



MarVista.org

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Officers 2023-2024

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Certified Neighborhood Council
August 13, 2002

Nov 29, 2024

Transmitted via email

To: Katy Yaroslavsky, Councilmember Council District 5
Traci Park, Councilmember Council District 11
Santa Monica Great Park Coalition

CC: Vanessa Saldana, Council District 5 Field Deputy
Matthew Halden, Council District 11 Field Deputy

RE: MVCC's Support the Santa Monica Great Park Coalition (GPC)'s Mission Statement

The Mar Vista Community Council (MVCC) supports the Santa Monica Great Park Coalition (GPC)'s Mission Statement. The mission of the Santa Monica Great Park Coalition (GPC) is to reclaim the land at the Santa Monica Airport (SMO) to rebuild and restore the Great Park that existed on the site before the federal government condemned the park to turn it into an airport and industrial site as part of the war effort in World War II. The GPC's purpose is consistent with the Measure LC City Charter Amendment that Santa Monica voters overwhelmingly approved in 2014, and which led to the City's landmark agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to allow closure of SMO on December 31, 2028.

The restoration of the Great Park is essential for multiple reasons, including: (i) bringing back much-needed green and open space and recreational and cultural amenities to a quickly-densifying, historically park-poor city and region, (ii) combating climate change, (iii) meeting the City's sustainability goals, and (iv) enhancing regional biodiversity. The GPC seeks to reunite the many organizations and individuals that supported Measure LC in 2014 and to introduce new members of our community, through education and advocacy, to the unique, one-time-only opportunity before us to restore and reclaim our Great Park.

Very Truly Yours,

Drew Ruesch,
MVCC Board Chair