We understand that under the RAP plan this has been labeled an "Access Fee." This fee, and its mislabeling, is extremely problematic. Apparently, the fee will be collected by the promoters via their preferred ticketing system and then turned over directly to the City. Therefore, only the City is at risk in the case of civil action because adding compulsory parking fees to the price of a ticket has resulted in class action lawsuits all across the country such as this one: [http://www.nj.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/nj\\_concert-goers\\_can\\_now\\_apply\\_for\\_free\\_tickets\\_under\\_live\\_nation\\_settlement.html](http://www.nj.com/politics/index.ssf/2014/01/nj_concert-goers_can_now_apply_for_free_tickets_under_live_nation_settlement.html)

LFIA opposes parking fees being included in the price of each ticket because (a) it actively encourages more private vehicle traffic, not less and (b) it leaves the City vulnerable to legal action.

In essence compulsory parking fees:

- Discourage carpooling and other means of transportation such as public transportation and shuttle services. Human nature is such that the assumption is: "If I've already been charged for parking then I'm going to drive to the concert and park my car at the Greek."
- Imply that each ticket is entitled to a parking space. There are 1,470 parking spaces immediately adjacent to the Greek. The Greek seats approximately 5,900.
- Overcharge for carpooling: Concertgoers frequently arrive with 2-5 persons per vehicle; therefore, the City will have collected 2-5 times the cost of parking for an event per vehicle. Currently the charge is per vehicle.
- Are destructive to local businesses since instituting this practice will effectively kill the thriving Dine-and-Ride services from Los Feliz restaurants.

We are all facing the realization that our end of Griffith Park is at a density tipping point and we will advocate for drastic reduction of, and aspire to eliminating, private autos as the primary access method.

As we have done consistently during our ongoing consultation with Recreation and Parks, we strongly urge that the self-management plan is best publically and thoroughly vetted with the entire community of Greek Theatre stakeholders (especially those within a five-mile radius of the Greek) including all concerned organizations that have weighed during the course of the first RFP process.

We will be sending a separate letter to your Commission regarding our over all view of the plan and how it has, thus far, been unfolded to the public and to public officials.

Thank you for your consideration and incorporation of our input on noise and parking.

Sincerely,



The Los Feliz Improvement Association  
Chris Laib, President

Cc: Councilmember David Ryu, CD 4  
Sylvia Patsouras, President, Recreation & Parks Board of Commissioners