

# LOS PEÑASQUITOS CANYON PRESERVE

## CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

--Founded 1979--

Advising the City and County of San Diego regarding  
Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve  
Del Mar Mesa Preserve  
Carmel Mountain Preserve

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LPCPCAC Letterhead

November 18, 2021

Andy Field, Director  
Karen Dennison, Assistant Director  
202 C Street, MS 39  
San Diego, CA 92101

RE: Request for legal street parking to access Del Mar Mesa Preserve (DMMP) Trailhead from Duck Pond Lane entrance.

Dear Mr. Field and Ms. Dennison,

This is a request to add legal safe street parking by Duck Pond Lane to access the Del Mar Mesa Preserve Trailhead. This is a very popular trailhead entrance to access the Los Peñasquitos waterfalls from the west entrance and 60 miles of hiking.

The only legal safe spaces available at present are the 8 parking spots in Elizabeth Rabbitt park. That is grossly inadequate for two public open spaces; the park and the trailhead users.

Cars are seen parked illegally on Del Vino Court to access the trailhead every weekend and many mornings, as the city has not provided adequate safe legal parking options to access this very popular trailhead for about two decades.

In the October 2021, Del Mar Mesa Community Planning Board meeting, a board member requested Police Officer Briggs to ticket illegal parked park goers and "clamp down on illegal parking in that area." Putting the Police in an awkward position where they have to ticket otherwise law abiding citizens who are trying to access public open spaces.

The city traffic department acknowledges that vehicle speeds on Del Vino Court are under recommended speed limit and that there have been no police reported accidents along this segment since 2016. The city's transportation department provided a so-called evaluation of various issues/options (street parking, angled parking etc.) but their review was quite perfunctory and no tangible solutions were considered and no recommendations provided other than simply dismissing the very notion of street parking on the basis that it could trigger ADA issues. No other discussion was provided.

We are simply looking for an enduring solution to the current unworkable problem of restrictive access to our public spaces. That is, as you know, limited parking has made access to the DMM hiking trail quite difficult especially after the additional no parking red zone was implemented earlier this year by the city by the request of one neighbor who misrepresented that as being the request of the DMM Community Planning Board.

As a community, this is not who we are and we need to fix this inequity and make the park reasonably accessible to all members of the public -- whether they live within walking distance or have to drive there. It is the right thing to do.

Best Regards,

/S/

Frank Landis

Chair, Los Peñasquitos Preserve Community Advisory Committee