



February 22, 2021

Subject: Opposing Los Angeles City Council file 20-0190 / Opposing Los Angeles City Council file 20-0190 / Amend section 63.41 to allow park rangers to be armed while on duty

Los Angeles City Council Education, Neighborhood, Parks and River Committee member Joe Buscaion on February 11, 2020 introduce motion / Council file 20-0190 that would allow park rangers to carry guns while on duty.

The Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council opposes council file 20-0190 for the following reasons below:

Currently the park rangers complete a six-month certified Academy Training Course, which includes, among other things, firearm training. It is our understanding that the six-month course that is administered by California Police Officer standard and training is the same training that the Los Angeles Police Department and Los County Angeles Sheriff train their officers with.

Given the long history of misconduct and the illegal brutal beatings of our homeless, Latino and black residents. The history of the training that has been administered by California Police Officer standard and training has shown that it has no effect to address or prevent the violations to the residents of the city of Los Angeles. This would have been acceptable if there was just one incident but in our life time we have had the LAPD Rampart scandal with Raphael Perez and most recently Los Angeles County Sheriff "Banditos" Sheriff gang and countless more.

Our Community of Elysian Valley is mostly Latino and most have a story about having a negative experience with a LAPD officers. The slogan of LAPD is to "Protect and serve" most in our community don't feel protect or served but victimized by the training. The Council also does not want to take away the positive interactions with officers and we are very well aware that not all officers are bad. The LAPD and Los Angeles County Sheriff need to work with California Police Officer standard and training to update the standards to better serve all residents of the city of Los Angeles.

At this time the Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council in good faith must opposed Los Angeles Council file 20-0190 allowing Los Angeles Park Rangers to be armed while on duty. It is our belief that if approved council file 20-0190 would have a negative impact to the health, safety and welfare of not just the residents of Elysian Valley but all resident of the city of Los Angeles.

Alejandro Palomino

President of the Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council

